

**Community Planning & Economic Development  
Planning Division**  
350 South 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Room 210  
Minneapolis, MN 55415-1385



**City of Minneapolis**  
*Department of Community Planning  
& Economic Development - CPED*

## **MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Heritage Preservation Commission  
**FROM:** Brian Schaffer, Senior City Planner 612.673.2670  
**DATE:** June 16, 2009  
**RE:** Local Designation of the NRHP Minneapolis Warehouse Historic District: Project Update

---

On January 13, 2009 the Heritage Preservation Commission (HPC) nominated the National Register of Historic Places Minneapolis Warehouse Historic District and directed staff to commence a local designation study of the district. Over the past few months staff has been conducting research and evaluating the individual resources that make up the historic district. Staff is currently finalizing this research and is drafting the designation study.

### **Design Guidelines**

In conjunction with the designation study staff is developing design guidelines for the district. The intent of the design guidelines is to protect and maintain the integrity of the historic district. The design guidelines will ensure that alterations and new construction within the district are compatible with the other structures and resources in the historic district. They will serve three major roles:

- They will be used to make legal findings during the review projects for new construction and alterations to existing resources.
- They will be used to increase public awareness of design issues.
- They will serve as a tool for designers and clients to be used in making design decisions.

Staff has convened a technical advisory group to aid in the development of the design guidelines. This group has been meeting since the beginning of May. The following groups are represented on the advisory group.

- City of Minneapolis HPC
- City of Minneapolis CPED-Planning
- City of Minneapolis Public Works
- Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office
- Preserve Minneapolis
- Minneapolis Chapter of the American Institute of Architects
- North Loop Neighborhood Association

To gain input from the community staff has planned three community meetings. The first community was held on May 14<sup>th</sup>. At this meeting staff presented research from the designation study and facilitated a discussion on the character of the area. This discussion on character was continued on after the meeting

ended through an online survey. As with all the materials from the public meetings the presentation and results of the character survey and meeting were posted on the project's website.

The second community meeting was held on June 9<sup>th</sup>. At this meeting staff presented a draft of the guiding principals for the design guidelines and facilitated a discussion on what is compatible design within the district. The discussion included topics on infill construction and alterations to existing resources.

The third and final meeting is scheduled for July 9<sup>th</sup>. The purpose of this meeting will be to review and comment on a draft of the design guidelines.

### **Timeline for Review and Approval**

Week of July 27, 2009

- Submit Final Version of Design Guidelines and Designation to SHPO for Comment (60 days) and City Planning Commission (30 days)

September 17, 2009

- City Planning Commission Committee of the Whole

October 16, 2009

- HPC Hearing

November 5, 2009

- Zoning & Planning Committee of the City Council

November 13, 2009

- City Council

November 21, 2009

- Goes into effect