**Hotel/Motel**

**Application Criteria**

**Intent:**

**The Hotel/Motel Tax (HMT) is a 7% local tax imposed on the renting of lodging within the City of Jefferson. As per the City of Jefferson Municipal Code, 80% of the revenue derived from the hotel and motel tax shall be spent for the promotion and encouragement of tourism and convention business in the City and surrounding areas. The City and the Greene County Chamber of Commerce have jointly developed the following criteria for use of the funds.**

1.  The City will act as a pass through agent for the funds as they are received from the State. The City will provide to the Chamber on a quarterly basis 80 percent of the total revenue received.

 2.  Hotel/motel tax funds shall be used by the Chamber only for promotion and encouragement of tourism and convention business in the City of Jefferson and surrounding areas. The Chamber shall at its discretion use hotel/motel tax funds for the cost associated with planning and holding tourism events that draw people to the City from outside Greene County. The Chamber shall at its discretion leverage hotel/motel tax funds to allow for the construction, maintenance and staffing of a public building suitable for the use of promoting tourism. The Chamber board, director, and/or tourism and events coordinator shall budget for the use of funds.

 3.  Hotel/motel tax funds will not be used for programs or projects promoting specific religious or political viewpoints.

 4.  Hotel/motel tax funds will be available to groups outside the Chamber if planning is done cooperatively with the Chamber and all proposed expenses are approved in advance by the Chamber board or the Chamber tourism and events coordinator.

5.   The Chamber shall provide a quarterly summary to the City of Jefferson of how hotel/motel tax funds have been used, with documentation available upon request.