



Delano Sesquicentennial (150th) Celebration Funding HF2471 / SF 2830

Delano will celebrate its 150th anniversary (Sesquicentennial) in 2026 with a year-long series of 150 events, highlighting the town's rich history, from its Native American heritage to its bright future. The celebration will engage the entire community – from schools and businesses to churches, organizations, and residents – creating a memorable experience for all. The proposed \$150,000 will support a variety of events, drawing regional and multi-state attention to the town.

Historic Steam Engine: A historic steam engine, Milwaukee 261, will pass through Delano, offering rides to the public. This event highlights Delano's early history tied to the railroad, which was pivotal in establishing the town. Cost: \$75,000

Commemorative Book: A local author is creating a commemorative book that preserves Delano's history, recording the town's stories for future generations. Cost: \$20,000

Oral History Project: Interviews with long-time residents will capture their personal stories and memories, preserving valuable insights into Delano's past and fostering a deeper sense of community pride. Cost: \$11,250

Historical Calendar Printing and Mailing: A commemorative calendar featuring historical images and milestones will be printed and mailed to every household in the Delano area (4,000 copies). Cost: \$18,000

Main Sesquicentennial Celebration: A large-scale event featuring arts, cultural presentations, and local talent to showcase Delano's Spirit of Community. Cost: \$20,000

4th of July Parade Participation: Delano will participate in the 4th of July parade with a float celebrating both the Sesquicentennial and our country's 250th anniversary in 2026. Delano is home to Minnesota's oldest and largest 4th of July celebration. Cost: \$2,500

Marketing: This fund will cover marketing materials (signage, flyers, etc.) to promote the celebrations regionally and statewide. Cost: \$3,250

Total Estimated Budget: \$150,000

This funding is crucial for delivering a celebration that not only honors Delano's rich history but also strengthens community pride and involvement, while reaching an audience across the state. Thank you for your consideration and support of Delano's Sesquicentennial.