



Dear Grant Selection Committee

This letter serves as our letter of support for the planned Scottville DDA "Optimist Park Project". The project is one that the Scottville DDA in collaboration with the City of Scottville have been planning for the past few years in our effort to revitalize our downtown district. The plan for redevelopment of this park and outdoor space fits within our city's master plan and aligns with the long-term vision of not just the DDA but also the city itself.

The economic impact felt as a result of the loss of use for this public gathering space as a result of COVID-19 and other factors; has been significant to our small town. A well-maintained facility including a band shell is essential for Scottville's future success in recovery from economic stress. This facility and Scottville not only serve our local residents, but also serve as the out-county location for entertainment, food, and recreation within the east side of Mason County.

The past use of the facility is a great indication of the long-term viability of the park and space. The unwavering support of myself, the city manager, and our city commissioners is also a testament to the strong will of the community to complete the planned project. Please consider awarding this grant to the Scottville DDA and in doing so help the DDA execute the vision of a community space within downtown. The project serves a greater purpose than just the City of Scottville businesses, but has far reaching impact on all county wide residents and tourists alike.

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter of support. It is a great project which will have a wonderful impact and greatly improve the conditions of the facility, the downtown district, and entertainment opportunities for our community.

Sincerely,

Jimmy Newkirk

City Manager

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jimmy Newkirk", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.