

When you are looking at everyone saying "please continue to fund us" during budget cuts, it is not only important but critical to look at the funding that **GENERATES REVENUE FOR THE STATE**. The Eastern Regional Tourism District is one that has demonstrated thru programing and the scope of the towns it represents that revenue is definitely generated by its existence. Not funding at a regional level would impact the revenue needed by the state with lower occupancy taxes and all the smaller businesses that are supported by tourism that would suffer as well. I have watched in horror as the state goes thru the cycles of aborting tourism funding and then trying to regroup and recover each time they realize the error of their ways. Now more than ever we need to keep regional tourism in place.

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