

COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

	Number:	22-077	Meeting:	March 7, 2022
	Agenda Item:	49	Roll Call:	22-0341
	Submitted by:	Erin Olson-Douglas, Development Services Department Director		

AGENDA HEADING:

Approving the contract with Kendig Keast Collaborative to prepare the City's Historic Preservation Plan.

SYNOPSIS:

The Development Services Department is seeking to hire Kendig Keast Collaborative to develop a comprehensive, robust, and innovative Citywide Historic Preservation Plan for Des Moines. The Citywide Preservation Plan will be used by City leaders and staff to help guide decision making, policy and program development for historic preservation in Des Moines.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Amount: \$92,737

Funding Source: Development Services - DS001000 / 521020

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- Des Moines has been a designated Certified Local Government (CLG) since 1986.
- Des Moines' Historic Preservation Commission advises City Council on preservation-related topics and reviews exterior alterations in the three (3) designated Local Historic Districts.
- In 1995, Des Moines adopted the first comprehensive Preservation Plan.
- Since that time, the City has invested in numerous historic resource inventories and supported the Historic Register designation of many National Historic Districts and individual property listings.
- Additional successes since 1995 include the rehabilitation and adaptive reuse of multiple prominent historic civic buildings, incorporation of a new Local Historic District, the development of a Demolition Delay Ordinance, and the designation of the first Main Street District.
- The 1995 Preservation Plan also provided the mechanism by which City staff incorporates preservation planning and advocacy into individual neighborhood plans.
- In 2015, a new comprehensive plan, PlanDSM, was adopted, and in 2019, Des Moines adopted a new comprehensive form-based zoning code.
- PlanDSM recommended that the City undertake an update to the 1995 Preservation Plan.

- Historic preservation can play an integral role as downtown's revitalization is further bolstered and extends out into the neighborhoods, but a new planning framework and specific implementation strategies for it to most effectively do so are needed.
- Des Moines continues to seek a balance between historic preservation and new development.
- The City is seeking appropriate policy tools beyond demolition with which public nuisances can be abated and the historic fabric of neighborhoods can be protected.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S): NONE

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS:

Adoption of the final draft of the Des Moines Historic Preservation Plan once completed.

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