



City of Winston-Salem City Council Council Agenda Item Summary

Title	Resolution Accepting the Certified Local Government Grant for the Distiller's House Roof Restoration at Historic Bethabara Park
City Council Committee	Finance Committee
Staff Lead (Presenter)	Kelly Bennett, Principal Planner
Department Head	Chris Murphy, Planning and Development Services Director
City Manager/ACM	Aaron King, ACM

Agenda Item Summary

Recommended Council Action	Resolution Approval
Suggested Motion Options	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resolution accepting the Certified Local Government Grant in the amount of \$13,000. Amendment to the FY25-26 Budget Ordinance to appropriate the state funds.
Strategic Focus Area	Good Government
Strategic Plan Objective	GG4: Maintaining and Updating Infrastructure and Facilities
Anticipated Fiscal Impact	No Material Fiscal Impact

Summary of Information

The City received notice from the State Historic Preservation Office that it will receive a 2025 Certified Local Government (CLG) Grant in the amount of \$13,000 to help pay for the restoration of the 1803 Distiller's House roof in Historic Bethabara Park. The Distiller's House is one of only three remaining masonry structures in Bethabara that date to its early development more than 250 years ago and to early 19th century Moravian architecture. The Distiller's House is listed in the National Register of Historic Places as part of the Bethabara Historic District, which is also listed as a National Historic Landmark. The Distiller's House is also listed as a local historic landmark.

The existing condition of the Distiller's House roof is poor. It is no longer airtight or leak-proof and these conditions caused the collapse in 2020 of the kitchen ceiling. While the ceiling was repaired, the roof continues to decay. Michelle Portman, Historic Preservation Specialist with Walter Robbs Callahan & Pierce, Architects, evaluated the current poor state of the roof in her Historic Structures Report for Historic Bethabara Park in 2022, and recommended the roof be replaced as soon as possible.

The total cost of the Distiller's House roof replacement is estimated at \$73,600. The CLG grant will be matched by donations from Historic Bethabara Park, Inc., as follows:

- Cash donations of \$12,601
- Grant from Marion Stedman Covington Foundation - \$12,500
- Grant from John W. and Anna H. Hanes Foundation - \$20,000
- Grant from The Cannon Foundation - \$15,515

Staff will be present at the December 9 Finance Committee meeting to answer any questions.

Analysis of Fiscal Impact

The grant requires an applicant match of \$60,616, which is being provided by Historic Bethabara Park, Inc. as detailed above.

Attachments

- Resolution Accepting the 2025 NC State Historic Preservation Office Certified Local Government Grant for Restoration of the Distiller's House Roof in Historic Bethabara Park
- Ordinance Amending the Project Budget Ordinance

Committee Action	
For:	Against:
Remarks:	