



RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF MINNEAPOLIS

By Councilmember Schiff

Denying the Designation of the Prospect Park Historic District as a local historic district.

Whereas, on August 22, 2008, Councilmember Cam Gordon of the Second Ward nominated an area within the Prospect Park neighborhood for consideration for local historic designation and to establish interim historic protection, and the full City Council adopted the motion.

Whereas, on September 13, 2008 the Minneapolis Heritage Preservation Commission took action to establish interim protection and directed the Planning Director to commence a designation study.

Whereas, on March 2, 2010, the HPC approved a six-month extension of interim protection for Prospect Park so that CPED could complete the designation study and community survey efforts.

Whereas, on March 12, 2010, PPERRIA submitted an appeal of the March 2 HPC decision extending interim protection.

Whereas, on April 16, 2010, the City Council voted to grant the PPERRIA appeal. Therefore, interim protection and heritage preservation review is no longer in place for the proposed Prospect Park Historic District.

Whereas, CPED believes that without interim protection in place since April 2010, alterations could have taken place that could impact the integrity of buildings and structures within the historic district which may compromise their contributing status.

Whereas, Hess Roise and Company in their designation study state that Prospect Park district is worthy of nomination as a local historic district because it meets Local Criterion 1, 3, 4, 5, and 6.

Whereas, landscape patterns and topography are the most important features that set Prospect Park apart from other communities of Minneapolis and help to define its essential character.

Whereas, the proposed period of significance is 1884-1968.

Whereas, CPED believes that the designation of Prospect Park would be consistent with the Minneapolis Comprehensive Plan policies: 8.1 and 8.5.

Whereas, at the June 17, 2010 City Planning Commission Committee of the Whole meeting, the City Planning Commission did not have objections to the

Prospect Park designation study or the staff analysis of the designation study in terms of its consistency with the Comprehensive Plan, its impact on the surrounding area, or its consistency with the development objectives adopted by City Council. However, the City Planning Commission expressed concerns about designating a district without the consent and support of the neighborhood property owners.

Whereas, on June 28, 2010, the State Historic Preservation Office wrote a letter outlining concerns about the local designation of Prospect Park. In this letter, SHPO also stated that, "It is the opinion of the State Historic Preservation Office that the [Prospect Park] district documentation as presented does not support the local designation of the Prospect Park Historic District."

Whereas, CPED received 11 public comments from property owners in February and March 2010 when they were notified of the public hearings for interim protection; 10 of the letters were in opposition of the extension of interim protection, 9 of these letters voiced opposition to local designation.

Whereas, at the March 23 HPC meeting held in Prospect Park. 51 percent of survey respondents stated that they somewhat disagree or strongly disagree with supporting the designation of Prospect Park as a local historic district.

Whereas, CPED received 21 public comments from property owners in July 2010 when they were notified of the public hearings for the designation study; 19 of the letters were in opposition of the extension of interim protection.

Whereas, the Minneapolis Heritage Preservation Commission (HPC) held a public hearing on July 13, 2010 and recommended to the Standing Committee on Zoning and Planning that the Council, by a vote of 7-0, to deny the designation of the proposed Prospect Park Historic District as a local historic district; and

Whereas, on July 29, 2010 the Standing Committee on Zoning and Planning did not recommend designation as a historic district;

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved by The City Council of The City of Minneapolis: That the proposed Prospect Park Historic District is not designated as a local historic district at this time.