



AGENDA
CHASKA HERITAGE PRESERVATION COMMISSION
CHASKA CITY HALL - COUNCIL CHAMBERS & ZOOM
Tuesday, December 5, 2023
7:00 PM

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Adopt Agenda
4. Visitor Presentation
5. Approve Previous Meeting Minutes
 - 5.A. Approve the June 6th, 2023 Heritage Preservation Commission Minutes
6. Consent Items
7. Action Items
8. Discussion Items
9. Other Business
 - 9.A. December 5th HPC Memo
10. Adjourn



Minutes
CHASKA HERITAGE PRESERVATION
COMMISSION
Tuesday, June 6, 2023
7:00 PM

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm.

HPC members present: Chair Person Kohman, Anne Bohnen, Steve Mueller, and Tom Racijs.

HPC members absent: Gregg Davies, James Pleis, and Scott Welvaert

Staff present: Elizabeth Hanson – City Planner

2. Roll Call

Roll call was taken.

3. Adopt the Agenda

A motion by Commissioner Mueller, second by Commissioner Racijs to adopt the agenda. Motion carried.

4. Visitor Presentation

There was no one under visitor presentation.

5. Approve Previous Meeting Minutes

5A. Approve the February 7, 2023 HPC Meeting Minutes

A motion by Commissioner Mueller, second by Commissioner Bohnen, to approve the February 7, 2023 HPC meeting minutes. Motion carried.

6. Consent Agenda

There were no consent agenda items.

7. Action Items

7A. PUBLIC HEARING: Approve the Site Alteration Permit (SAP) for 210 Chestnut Street/Devin Creuer/HPC #2023-02

City Planner Hanson presented the project to the Commission. Hanson stated the historical significance of the site and gave an overview of the background information on the site. Hanson updated that they are looking for an SAP for the restoration of the west façade/storefront. Hanson updated about the standards that need to be considered when reviewing and approving an SAP.

Chair Kohman opened the public hearing at 7:19 p.m.

Commissioner Mueller asked the property owner about the glass on the existing storefront and asked when the start date is. The Commission also discussed the possibility of damaging the brick when removing the Stucco.

Chair Kohman closed the public hearing at 7:26 p.m.

Motion by Commissioner Mueller, second by Commissioner Racijs, to approve the Site Alteration Permit (SAP) for 210 Chestnut Street/Devin Creuer/HPC #2023-02 based on the staff findings. Motion carried.

8. Discussion Items

8A. Review 2nd Street Photos for Heritage Plaques

City Planner Hanson presented on the Heritage Panels that have been planned for the downtown streetscape. Hanson updated the Commission on the locations for the kiosks, heritage walls, columns, and trailhead kiosks. Hanson gave an overview of the images chosen for the 2nd Street West – Heritage Wall, 2nd Street West – Heritage Column (North and South), and 2nd Street East – Heritage Column (North and South). The Commission discussed the contrast and visibility of the images and what will be included in the QR codes. The Commission was very pleased with the images chosen.

Chaska Citizen, Becky Truong (on Zoom), is planning to purchase the building at 107 East 2nd Street, which used to be a nail salon, and asked whom she would need to talk to about restoring the building.

9. Other Business

9A. Chaska Historical Society Flyer

City Planner Hanson highlighted the flyer for the Chaska Historical Society's exhibit being held on June 8th at 6:30 pm.

9B. Minnesota River Bluffs Trail Connection – HPC Participation

City Planner Hanson shared with the Commission the invitation for the Minnesota River Bluffs Trail Connection. They are wondering if the Commission is interested in being a part of the project. The Commission stated that they are interested in being a part of the review of the trail. A decision needs to be made by June 19th.

10. Adjourn

Motion by Commissioner Mueller, second by Commissioner Bohnen to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 p.m. Motion carried.



