For immediate release:

The Decatur Historical Commission and Depot Museum are now accepting bids for its F-7 Locomotive and Bay Window Caboose restoration project.

The Kansas City Southern F-7 Locomotive and Caboose are iconic symbols for the City of Decatur and both, as well as the Depot itself, are on the National Historical Registry. The locomotive and caboose were purchased by Lloyd Peterson, President of Peterson Poultry, in 1991 and donated to the city for display in 1993. After nearly 33 years of exposure to the elements, both the locomotive and caboose need repair.

The project consists of repairing rust spots under the cab and various other locations around the locomotive and a complete repainting of the engine. The caboose consists of repairing all rust spots located on the exterior and replacing plywood panels in the interior.

All bids should be submitted no later than December 31, 2026, and will be reviewed by the Historical Commission in February 2027.

To schedule an inspection appointment, contact Mike Eckels, Curator and Commission Chair 479-422-0208. Please leave a message if unavailable or send bids to the Decatur Historical Commission and Depot Museum, P.O. Box 723, Decatur, Arkansas, 72722.

****This ad will be paid out of the Decatur General Fund*** $89.68

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