

**Memorandum  
Community Economic Development Department**



**To:** Thomas Thomas, City Manager  
**Subject:** Heritage Resources Plan  
**Date:** September 13, 2016

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The City of Rock Island was awarded a grant from the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency (IHPA) in February 2015 to prepare a city-wide preservation plan—a policy document aimed at the preservation and protection of Rock Island’s unique architecture and historic character. The City hired the Lakota Group in July 2016 to prepare the document which has been dubbed the *Heritage Resources Plan*. The draft plan is available for review on the City’s website under “City Clicks”.

During the 13 month planning process, CED staff and the consultants have hosted steering committee meetings, community workshops, and conducted focus groups and interviews to gain the insights and opinions of residents and stakeholders on the future of the City’s historic resources. The *Heritage Resources Plan* was developed based on that feedback and establishes a set of policies and recommendations for conserving our community’s significant historic buildings, sites, and structures. Key recommendations include:

- Integrate preservation goals in city-wide planning efforts.
- Conduct surveys and prioritize areas for National Register nomination.
- Update the Historic Preservation Ordinance and design guidelines.
- Create a neighborhood housing rehabilitation incentive.
- Pursue landmark designation of eligible city-owned buildings.

The Preservation Commission conducted a public hearing on the draft plan on August 17, 2016 and held a special meeting on August 29, 2016 where they recommended approval of a resolution to adopt the plan. Nick Kalogeresis with the Lakota Group presented the draft plan at a Council study session on September 12, 2016. The deadline for completion of the *Heritage Resources Plan* based on IHPA’s grant requirement is September 30, 2016.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Approve the resolution to adopt the Heritage Resources Plan as a component of the City’s Comprehensive Plan.

**Submitted by:** Brandy Howe, AICP, Interim Redevelopment Administrator

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**Approved by:** Thomas Thomas, City Manager

**RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_-2016**

**WHEREAS**, it is an objective of the Comprehensive Plan of the City of Rock Island to preserve and protect the community’s distinctive architecture and historic character by encouraging preservation, restoration, and adaptive reuse; and

**WHEREAS**, the Community and Economic Development Department of the City was awarded a grant from the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency to prepare a city-wide preservation plan and the Lakota Group was selected and approved by City Council to prepare the *Heritage Resources Plan*; and

**WHEREAS**, a Steering Committee was created consisting of stakeholders and members of the community which was tasked with providing guidance and generate support for the preservation planning effort; and

**WHEREAS**, in attempt to gain as much community input as possible, several community meetings and open houses were held throughout the process; and

**WHEREAS**, the Rock Island Preservation Commission reviewed the draft *Heritage Resources Plan* and held a public hearing on August 17, 2016 and the Preservation Commission held a special meeting on August 29, 2016 where they recommended adoption of the *Plan* by the City Council; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council, having considered the findings of the Preservation Commission made at the public hearing, finds that the *Heritage Resources Plan* should be adopted.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the City Council of the City of Rock Island hereby adopts the City of Rock Island *Heritage Resources Plan* as a component of the City of Rock Island Comprehensive Plan.

Passed this 19<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2016.

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MAYOR OF THE CITY OF ROCK ISLAND

PASSED: \_\_\_\_\_

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY CLERK