



CITY OF HARRISONBURG CITY MANAGER

409 SOUTH MAIN STREET, HARRISONBURG, VA 22801
OFFICE (540) 432-7701 • FAX (540) 432-7778

TO: Ande Banks, City Manager
FROM: Jennifer Bell, Tourism Manager
DATE: 2/20/24
RE: VA250 Resolution for Harrisonburg

Summary: The nation is celebrating the semiquincentennial or 250th anniversary of the 1776 Declaration of Independence. Virginia has formed VA250 to prepare for and commemorate Virginia's role in American Independence. VA250 requests all Cities and Counties approve a resolution showing their support and authorizing the formation of a local VA250 committee.

Background: The Virginia Quilt Museum and the Brethren and Mennonite Heritage Center are planning special events to commemorate the 250th anniversary. JMU and others are expected to host special events. By passing this resolution and authorizing the form of a Harrisonburg VA250 committee we can move forward with a formal organized planning process.

Key Issues: Harrisonburg Tourism will take the lead in the formation of a committee of stakeholders and the promotion of local VA250 activities as well as any administrative functions related to being a VA250 city.

Environmental Impact: None

Fiscal Impact: None (We would be eligible to apply for external grant funds.)

Prior Actions: None

Alternatives: None – we cannot formally join VA250, use the official logo and apply for VA250 grants and resources without a formal resolution.



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Community Engagement: A formal VA250 local-committee would be formed of local stakeholders guiding the planning and promotion process.

Recommendation: Staff recommends approval of the resolution.

Attachments: The draft resolution.

Review:

The initiating Department Director will place in Legistar, in sequence of transmittal, the names of each department that must initial their review in order for this item to be placed on the City Council agenda. The completion of review only addresses the readiness of the issue for Council consideration. This does not address the recommendation for approval or denial of the issue.

