



ISLAND COUNTY

2024 Lodging Tax Grant Program

Greetings,

The tourism industry is a significant driver and growth sector for our local economy. The annual Island County Lodging Tax Grant Program is funded through a 2% tax charged on overnight accommodations in the unincorporated areas of Whidbey and Camano Islands. These grants can be used to support tourism activities and facilities across Island County, in accordance with state law.

This competitive grant program is administered through the Island County Commissioners Office, with the assistance of a citizen advisory committee (Lodging Tax Advisory Committee (LTAC)). The LTAC committee members will priority rank all applications with these objectives:

- Special focus on October-May events or year-round operations/facilities
- Projects that demonstrate broad island-wide benefit on Camano or Whidbey Island;
- Special Events or festivals that exemplify the natural resources, cultural offerings or history of Island County;
- Operations and maintenance of key community assets which function as destinations, or venues for multi-purpose events, and serve on a year-round basis;
- Developing innovative opportunities (i.e. new events, interesting partnerships); creativity and synergy;
- Community economic impact, and increase to overnight stays

All awardees are required by state law to report back on the impact of their activity. We've included a sample survey which may be useful for gathering the information required for this end-of-project report.

All completed applications are due by 4:30 pm, July 31, 2023. If you have any questions, please contact Jennifer Roll in the Commissioner's office (360)679-7385, or j.roll@islandcountywa.gov

Thank you for your interest,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Janet St. Clair', followed by the initials 'jr'.

Janet St. Clair, Chair
Island County Board of Commissioners