



**AGENDA ITEM EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Agenda Item number: 4h

Title:

Discussion regarding Historic Preservation walking tour and Pottawatomie area architectural survey

Presenter:

Russell Colby

Meeting: Planning & Development Committee

Date: July 8, 2019

Proposed Cost: TBD

Budgeted Amount: Expected next FY

Not Budgeted:

**Executive Summary** *(if not budgeted please explain):*

On June 10, the Historic Preservation Commission conducted a walking tour of the Pottawatomie neighborhood for the City Council. A printed tour program was also distributed. The tour highlighted and contrasted the type of building improvements and new construction activity that have been occurring in the Century Corners portion of the existing Historic District, vs. activity in the Pottawatomie neighborhood, which is mainly outside of the Historic District (Park Avenue is the north boundary of the Historic District).

The Historic Preservation Commission is interested in soliciting the Committee’s feedback regarding conducting an Architectural Survey of the Pottawatomie neighborhood. The City’s Historic Preservation Ordinance states that surveys “*shall identify buildings, structures and sites having architectural or historic significance, as well as buildings, structures and sites which contribute to the historic or architectural significance of the area as a whole.*” A survey would not dictate whether the area is to be designated as a Historic District. Rather, the survey would serve as an independent, third party documentation regarding individual buildings within the neighborhood.

Any process to consider designation of properties would be separate from the Architectural Survey. A designation could take the form of landmarking individual properties or designating one or more districts. Any historic designation would need to be based on ordinance findings, and the survey would provide factual information that could be used for these findings.

The City followed a similar process on the west side of Downtown. A survey was conducted over a large area south and west of Downtown in the mid-2000s. This survey led to two portions of the survey area being designated as Historic Districts in subsequent years (most recently the Millington District in 2017).

If the Committee endorses the concept, Staff and the Historic Commission will begin researching costs in order to budget for the survey in the next fiscal year. As a Certified Local Government for Historic Preservation, the City can also apply for grant assistance through the State Historic Preservation Agency/National Park Service. (In the past, use of the grant for survey work increased the scope of survey, so the potential for cost savings to the City would need to be considered).

A map of the potential survey area is attached.

**Attachments** *(please list):*

Proposed Survey Area map

**Recommendation/Suggested Action** *(briefly explain):*

Discussion regarding Historic Preservation walking tour and Pottawatomie area architectural survey.

Provide direction to staff regarding whether to initiate work to conduct an Architectural Survey of the Pottawatomie neighborhood, subject to budget approval in FY 20/21.

**Possible Bus Tour Sites in Northeast Quadrant  
Part of Central Historic District &  
Potential Pottawatomie Survey Area**

- ◊ Potential Pottawatomie Survey Area
- ◊ Central Historic District
- Historic Landmark
- Teardown
- Major COA Project
- Kit Home

