

 <p>CITY OF ST. CHARLES ILLINOIS • 1834</p>	AGENDA ITEM EXECUTIVE SUMMARY		Agenda Item number: 5c
	Title:	Funding Request from the Visitors Cultural Commission for Consideration in the FY 2024-2025 City Budget	
	Presenter:	Bill Hannah, Director of Finance	
Meeting: Government Operations Committee		Date: February 5, 2024	
Proposed Cost: \$		Budgeted Amount: \$	Not Budgeted: <input type="checkbox"/>
TIF District: None			
Executive Summary (if not budgeted, please explain):			
<p>Attached is a funding request from the Visitors Cultural Commission (VCC) for fiscal year 2024-25. The request is for an increase in the funding amount of 10%-20% above the current FY 23-24 funding amount of \$90,000. This would be a request for additional funds in the amount of \$9,000 to \$18,000. The funding amount for the VCC of \$90,000 has remained the same for the last six years.</p> <p>The City annually budgets funds for the VCC from a portion of the City's hotel/motel tax revenue which they allocate to St. Charles-based nonprofit organizations providing programs that promote the arts and cultural events within the City.</p> <p>Organizations providing relevant programs within the community submit funding requests to the Visitors Cultural Commission in April, after the Budget is approved by the City. The VCC reviews applications from these groups and then recommends funding allocations based on established criteria using a scoring matrix.</p>			
Attachments (please list):			
Letter from Anne Becker, Visitors Cultural Commission Chairperson			
Recommendation/Suggested Action (briefly explain):			
Seeking direction on a request from the Visitors Cultural Commission to increase funding for the VCC by 10% to 20% over the current amount of \$90,000 for the City's next fiscal year budget.			

Heather McGuire, City Administrator
Bill Hannah, Finance Director
City of St. Charles

January 22, 2024

Dear Heather and Bill,

This is the mission statement that has been the guide for the Visitors Cultural Commission since its inception.

The Visitors Cultural Commission will encourage, support, and recommend organizations that will support and promote tourism, culture, history, and the arts in St. Charles.

The Commission will follow established guidelines, show fiscal responsible planning, and make recommendations to the Finance Committee within the boundaries of ordinance number 1995-50 and any successor ordinance.

Tourism: The grant recipients bring participants from many communities around St. Charles, as well as beyond our state borders. to band and choral concerts, art workshops, theater performances and community art activities.

Culture: Our community is culturally rich thanks to the support by the grant recipients as they provide various art, and aesthetically engaging experiences for our youth, our citizens, and our seniors.

History: The recipients have held true to their dedication to our citizens for several decades. They have weathered financial times with the city, as well as the turmoil we all experienced during COVID. They re-designed how they could serve our citizens and they continue to never falter in their dedication to expand their offerings to our community.

I am reaching out to request an increase in annual funding for the VCC for FY 2024-25 to add 10-20% more to our existing budgeted allocation. The current FY 23-24 funding allocated to the VCC is at \$90,000. This has been the same allocation amount for the last six years.

We appreciate the support the city continues to provide for us. We are unique and fortunate because of this support.

Many thanks,

Anne L. Becker, Ed.D.

Visitors Cultural Commission Chair