

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



City of Duluth Communications Office

Mayor Emily Larson
411 West First Street • Duluth, Minnesota 55802 • www.duluthmn.gov

*For more information contact Kate Van Daele,
Public Information Officer at 218-730-5309*

DATE: 10/6/2021

SUBJECT: Public comment sought on proposed historic design standards in Downtown Duluth

BY: Kate Van Daele, Public Information Officer

Public Comment Sought on Historic Design Standards in Downtown Duluth

[Duluth, MN] The City of Duluth's Planning & Economic Development Department is looking for public input regarding newly proposed downtown historic district standards. The standards if approved would act as a guideline to assist property owners and contractors in determining how to maintain, repair, and when necessary replace historic features that are a part of historic structures and located within the downtown historic district.

Planning & Economic Development staff will hold a virtual public information meeting to discuss the elements and major components of the proposed historic district design guidelines. The meeting will be at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, October 7, 2021. This meeting will include a short presentation, with an opportunity for those attending to share comments or questions. To join the meeting, please click on the following link <https://duluthmn.gov/live-meeting> and select "heritage preservation commission". A recording of the meeting will be saved and posted to the City's website for those who are not able to attend the meeting, but are interested outcome.

Maintaining a neighborhood's historic character has social, economic, and environmental benefits beyond achieving and preserving a particular aesthetic appearance. Well-preserved neighborhoods with historic character can also attract visitors and investment. The downtown historic district standards would only apply to properties within the 2006 historic district boundaries.

City staff will share the final recommendations with the Heritage Preservation Commission and the Planning Commission in November. If approved, the standards would go before the City Council in December to be approved. If adopted, the standards would go into effect in early 2022.

The public is encouraged to contact members of the Planning and Economic Development team with any questions, or requests for additional information. Staff can be contacted by emailing planning@duluthmn.gov, or calling 218-730-5580.

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