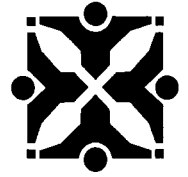


# City of Columbia

701 East Broadway, Columbia, Missouri 65201



**Agenda Item Number:** REP 71-14

**Department Source:** Community Development - Planning

**To:** City Council

**From:** City Manager & Staff

**Council Meeting Date:** July 21, 2014

**Re:** Report- Downtown Historical Building Markers

## Documents Included With This Agenda Item

Council memo

## Executive Summary

Under its establishing legislation, one of the powers and duties of the Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) is: "To confer recognition upon the owners of "notable properties," "landmarks" and property or structures within "historic districts" by means of certificates, plaques or markers;..."

The HPC would like to work with interested property owners to design and install informational markers/plaques describing the history of historic buildings and places in Columbia's historic downtown district (Case #14-128).

This report is for informational purposes only.

## Discussion

Several recognized historic buildings downtown, including the City-owned Daniel Boone Tavern (historic side of City Hall) and the Gentry Building, presently have informational markers describing the building's age, architect, previous owners/business, and other applicable historical information of interest to the public. The Historic Preservation Commission seeks to work with interested historic property owners to design and install historical markers to raise the awareness of Columbia's historic resources. The HPC anticipates adding a small number of markers on an annual basis.

The markers will be designed to include a QR code to pull up the building's listing on the City's Interactive Historic Map, which provides an image and property summary for each of the City's 130+ National Register and Most Notable historic properties ([http://gocolumbiamo.com/Maps/Historical\\_Places/](http://gocolumbiamo.com/Maps/Historical_Places/)). This QR code will also allow the HPC to develop themed walking tours to locations with markers. The markers will be designed to have an attractive and consistent look and size. Markers of this nature are typically cast aluminum or bronze.

The HPC anticipates seeking private funding from property owners or businesses for this project via donations to the Columbia Trust overseen by the New Century Fund Board. Historic Preservation is included as an eligible activity in the New Century Fund's mission: "The New Century Fund is a not-for-profit corporation that was organized to solicit contributions for the betterment of Columbia, Missouri by providing for the beautification of the city, the natural use of land, better transportation

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facilities, encouragement of the arts, recreation, **historic preservation**, architectural enhancement, facilitation of public health, and the general lessening of the costs and burdens of municipal government.” A local business has already expressed interest in providing funding for a small number of markers per year for several years. The HPC does not anticipate using public funds for this program.

All historical markers would be subject to the regulations of the City’s sign ordinances (Chapter 23 of the City Code).

## Fiscal Impact

**Short-Term Impact:** There is no short or long-term fiscal impact identified. The HPC does not anticipate the use of public funds for this program.

**Long-Term Impact:** N/A

## Vision, Strategic & Comprehensive Plan Impact

Vision Impact: Arts and Culture, Community Character, Downtown

Strategic Plan Impact: Growth Management

Comprehensive Plan Impact: Livable & Sustainable Communities

## Suggested Council Action

This report is for informational purposes only.

## Legislative History

NA

  
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Department Approved

  
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City Manager Approved