



**INDIAN RIVER COUNTY, FLORIDA**  
**AGENDA ITEM**  
**Department of General Services /**  
**Parks & Recreation**

---

**Date:** June 22, 2023  
**To:** The Honorable Board of County Commissioners  
**Through:** John A. Titkanich, Jr., County Administrator  
Michael C. Zito, Assistant County Administrator  
**From:** Beth Powell, Director of Parks and Recreation  
**Subject:** Resolution of the Board of County Commissioners Authorizing Funding for the Florida Department of State, Division of Historical Resources Small Matching Grant for the Gifford Parks “Tour Through Time;” and for Providing an Effective Date.

---

**BACKGROUND:**

In June 2022, Staff applied for a Florida Department of State, Division of Historical Resources (DHR) Small Matching Grant to produce educational signage, brochures, and a video highlighting the Gifford Community. The DHR grant, if awarded, is a 1-year grant that would begin on July 1, 2024.

The goal for this project is to create an experience showcasing the past, present, and future of the Gifford Community. The objective of this grant is to create signage and other materials that capture the rich history of the Gifford community, while at the same time bringing the story of the community through time to present. Staff will work with community leaders, the Indian River County Historical Society, and other available resources, to develop the materials that will be produced.

The largest array of signage is planned for MLK Park. The interior of the Park has a small trail where the “Tour Through Time” will be showcased along this pathway. A series of signs will be produced based on pivotal events, community leadership, and other milestones that present the story of the Gifford Community. These signs will have both narrative and photography designed to engage readers with interesting and informative facts and events. MLK Park includes the Macedonia Church and the nearby Gifford Sundial Marker adjacent to the Gifford Middle School. Signage along the MLK Trail will showcase these, and other important historical sites in Gifford.

Additional signage is proposed for Victor Hart Park, including the portion of the Park where the three baseball fields are located. Signage in proximity to these fields will link the history of Gifford to the Jackie Robinson Training Complex. The final two locations for proposed signage include the Gifford Dock and Hosie Schumann Park. Signage in these two locations will be designed to provide history of these sites, their link to the other historical sites, and their impact on the Gifford Community, both past and present.

The grant also will include production of brochures, providing the public a “take away” element to share with others. A video will be prepared that showcases the knowledge and experiences of community members, County historian, and other notable people. A copy of the video will be provided to the Gifford Youth Achievement Center, to local schools, and to the Historical Society for use in their programming. The video will be available through a link on the County’s website, and as a QR code on prepared signage.

As part of the Application process to the DHR, the County is required to provide a Resolution that states that matching funds have been allocated for this grant. The project cost is estimated to be \$22,500. The County is required to match 50% (\$11,250) towards the completion of the grant deliverables. A copy of the draft DHR Resolution for this grant has been attached.

Should the grant be awarded, a grant agreement provided by DHR will be brought to the Board for consideration and execution, if approved.

**FUNDING**

Funding for this project, in the total amount of \$22,500, will be budgeted and available in the General Fund/Parks/Other Professional Services – Gifford Tour Grant, account number 00121072-033190-23812, in Fiscal Year 2024/2025 if the grant is awarded. The Department of State, Division of Historical Resources funds will provide \$11,250 as a matching share towards this project.

<b>Account Name</b>	<b>Account Number</b>	<b>Amount</b>
General Fund/Parks/Other Professional Services – Gifford Tour Grant	00121072-033190-23812	\$22,500

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff respectfully recommends that the Chairman execute Resolution for the DHR Small Matching Grant for the Gifford Tour Through Time project

**ATTACHMENT**

- Draft Resolution
- Grant Form

**APPROVED AGENDA ITEM FOR JULY 11, 2023**