

**JEFFERSON COUNTY  
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

**WORKSHOP AGENDA REQUEST**

**TO:** Board of County Commissioners

**FROM:** Heather Dudley-Nollette, County Commissioner

**DATE:** March 17, 2025

**RE:** Workshop: 2026 Local Celebrations of 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the United States

---

**STATEMENT OF ISSUE:**

July 4, 2026 marks the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the signing of our nation's Declaration of Independence. Jefferson County Commissioners, the City of Port Townsend, our local historical museums, and other local entities have been asked to consider participation in a planning process to create or support celebrations of this momentous occasion through a partnership with a national planning effort called "America250."

**ANALYSIS:**

On February 26, 2025, Commissioner Dudley-Nollette met with a representative from America250 to learn about a national effort to create locally-coordinated celebrations of America's "semiquincentennial." Since that time, the Commissioner has had follow-up conversations with staff at Jefferson County and the City of Port Townsend. There seems to be some interest in coordinating our efforts locally to plan local celebrations throughout 2026. And there is also interest in engaging in formal government-to-government outreach with our local tribes to discuss if and how they might want to be involved.

More information about America250 can be found on their website at:  
<https://www.America250.org>

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

There are no current proposals to use county funds to support this opportunity. This discussion would only address ways for Jefferson County to lead and/or participate in the planning process. If future proposals for funding are developed, they would be addressed separately.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Discuss ways to engage in and/or lead this planning process.

**REVIEWED BY:**

  
Mark McCauley, County Administrator

3/13/25  
Date