

Requests for Proposals for Funds Made Available by the 86th Arkansas Legislature through the General Improvement Fund

The Arkansas Department of Parks and Tourism is soliciting written funding request proposals for grant monies made available by the 86th Session Arkansas Legislature's General Improvement Fund. Funds may be requested by Arkansas festivals for the purpose of capital improvements. These funds will be granted to successful applicants and require no matching share, although the monies can be used for matching purposes for other state and/or federal grants. Available funds may be granted to one or more grantees.

The grant payee must be the fiscal agent of the festival applicant and must be incorporated in the State of Arkansas. Festivals in existence for one year or more may make application for and qualify for funds under this program. Applications may be made for a minimum of \$5,000 up to a maximum of \$35,000.

Request proposals for funds will be evaluated by the Festival Grant Advisory Committee, and funding recommendations will be submitted to the Executive Director of the Arkansas Department of Parks and Tourism for approval. Warrants for approved projects will be mailed immediately following the announcements of grant awards. Unsuccessful proposal applicants will be notified immediately following the announcements of grant awards by the Arkansas Department of Parks and Tourism.

Proposals for funds must include:

1. An application submitted by December 17, 2007 at 5:00 p.m.
2. A city map locating project site attached to the proposal.
3. Photographs of the proposed project site and other support material to assist the Festival Grant Advisory Committee.
4. An implementation timeline outlining the project from beginning to end.
5. A listing of other secured funds, if completion of the project requires funding in excess of grant application amount.

Because funding appropriations expire at the end of the biennium, project funds must be expended and project completed by June 30, 2009.

Grantees will be required to complete a General Improvement Fund Expenditure Report and sign it certifying the accurate expenditure of funds. The expenditure report is due to the Department of Parks and Tourism within 10 working days after the end of each calendar year. A final expenditure report is due 30 days after the final expenditure is made.

*Act 1745 There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Parks and Tourism, to be payable from the General Improvement Fund or its successor fund or fund accounts, the following: For a grant to Arkansas festivals, the sum of\$35,000
Primary Sponsor Bobby Glover*