



Date January 26, 2026

**CONSIDERATION OF A REQUEST FROM THE DES MOINES INDEPENDENT
COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT (“DMPS”), REPRESENTED BY ARCHITECT,
BRYAN HUGGINS, TO DEMOLISH THE MOULTON ELEMENTARY STRUCTURE
LOCATED AT 1541 8TH STREET PURSUANT TO SECTION 58-70 OF THE HISTORIC
PRESERVATION ORDINANCE**

WHEREAS, DMPS owns Moulton Elementary School located at 1541 8th Street (“Building”) and has proposed to demolish the Building; and

WHEREAS, the Building is not on the National Register of Historic Places, is not located within a local historic district, and is not a local landmark; and

WHEREAS, the Development Services Director has determined the Building is greater than 50 years old, is deemed historically significant, and meets the criteria for landmark designation set forth in City of Des Moines Municipal Code § 58-58; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the Historic Preservation Ordinance, the Development Services Director has referred the application to City Council for review; and

WHEREAS, City Council is required to consider oral and written comments from all interested parties and determine if the proposed demolition should be referred to the City’s Historic Preservation Commission for further study and review.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Des Moines, Iowa, as follows:

Upon due consideration of the facts, and any and all statements of interested persons and arguments of counsel, any objections to the proposed demolition, are hereby received and filed.

(Council Communication No. 26-014)



Roll Call Number

Agenda Item Number

37

Date January 26, 2026

Alternative A

MOVED by _____ to **DENY** the request to demolish the Building at 1541 8th Street, and to refer the application for proposed demolition to the Historic Preservation Commission for further study and review. Second by _____.

Alternative B

MOVED by _____ to **APPROVE** the request to demolish the Building at 1541 8th Street, subject to all conditions and requirements set forth in City of Des Moines Municipal Code § 58-70(d). Second by _____.

/s/ Emily A. Duffy

Emily A. Duffy

Assistant City Attorney

COUNCIL ACTION	YEAS	NAYS	PASS	ABSENT
BOESEN				
SIMONSON				
VOSS				
BARRON				
WESTERGAARD				
MANDELBAUM				
GATTO				
TOTAL				
MOTION CARRIED		APPROVED		

CERTIFICATE

I, LAURA BAUMGARTNER, City Clerk of said City hereby certify that at a meeting of the City Council of said City of Des Moines, held on the above date, among other proceedings the above was adopted.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal the day and year first above written.

Mayor

City Clerk

Coupee, Jacob T.

From: Bryan Huggins <bhuggins@bbsae.com>
Sent: Wednesday, December 17, 2025 5:46 PM
To: Coupee, Jacob T.
Cc: Kaela Shoemaker; Q+nTJillianSommerJLSommer@dmgov.org
Subject: 25042: Moulton - Moulton Elementary School Demolition

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: 03 - Demo Review Log

EXTERNAL EMAIL - This email was sent by a person from outside your organization. Exercise caution when clicking links, opening attachments or taking further action, before validating its authenticity.

Jacob,

Per our conversation, please consider this email our letter of intent of the Des Moines Independent Community School District's (DMPS) intent to demolish the existing Moulton Elementary School as outlined in the voter approved Reimagining Education Plan bond referendum and before that via a series of dozens of public meetings outlining the plan. The demolition of the existing structure will allow for the new Moulton Performing and Visual Arts Signature School which will be located on the same existing property. BBS Architects | Engineers has been selected by DMPS as the professional design services firm for the design of the new Moulton school, hence this email. Please note the widely publicized Reimagining Education Plan schedule targets that the new school be open for classes in August 2028. To meet this schedule, demolition of the existing structure is targeted for fall 2026. Demolition permitting documents are targeted for completion Summer 2026. Though it may not seem like it, this schedule is aggressive. Any help that the City can provide to DMPS / BBS to expedite as able the City's processes as related to Chapter 58 of the municipal code would very much be appreciated!

Please let me know of any questions or further information you or others may have regarding this matter. I have cc'd as a matter of courtesy Kaela Shoemaker (BBS architect / Moulton Project Manager) and Jillian Sommer as this email is an extension of our meeting we had yesterday first discussing this issue, and I just wanted to let them know we've talked and are acting on yesterday's meeting discussion.

Thank you,

Bryan



ARCHITECTS
ENGINEERS

Bryan Huggins, AIA

Architect | Partner

bhuggins@bbsae.com

515.365.8226 Direct | 515.244.7167 Office

219 Eighth Street, Suite 100 | Des Moines, Iowa 50309

www.bbsae.com

