City of Chaska Memorandum

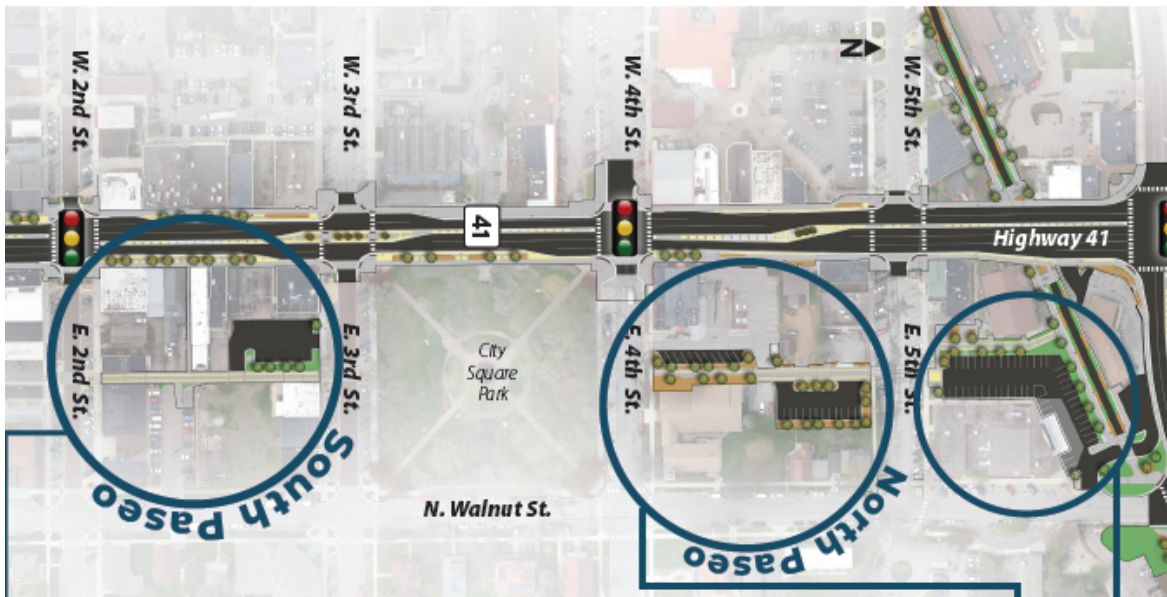
To: Heritage Preservation Commission
From: Elizabeth Hanson, City Planner
Subject: 12/5/2023 HPC Meeting – Memo

Background

The HPC met a total of 4 times in the year of 2023. The HPC also had one work session to walk around downtown. I wanted to provide the following recap of the projects and work the HPC were involved in for the last year. They are as follows:

Highway 41 Improvements

In January 2023, the HPC provided comments to the Highway 41 project. Highway 41 and Highway 61 in Downtown Chaska were recently reconstructed between Spring of 2023 to November 2023 (details on the project can be found at www.downtownhwy41.com). As part of that project, on-street parking on Highway 41 was removed, and new public parking lots and paseos are being created on the east side of Highway 41 behind the existing buildings—in particular between 2nd and 3rd, 4th and 5th, and between 5th and Highway 61.



Check out a high-level construction recap for 2023:

- 15,000 ft. of underground pipe beneath Highway 41 and 61
- 9,000 tons of pavement
- 3+ miles of curb

- 1+ miles of sidewalk
- New pedestrian tunnel near 5th St. (still being constructed)
- 100,000 decorative bricks
- 66 light poles
5 signal systems and 1 new pedestrian beacon
- Signage and banner poles
- Bollards, benches, and bike racks

Crews will resume work in spring 2024 and put the finishing touches on the project. Both Highway 41 and Highway 61 will remain open for this work. There may be some lane closures to accommodate the remaining work.

Here is a breakdown of what work remains for 2024:

- **Parking lots & Paseos** (east side of Highway 41 between 2nd and 3rd streets, 4th and 5th streets, and 5th Street and Highway 61). Crews will begin work in the spring as soon as weather allows to complete the new parking lot paseos.
- **Pedestrian tunnel.** Next spring, crews will finalize the new pedestrian tunnel north of 5th Street. This will include railings, sidewalk, and other decorative elements.
- **Plantings and other landscaping.** Crews will remove the temporary black tarp and rocks in the boulevards and install new plantings. These decorative elements will elevate the downtown look and feel.

