

SUMMARY: TOURISM CAPITAL GRANTS PROJECT DESCRIPTIONS

Prepared by TCAD October, 2008

Year	Request Award	Applicant & Project	Project Description
2008	\$13,500 \$13,500	Cayuga Nature Center: Detailed Design of New Entrance and Attractions	<p>CNC currently seeks to have an architect design and prepare construction documents and estimates for a variety of projects so that they can begin an 18 month program of implementing the following projects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New east and west entrances including handicap/accessible ramp • Road-front visibility – art, banners, lighting • New turtle pond exhibit • Environmental art trail exhibit to enhance trail to butterfly house and TreeTops exhibits • New outdoor pavilion – for outdoor programs and private events (weddings, etc.)
2008	\$20,000 \$15,000	Cayuga Waterfront Trail Initiatives: Stewart Park Rehabilitation Action Plan	<p>The SPRAP feasibility study has two components:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Creating an action plan that assesses and prioritizes multiple projects currently under consideration at the park including <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • general park conditions • projects: dock, boathouse, picnic pavilion, Wharton Studio, Waterfront Trail • Create a new vision for the Park and create a plan to prioritize investments • Position the park to take advantage of capital funding opportunities 2. Exploration of possible management structures to maintain the variety of waterfront investments in a consistent and ongoing system. <p>The Cayuga Waterfront Trail Initiative currently seeks to hire a consultant to prepare the plan and facilitate related community and leadership meetings.</p>
2008	\$84,000 \$84,000	Hangar Theatre: Architectural Preparation Project	<p>The Hangar is preparing for a major renovation project to start construction fall 2009. The project will support year-round programming with the three new seasons focused on educational/family theatre. The application is for funds to prepare architectural drawings and specifications (Schematic and Design Development stage) that will refine the project design, details, and cost estimates.</p>
2008	\$13,000 \$13,000	Kitchen Theatre: New Space Feasibility Study	<p>The Kitchen Theatre is preparing to move to a larger theatre space – increasing from 73 seats to 99 seats. Requested funding is to contribute toward the following activities: real estate lawyer; preliminary architectural and construction management services to evaluate prospective spaces; market survey analysis.</p>

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2007	\$160,000 \$160,000	Finger Lakes Wine Center: Initial construction and installations	<p>The Finger Lakes Wine Center will occupy about 3,000 square feet below the Cayuga Garage, across the street from the Holiday Inn. Different wines will be featured for tasting on a rotating basis. A tour operator will provide daily tours of the wine country. The CVB would likely operate a small visitors information area within the Center. Capital project eligible costs of \$502,220 include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Construction: \$153,320 o Furnishings and Equipment: \$277,000 o Soft Costs: \$71,900 (professional expenses, reserves, contingency)
2006	\$60,000 \$60,000	Sciencenter: Enhancement and Upgrade of Outdoor Attractions	<p>February 2008 will mark the 25th anniversary of the founding of the Sciencenter. In preparation for a year of celebration and promotional activities, the Sciencenter is planning to thoroughly upgrade its outdoor attractions. The specific areas that will be included in this project are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Science Park 2. Sagan Planet Walk 3. Galaxy Golf 4. Landscaping along Rt. 13 <p>These outdoor attractions need additions and upgrades which, when completed, will enhance the Sciencenter and Tompkins County as a place to visit.</p>
2006	\$10,000 \$10,000	The History Center: Eight Square Schoolhouse Structural Study	<p>The Eight Square Schoolhouse (ESS) is the last remaining brick masonry octagonal schoolhouse in New York. Built in 1827, it is on the National Register of Historic Places. The ESS is suffering structurally from age – specifically: the roof system, exterior walls, and foundation. To progress to plans for renovations, the study will determine structural strains or failures that may be contributing to the building's deterioration and present strategies for repair with cost estimates. Ryan-Biggs Associates, PC is the consultant.</p>
2005	\$75,000 0	CVB: Convention and Visitors Bureau expansion	<p>2,000 square foot addition to the Chamber of Commerce building, plus renovations of about 1,800 square feet of the existing building. The total project cost is \$550,00 of which about 80%, \$440,000, of the project is to expand and improve the CVB visitor center and administrative offices. CVB currently hosts about 15,000 visitors – and expects an increase once Scenic By-way maps and signage are implemented. Goal is to improve the visitor experience at the Visitors Center and to increase the ability of staff to “up-sell” Tompkins County to visitors (extend stay, increase activities such as theater etc.).</p>

