

RESOLUTION NO. 54-2026

Introduced by Mark Claus

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SUBMISSION OF AN APPLICATION TO THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, PUBLIC SAFETY, INFRASTRUCTURE, COMMUNITY CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU ("EPIC") RELATING TO THE HURON BOAT BASIN WATERFRONT LIGHTING & PUBLIC SAFETY IMPROVEMENT INITIATIVE IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND AND XX/100 DOLLARS (\$100,000.00); AND FURTHER AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ACCEPT SAID GRANT AWARD(S) IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND AND XX/100 DOLLARS (\$100,000.00), SHOULD THE APPLICATION BE SUCCESSFUL.

WHEREAS, the City of Huron desires to make a grant request to the Economic Development, Public Safety, Infrastructure, Community Convention & Visitors Bureau ("EPIC") relating to the Huron Boat Basin Waterfront Lighting & Public Safety Improvement Initiative (the "Project"); and

WHEREAS, the City meets basic eligibility requirements for funding; and

WHEREAS, the City of Huron has the authority to apply for financial assistance and to administer the amounts received from EPIC; and

WHEREAS, the City of Huron must direct and authorize the City Manager, Stuart Hamilton, to act as the Authorized Representative for the application and Project, if awarded.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HURON AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. That the Council of the City of Huron hereby authorizes submission of a grant application to the Economic Development, Public Safety, Infrastructure, Community Convention & Visitors Bureau ("EPIC") to become eligible for potential funding assistance relating to the Huron Boat Basin Waterfront Lighting & Public Safety Improvement Initiative in an amount not to exceed One Hundred Thousand and xx/100 Dollars (\$100,000.00).

SECTION 2. If grant funds are awarded, the City Manager is further authorized and directed to execute an agreement for and on behalf of the City of Huron, Ohio with EPIC in an amount not to exceed One Hundred Thousand and xx/100 Dollars (\$100,000.00), and which agreement shall be in substantially in the form attached hereto as Exhibit "A."

SECTION 3. That this Council hereby finds and determines that all formal actions relative to the adoption of this Resolution were taken in an open meeting of the Council and that all deliberations of this Council and of its committees, if any, which resulted in formal action, were taken in meetings open to the public in full compliance with applicable legal requirements, including O.R.C. §121.22.

SECTION 4. That this Resolution shall go into effect and be in full force and effect immediately upon its passage.

ATTEST: *Jerri Wellkenor* *Monty Tapp*
Council Clerk Monty Tapp, Mayor

ADOPTED: 23 JUN 2026



I. Applicant Information

Organization Name: City of Huron, Ohio

Primary Contact Name & Title: Stuart Hamilton, City Manager

Type of Entity: Incorporated City

Phone: 419-433-4848

Address: 417 Main Street

Email: Stuart.Hamilton@huronohio.us

City/State/Zip: Huron, Ohio 44839

II. Project Description & Need

A. Statement of Need

Describe the issue or opportunity the project addresses. Include:

- Current conditions
- Impact on residents and visitors
- Urgency of the need

B. Project Description

Provide a detailed explanation of the project, including:

- Scope of work (relation to eligible costs)
- Location of project
- Key components and activities
- Timeline and milestones

III. Project Budget

A. Description of Budget

Provide a description of how the CVB money will be used.

Total Project Cost: \$199,021.57

Amount Requested from CVB: \$100,000

Matching Funds (if applicable):

- Source: City of Huron Funds
- Amount: \$ 99,021.57

Applicant Information

Organization Name:City of Huron, Ohio

Type of Entity:Municipal Corporation

Address: 417 Main Street

City, State, Zip:Huron, Ohio 44939

Primary Contact:Stuart Hamilton, City Manager

Phone:419-433-4848

Email:stuart.hamilton@huronohio.us

Huron Boat Basin Waterfront Lighting & Public Safety Improvement Initiative

The City of Huron is seeking \$100,000 through the Erie County Economic Development, Public Safety, Infrastructure and Community Conventions and Visitors Bureau (EPIC) Grant Program to support the completion of the Huron Boat Basin Waterfront Lighting & Public Safety Improvement Initiative. The City is committed to \$100,000 local investment toward the project, creating a total project value of \$200,000. This partnership will allow the City to modernize critical waterfront infrastructure, improve public safety, enhance visitor experiences and strengthen one of Erie County's premier waterfront destinations.

The City's commitment to providing 50% of the total project cost demonstrates strong local support and ensures responsible stewardship of public resources while maximizing the impact of EPIC funding.

Huron Boat Basin serves as one of Erie County's premier public waterfront destinations, attracting transient boaters, event attendees, residents and visitors from throughout Ohio and the Midwest while supporting local businesses, recreation and community gatherings. The facility welcomes transient boaters, local residents, event attendees and visitors from throughout the Midwest and supports waterfront recreation, tourism activity and community events throughout the year.

This project will replace aging and deteriorating lighting infrastructure with modern, energy-efficient lighting systems designed to improve operational safety, strengthen waterfront accessibility and support continued growth in visitation and local spending.

The proposed project strongly aligns with EPIC's Infrastructure, Public Safety, Economic Development and Community Impact priorities.

