

## **Columbia Historic Preservation Commission**

June 24, 2018

Scott Wilson, Chair Downtown Columbia Leadership Council City of Columbia 701 E Broadway Columbia MO 65201

Tim Teddy, Director Community Development City of Columbia 701 E Broadway Columbia MO 65201

Via email

Re: Financial Contribution to the proposed DLC sponsored Downtown Charrette

Dear Scott and Tim,

On behalf of the City of Columbia Historic Preservation Commission we are writing to offer a \$5,000.00 financial contribution from our HPC 2017-2018 budget towards the cost of a proposed downtown charrette. Should City Staff determine that we require City Council approval to make this fiscal encumbrance and fund transfer we stand ready to pursue that action in a timely manner.

As we closed in on the conclusion of the Uniform Development Code (UDC) process in February and March 2017 we recall the discussion between Mayor Treece and Deb Sheals, during the public hearing, that the city and our citizens had not yet made provision for historic preservation as we adopted a form-based code for downtown. The areas immediately surrounding downtown and included within the boundaries of the Downtown Columbia Leadership Council include the largest collection of workforce housing from the 1920's-1930's.

We submitted a budget request to City Council in August 2017 which included \$5,000.00 to initiate a facilitated process to identify changes to the UDC to better protect historic commercial and residential structures in the core neighborhoods surrounding and including downtown. We think the charrette process contemplated by the DLC and acting in concert with your efforts is an ideal path towards planning at the front end for historic preservation.

We realize our contribution is modest compared to the full cost of the charrette. However, by contributing this sum now we hope to jump start two things 1) the ability of the DLC and the City of Columbia to seek and allocate additional funding and 2) our ability to include historic preservation as an integral part of downtown and adjacent neighborhood planning. The Historic Preservation Commission's budget contribution is made with the request and seeks your agreement that preserving

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our historic structures and cultural amenities, both commercial and residential, will be included within the scope of the charrette. We stand ready to participate as a member(s) of your charrette working group and to assist you with additional fundraising. We hope the DLC will consider and accept our offer.

We also request that the Community Development Department and Finance Department complete the necessary steps to encumber \$5,000.00 of our budget funds for this specific purpose so that the monies will transferred to a budget line account for the charrette process now and carry over from the FY 2018 budget into the FY 2019 budget for that purpose.

Thank you for your every consideration and your collective work on behalf our historic downtown and adjacent neighborhoods.

Very truly yours,

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Pat Fowler, chair

cc: Brian N. Treece, Mayor
Clyde L. Ruffin, First Ward Council Representative
Mike Matthes, City Manager