



**CITY OF SAINT PAUL**  
*Melvin Carter, Mayor*

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Mtg. Date: September 15, 2021  
To: Heritage Preservation Commission  
From: George Gause  
Re: *City Wide Heritage Preservation Listening Session*

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On Tuesday, September 14, 2021 we held a public city-wide listening session to consider public comment on historic preservation in Saint Paul. During the virtual event, the public was given time to address commissioners and staff with concerns, comments, suggestions, or ideas. The event was open to all.

Several questions were suggested in advance of the meeting:

- Is there an area of our community that needs attention?
- How can the HPC better serve the community?
- Are there specific policies or regulations that are an issue?
- How can the HPC contribute, inform, and work to be more just and equitable?

Seventeen people attended the listening session. Staff received three comments in advance and four people spoke at the meeting.

#### Comments Summary

1. The Lowertown Historic District is already tastefully marked, and members of the HPC should visit sometime. It would help with the security issues to have more people around, but more signs or maps will not be helpful.
2. There's some interest in the community to have a LGBTQ+ survey. This would be groundbreaking for St. Paul and set a standard to follow.
3. Concern about new construction on West 7<sup>th</sup>. Specifically, that West 7<sup>th</sup> would be re-developed to be large +5 story structures which changes the character of the area.
4. Desire to preserve mature (historic) trees and tree canopy in Saint Paul.
5. The City should establish a salvage requirement for demolition. This supports sustainability.

We consider these comments when compiling the 2022 Heritage Preservation Workplan.