- This project represents a long-term infrastructure investment that will improve sustainability, reduce long-term operational costs and lower municipal energy consumption and environmental impact through the installation of durable, energy-efficient lighting technology. Upgraded lighting infrastructure will reduce ongoing maintenance demands while enhancing the visual appeal, functionality and long-term reliability of one of Erie County's most visible public waterfront destinations.
- Improved lighting will significantly increase visibility throughout pedestrian walkways, docks, parking areas and waterfront gathering spaces. Enhanced illumination will improve emergency response visibility, support safer nighttime navigation for transient and recreational boaters, and increase user comfort during evening events and peak visitation periods. In addition, replacing existing 360-degree light diffusers with directional lighting fixtures will reduce unnecessary light pollution while improving downward-focused illumination where it is most needed.
- This project will support increased utilization of the waterfront during evening hours, strengthening activity at nearby restaurants, retail establishments, lodging providers and downtown businesses. Enhanced lighting will help extend public use of the facility, support amphitheater programming and reinforce the Boat Basin's role as a key contributor to Huron's waterfront economy.
- This investment will deliver lasting community benefits by modernizing aging infrastructure while enhancing the visual character of the waterfront. New fixtures will complement the decorative lighting

standards found throughout downtown Huron, creating a more cohesive and welcoming environment for residents and visitors. Beyond improving safety and functionality, the project will reinforce the Boat Basin's role as a signature public asset and year-round economic driver for Erie County.

A. Statement of Need

The existing lighting infrastructure throughout the Boat Basin has exceeded its anticipated service life and is experiencing ongoing deterioration and mechanical issues. Existing light poles, fixtures and electrical components provide inconsistent illumination, require increasing maintenance and no longer meet the operational, safety and aesthetic expectations of a modern public waterfront destination. Limited lighting coverage and aging infrastructure reduce visibility along docks, pedestrian walkways, parking areas and public gathering spaces, particularly during evening hours and large public events.

These conditions impact both residents and visitors by diminishing nighttime safety, accessibility and overall visitor experience. The Boat Basin regularly hosts concerts, festivals, boating groups, transient boaters and community gatherings that extend into evening hours during the peak tourism season. Inadequate or aging lighting can create challenges for pedestrian movement, waterfront navigation, emergency response visibility and overall public comfort in heavily utilized public areas. The current lighting system also limits the City's ability to maximize safe evening utilization of the waterfront during peak tourism periods.

As a designated safe harbor on Lake Erie, the facility must also remain functional and accessible for boaters arriving during nighttime conditions or adverse weather events.

The need for this project is increasingly urgent as the existing lighting system continues to age and maintenance demands continue to rise. As a key gateway to Huron's downtown waterfront district, the Boat Basin plays an important role in supporting visitor spending at nearby restaurants, retail establishments and lodging providers. Maintaining safe, reliable and attractive infrastructure is essential to sustaining that economic activity.

The Huron Boat Basin welcomes thousands of annual visitors through transient boating activity, waterfront events, amphitheater programming and public recreation. Modern lighting infrastructure will support safer navigation, improve public access and encourage greater utilization of the waterfront during evening hours, ensuring the facility can continue serving as a premier regional destination while supporting increased public utilization and long-term tourism growth.

The City has already demonstrated its commitment to addressing these deficiencies by allocating \$100,000 in local funding toward the project; however, EPIC assistance is necessary to fully implement the comprehensive system replacement needed to meet current safety, operational and visitor-service expectations.

B. Detailed Project Explanation

The City of Huron is requesting \$100,000 in EPIC funding to leverage an equal \$100,000 local investment already committed toward the project. Together, these resources will fund the comprehensive replacement of aging lighting infrastructure throughout the Huron Boat Basin.

The scope of work will include the removal and replacement of 37 outdated lighting fixtures and related infrastructure components with modern, durable and energy-efficient lighting systems throughout key public areas of the Boat Basin. Improvements may also include associated electrical upgrades, mounting hardware, wiring and fixture control components as necessary to support long-term system reliability and performance.

The project will be located at the Huron Boat Basin Marina and Amphitheater along the Huron River waterfront in Huron, Erie County, Ohio. This public facility includes the marina basin, docks, pedestrian walkways, amphitheater grounds, parking and access areas and waterfront gathering spaces utilized by residents, transient boaters, event attendees and visitors throughout the year.

Key project components will include removing deteriorated fixtures and related components and installing new energy-efficient lighting infrastructure. These improvements will support safer pedestrian movement, improved nighttime visibility, enhanced boater navigation, increased emergency response visibility and a more welcoming experience during evening events and peak tourism periods.

The project is anticipated to follow a phased implementation schedule designed to minimize disruption to marina operations, public access and scheduled waterfront events. Following grant award, the City will finalize project design, confirm fixture specifications, complete procurement activities and coordinate contractor scheduling. Installation activities will prioritize the highest-use public areas first, including pedestrian walkways, dock access points, parking and circulation areas and event-related public spaces. Final project milestones will include system testing, safety verification, final inspection and grant closeout documentation.

Anticipated milestones include:

- Finalize project scope, lighting locations and cost estimates
- Complete procurement and contractor/vendor selection
- Remove aging lighting components and prepare installation areas
- Install new energy-efficient lighting infrastructure
- Test system performance and verify improved lighting coverage
- Complete final inspection, documentation and grant closeout

By combining a \$100,000 local investment with requested EPIC funding, the City of Huron will complete a transformative infrastructure improvement that enhances public safety, improves operational efficiency, strengthens tourism-related economic activity and protects the long-term viability of one of Erie County's most heavily utilized public waterfront destinations. The project represents a collaborative investment in community infrastructure that will provide benefits for residents, visitors and local businesses for decades to come.