



## Agenda Item Summary

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**File #: 23-00314**

**Agenda Date: 6/27/2023**

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**Agenda Item Name:**

**Cultural Facilities Capital Projects that Promote Tourism**

**Presenter:**

Jessica Hurov, Tourism Development Manager, 352-374-5260 ext. 2496

**Description:**

Grant program application for Cultural Facilities Capital Projects that Promote Tourism

**Recommended Action:**

Approve the Non-Profit Cultural Facilities Capital Projects that Promote Tourism guidelines and grant application as presented. Authorize staff to advertise the funding grant and conduct two community workshops to inform eligible entities regarding the opportunity. Make the legislative factual determination that the Non-Profit Cultural Facilities Capital Projects that Promote Tourism program funded with revenue from Tourist Development Taxes (TDT) serves a public purpose and is primarily related to promoting and advertising tourism in Alachua County, and that the development of capital cultural facilities spotlights Alachua County as a desirable place to visit by promoting the positive qualities and numerous cultural, artistic, historic, natural and other tourist-related attributes and activities available in Alachua County for tourists to enjoy.

**Prior Board Motions:**

N/A

**Fiscal Note:**

This action will allocate \$1.0 million from operating reserves to fund this capital program in Fund 150.

**Strategic Guide:**

All Other Mandatory and Discretionary Services

**Background:**

On June 23, 2015 the Board of County Commissioners voted 5-0 to award \$1 million of TDT to the following cultural capital facilities projects: Cade Museum: \$700,000; Florida Museum of Natural History: \$125,000; Santa Fe Zoo Aviary: \$125,000; Doris Bardon Community Center: \$50,000 (funds returned/not utilized). There have been no other capital cultural facilities grants funded through TDT in the past 8 years. Non-cultural capital investments include \$8 million to Champion's Park and \$14.5 million for the Alachua County Equestrian Center in Newberry and \$30 million for the Alachua County Sports and Events Center at Celebration Pointe.