

Historic West Des Moines Master Plan

June 1, 2021



Summary

- I. **Introduction** – Clyde introduced the meeting. He spoke of the purpose and ground rules for the meeting. He introduced the staff.

- II. **Review items/tasks of Historic West Des Moines Master Plan** – Christine reviewed the items/tasks from the Master Plan; what has been accomplished and what is remaining.
 - a. Accomplishments
 - b. Pending items/tasks

- III. **What went well and what did not with Plan implementation** – Clyde asked for feedback from those attending. Feedback included:
 - a. City needs to follow the process all the way through
 - b. Streetscape project went well
 - c. CoSign project appreciated
 - d. Liked the amount of money spent toward regulatory issues to assist businesses
 - e. Fiber optic projects not glamorous but needed
 - f. Like the drains put into the alley between 4th & 5th Street
 - g. Need to put more money into residential portion of neighborhood
 - h. Not enough focus on housing in the Master Plan
 - i. Skate park is Legion Park is constantly being used
 - j. Like the improvements along 5th Street
 - k. Concerns about the amount of rental properties in the neighborhood
 - l. Upper Story Housing is a good program
 - m. Good to have incentives to work on historic properties
 - n. Want City to bring back sign program
 - o. Communication needs to be better

- IV. **What topics need to be addressed?**
 - a. Topics City has heard from City Council meetings:
 - i. Design/architectural guidelines
 - ii. Parking
 - iii. Trash in commercial district
 - iv. Zoning/future development
 - b. Additional topics from the meeting:
 - i. Tree canopy plan/policy for City
 - ii. More work in residential areas – rehab programs, additional money for housing
 - iii. Pedestrian/bike connections to other areas of the City
 - iv. Keep the area historic – no more new stuff
 - v. More bike parking
 - vi. Increase radius for rezoning notifications
 - vii. In general people want to know the long term plan for the neighborhood

- viii. Disconnect between east and west of 8th Street
- ix. Concerns about 500 block of 5th Street – zoning & parking
- x. Use walkways for festivals rather than art installations
- xi. Lighting – some said too much and some said not enough

V. **How do these topics get addressed?** This was not discussed.

VI. **Next steps** - Clyde said a brief presentation would be made to City Council on June 7th. A meeting of the Historic WDM Master Plan Implementation Committee will be held in the next two weeks to discuss next steps. City staff will communicate with those who have provided email addresses from this meeting, Facebook, NextDoor, etc. City staff encourage this information be passed on through people's social networks.

Handouts

- Master Plan Items/tasks status list

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Master Plan on Website: <https://www.wdm.iowa.gov/government/community-economic-development/historic-west-des-moines-master-plan>