



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

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## MEMORANDUM

TO: Heritage Preservation Commissioners  
FROM: George Gause, Heritage Preservation Supervisor  
RE: November 15, 2018 HPC meeting – Lowertown listening session survey results  
DATE: October 31, 2018

We held an HPC listening session for the Lowertown Historic District at City Hall room #42 (15 Kellogg Boulevard West, Saint Paul) on Tuesday, October 30 from 3:00-4:00pm. Commissioner Peroutka and staff gathered public comment from residents via a survey and two interactive boards. We had 11 individuals attend.

### Comments:

Please do not allow dynamic display billboards or signage in Lowertown.  
More adventurous and dynamic or fun new construction.  
You need to communicate with new owners somehow.  
Enforcement of the guidelines needs to be a priority.

### Survey:

1. Do you own property in an historic district? **84% yes**
2. Have you heard of or worked with the Saint Paul HPC or staff? **84% yes**
3. When I hear that an old or historic place is threatened with demolition, I:
  - A. Reach out to city officials to save the structure. **50%**
  - B. Am excited for the possibility that there will be a space for something new. **0%**
  - C. Worry about the impacts, such as to the environment, neighborhood character, etc. **50%**
4. Overall, how do you rate the district as a place to work, live or do business? **Very good-84%, Good-16%**
5. Overall, how do you rate the City's existing approach to Heritage Preservation in providing protection for historic areas and buildings in Saint Paul? **Very Good-33%, Good-33%, Fair-16%**
6. How do you believe heritage preservation has impacted this district?
  - A. Historic preservation has made a positive impact on my neighborhood. **100%**
  - B. Historic preservation has not had an effect on my neighborhood. **0%**
  - C. Historic preservation has made it challenging to improve my neighborhood. **6%**
  - D. I am unfamiliar with Heritage Preservation. **0%**

Attendees were each given two dots and allowed to vote on several different topic areas on two boards as listed below. Percentages are calculated per each board.

**Board: What area of the existing guidelines needs to be improved or changed?**

1. Signage **40%**
2. New Construction **20%**
3. Sit work, Fencing, Retaining walls, Planters, Patios, Walkways **20%**
4. Repairs **20%**

**Board: An area that Saint Paul Heritage Preservation needs to improve:**

(All these areas were equal in voting)

- Protecting the district character
- Length of review
- Revitalizing the district
- Outreach with owners
- Enforcement