

August 26, 2023

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Route 66 Extraordinary Women Micro-Grant to Support Women Across The Mother Road

Route 66, USA – Historic Route 66 turns 100 years old in 2026, and the party is starting! The Route 66 Road Ahead Partnership is celebrating the Mother Road's birthday with the *Route 66 Extraordinary Women Micro-Grant Program*. The grant program is one in a series of "birthday gifts" to be given to Route 66 in the years leading up to the road's Centennial.

The Route 66 Extraordinary Women Micro-Grant Program will provide critical and flexible funding to businesses and attractions located along Route 66 that are majority women-owned or operated. It is part of the Route 66 Road Ahead Partnership's plan to celebrate the upcoming Route 66 Centennial by helping the millions of people who live, work, and travel along Route 66 via projects focused on promotion, preservation, research/education, and the economic development of Route 66.

In addition to direct fundraising efforts undertaken by the Road Ahead, the Route 66 Extraordinary Women Micro-Grant Program is funded in part by a grant from the Preserve Route 66 Grant Fund of the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

Applications for The Route 66 Extraordinary Women Micro-Grant Program are being accepted through Monday, October 23, 2023 and are available at: https://roadahead.route66centennial.org.

The first round of the Route 66 Extraordinary Women Micro-Grant Program was held in 2021. In addition to this 2023 grant round, the program will administer two grant rounds in 2024. A total of \$20,000 [10 awards of up to \$2,000 each] is being awarded per each round of the Route 66 Extraordinary Women Micro-Grant Program.

Established in 2016, with the support of the National Park Service and the World Monuments' Fund, The Route 66 Road Ahead Partnership's mission is to revitalize and sustain Route 66 as a national and international icon through partnerships focused on promotion, preservation, research and education, and economic development.

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Contact:
Bill Thomas, Chairman
Route 66 Road Ahead Partnership
rt66theroadahead@gmail.com
217-648-5077