Downtown Chaska Business Rear Entrance Design Guidelines

In January 2023, the HPC provided comments to the Downtown Chaska Business Rear Entrance Design Guidelines. Based on the improvements along Highway 41 the Downtown Chaska Business Rear Entrance Design Guidelines were put together for property owners to use as a helpful tool in how they envision their business rear entrances.

The design guidelines focus on several areas, including:

- Doors and windows
- Exterior materials, awnings and canopies
- Lighting
- Signage and wayfinding
- Plants and planters
- Private outdoor spaces

In each of these areas, guidelines are provided to give business and property owners ideas on how to improve the rears of their buildings—including any entrances that may already be there or may be added in the future. In certain cases, such as lighting and signage, references to the Zoning Code and Downtown Chaska Signage Design Guidelines are made so that any improvements meet already established regulations. Also included are numerous graphics and photos to give visual examples of what is intended.

Chaska Yards – 211 & 217 Walnut Street - SAP

In February 2023, the HPC reviewed and approved the Site Alteration Permit (SAP) for Chaska Yards. This is a locally and nationally designated site that houses the Ernst Home and former Ess Home. The project included 3 new residential buildings and rehabilitation of the Ernst Home (211 Walnut Street). In total there will be 4 owner occupied units targeted for affordable housing at 80% area median income (AMI).

This project received its final approvals with Planning Commission and City Council in June 2023.



210 Chestnut Street North – SAP

In June 2023, the HPC reviewed and approved the Site Alteration Permit (SAP) for 210 Chestnut Street North. This is a locally designated site known as the Muyres Hardware building. The project included restoring the west side storefront back to a masonry/brick façade, and replacing the window openings. After SAP approval, the property owner was successful in removing the stucco from the Chaska brick. They also made a change to include transom windows to the storefront, which is more accurate with the original design of the building. The project is currently under construction and is making good headway (see photo on right below; taken Nov. 2023).



ARCHITECTURE

STORYFRONT COLOR #1

BY SHERMAN WILLIAMS

Selected color:
Traffic Gray B
T563

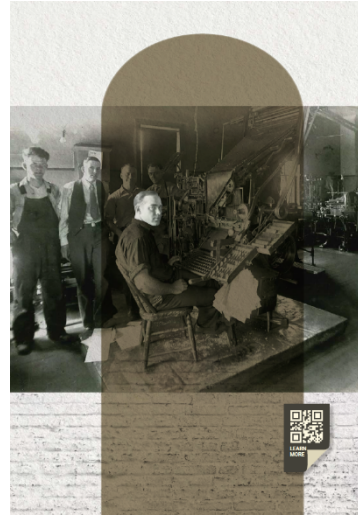
Products available in this color:
SpectraWhite T563 from 20 Series High Gloss

LOW SELECTION



Heritage Columns

In June 2023, the HPC discussed the heritage columns that were installed on 2nd Street in downtown. We looked at the potential historic images to fill the insets of these columns, and the HPC provided commentary. In October 2023, the HPC did a walking tour to look at some of the final designs that will be installed. Below are a few final designs for 2nd Street. Staff will continue to work on the remaining columns around downtown, and will continue to update the HPC as more work is completed.



2024 Goals

As we look to next year (2024), it would be good to start thinking about goals we want the HPC to work on. My thoughts are that we can regroup in the new year to start discussing more and listing out these goals. In 2020 was the last time we visited the HPC goals and they were as follows:

2020 Goals:

1. Update the Walnut Street National District with the State Historic Preservation Office
2. Revisit the Local Designation List to see if more properties can be added
3. Stay engaged and involved with the City Square West project
4. Revisit the City Historical Documents for potential updates, such as the Historic

Context Study, every 5-10 years

Continue to think about these and if we want to change or maintain the goals we've previously laid out.