


TO: Mayor Jerry L. Demings
and
Board of County Commissioners

FROM: Fred Winterkamp, Fiscal & Business Services Division Manager 

DATE: April 16, 2019

RE: **Discussion Agenda Item - April 23, 2019**
Tourist Development Tax Grant Application Review Committee Funding
Recommendations

On November 29, 2016, the Board of County Commissioners ("Board") adopted Ordinance No. 2016-30 ("Ordinance"), which amended the County's Tourist Development Plan to authorize funding from available unallocated Tourist Development Tax (TDT) revenue for legally authorized capital projects and events pursuant to a grant application process set forth in Section 25-147 of the Orange County Code (Code). Pursuant to the Ordinance, on October 31, 2017, the Board adopted Resolution No. 2017-M-44, which established the Tourist Development Tax Grant Application Review Committee (ARC) to serve in an advisory capacity to the Board by evaluating applications for excess TDT revenue funding pursuant to established application review criteria and to make recommendations on same.

At its March 15, 2019 meeting, the ARC considered five applications from:

- Holocaust Memorial Resource & Education Center Orlando Museum for Hope and Humanity project for up to \$10 million
- Orange County Regional History Center Museum Improvements project for up to \$5.75 million
- Orlando Philharmonic Orchestra Plaza Live project for up to \$10 million
- Orlando Science Center Life project for up to \$10 million
- Winter Park Canopy Auditorium and meeting space project for up to \$6 million

These five projects are seeking excess revenue in the County TDT budget provided for ARC allocation. The ARC performed an evaluation of each proposal. Following its evaluations of the grant applications, the ARC approved recommending all five funding requests to the Orange County Tourist Development Council (TDC). On March 27, 2019, the TDC approved recommending all five funding requests to the Board.

The use of TDT revenues for auditoriums and museums is authorized pursuant to section 125.0104(5)(a)1.b. and c., Florida Statutes, respectively. If approved, the Comptroller will disburse TDT funds in accordance with the terms of funding agreements to be prepared by staff for future Board approval.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (407) 836-2920.

ACTION REQUESTED:

Approval to award TDT grants as described in the ARC applications from ARC funding in TDT capital budgets for:

- Up to \$10 million for the Holocaust Memorial Resource and Education Center acquisition and capital construction of the Orlando Museum for Hope and Humanity Project
- Up to \$5.75 million for the Orange County regional History Center museum capital construction
- Up to \$10 million for the Orlando Philharmonic Plaza Live project acquisition and capital construction
- Up to \$10 million for the Orlando Science Center museum capital construction
- Up to \$6 million for the Winter Park Canopy project auditorium and meeting space acquisition and capital construction

All as governed by the terms and conditions of funding agreements between the County and the approved TDT ARC grant recipients to be developed by County Staff with future Board approval.

FMW

C: Byron W. Brooks, County Administrator
Jeffrey Newton, County Attorney
Randy Singh, Deputy County Administrator
Lila McHenry, Senior Assistant County Attorney