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2005	\$200,000 0	CNC: Cayuga Nature Center EcoTourism	Major theme is eco-tourism around a hands-on heritage farm. Phase 1. Restore and expand the farm. Develop historical exhibit materials and educational facilities. Add horseback riding with partner Patchwork Therapeutic Riding Stable. Phase 2. Expand Butterfly House and Tree Tops exhibits. Work includes improved signage, exhibit materials, and purchase of property to unite CNC's two properties.
2005	\$35,000 \$5,000	CWT: Cayuga Waterfront Trail Phase 2 Trailheads and Overlook	Phase 2 of the Cayuga Waterfront Trail links Cass Park to the Ithaca Farmers' Market. The total project cost is \$488,000. The applicant applied for funds to support the construction of the two trailheads and the overlook – valued at \$115,000. These are tourism oriented amenities to the Trail which include maps, cultural information, and a place to gather and appreciate the waterfront.
2005	\$30,000 \$20,000	Sciencenter: Connect to the Ocean	A new ocean conservation exhibition that combines elements of a large, urban aquarium with those of an interactive science museum to expand the Sciencenter into the life sciences in a hands-on way that is novel and exciting for visitors. The exhibition will include an interactive tide pool - touch tank exhibit, a “sanctuary tank” for care and monitoring of live animals, a new salt-water tank with various sea creatures bred and raised in captivity, and supplemental exhibits and cinematography. The investment will also upgrade and expand an existing salt-water reef tank system.
2004	\$7,500 \$7,500	Finger Lakes Wine Center Phase 2 Study	Funding request is to complete pre-development feasibility work. Proposed work includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Identify and finalize co-tenant agreements.• Finalize lease with developer.• Prepare concept plan and estimates for the facility & exhibits• Secure initial development funding• Secure preliminary winery participation
2004	\$14,790 \$10,000	Ithaca Farmers Market Winterization Pilot	Winterization of a portion to the Market with plastic panels in the clerestory openings and fabric enclosures around the booths to increase comfort for vendors and visitors. The goal is to increase late fall and early spring attendance of both vendors and visitors. The project also includes a small shed to store the enclosures during the warmer months. If the pilot is successful greater winterization will be explored in the future.

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2004	\$5,000 \$5,000	Ithaca Downtown Partnership Wine Center Business Plan	Prepare a prospectus and business plan for selling the wine center project to a developer and tenants of the facility. Following up on three studies over the past five years, the wine center is proposed as a 3,500 SF space in a larger cultural/entertainment center -- that could include a restaurant, brew pub, bus/limo wine tour service, visitor center, and theater. An ad hoc committee has been developing details for the wine center but has come to a point where a formal real estate plan and formal business plan must be prepared to shop the proposal to a developer and tenants.
2003	\$250,000 \$85-125,000	PRI Museum of the Earth (MOTE)	18,000 square foot new museum added to PRI's existing facility on west hill. Architect Weiss/Manfredi is best known for the Women's War Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery. The grant supports construction debt and completion of the exhibits of PRI's world-class collections.
2003	\$125,000 \$85-125,000	Historic Ithaca State Theatre Ph. 2	Historic restoration of the 1928 lobby, storefronts, and marquee. Handicap access to the theater lobby and ticket office from the street, and to toilets. "Front of the house" improvements: new additional toilets in basement, new concessions and retail sales area, better spaces for audience entry and intermission activities, ticket office improvements and restoration of the auditorium. Rehabilitation of second floor bathrooms and renovation of second floor offices for a reception/gallery space.
2003	\$25,000 \$25,000	Sciencenter Mini-golf	Construct an 18-hole mini-golf course in two phases. Science and math-based obstacles for each hole include, for example: chaotic pendulum, parabolic reflector, centrifugal loop-the-loop. Course will have separate ticket price. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Open evenings until 9 PM adding four hours of operations to the Sciencenter.• Teen attraction – expands market to teens and families with teens• Adds more outdoor activities

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2003	\$9,000 \$9,000	Hangar Theatre Feasibility: Winter Program	<p>The proposed feasibility study has three aspects. First a market analysis to establish demand (including tourism demand) and general facility requirements to meet that demand. The second piece is an architectural analysis of building options and related costs. The third piece is analysis of site requirements and related costs to accommodate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• new winter program• long-range site plan to accommodate long-term development of the Hangar site and its relationship to the marina and park. <p>Award was for the market study with next step to be considered after completion of the market study.</p>
2003	\$12,000 0	Ithaca Downtown Partnership Feasibility: Trolley	<p>Investigate the creation of a fixed rail electric trolley line. IDP task force examined several communities' trolleys. Preliminary findings suggest the project is feasible in concept. The feasibility study would accomplish:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Technical analysis: exact route and other technical details, and related budget requirements• Operational Analysis: Market analysis including tourism component, operating pro forma, recommended operating model
2003	\$32,000 0	Ithaca Children's Garden – Ph. 1	<p>Construction of a three-acre garden located in Cass Park. Phase 1 develops 1/3 of the final \$1.5 million project. It includes about 75% of the plantings, a compost station and temporary office/classroom. Future plans include a 2,000 square foot education center and an amphitheatre.</p>