

**HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
MEETING AGENDA**

May 19, 2021

Tom Baker Meeting Room	3:30 p.m.	City-County Office Building
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The City of Bismarck is encouraging citizens to provide their comments via email to whutchings@bismarcknd.gov. The comments will be sent to the Historic Preservation Commissioners prior to the meeting and included in the minutes of the meeting. To ensure that comments are compiled and forwarded to the Historic Preservation Commission with enough time to review all comments, please submit your comments no later than 12 noon the day of the meeting. Comments should also include which agenda item number or topic your comment references and your name (anonymous

comments will not be forwarded to the Historic Preservations Commissioners or included in the minutes of the meeting). If you would like to appear via video or audio link for a 3-5-minute comment on a public hearing item, please provide your e-mail address and contact information to whutchings@bismarcknd.gov at least one business day before the meeting.

As always, live meeting coverage is available on Government Access Channels 2 & 602HD, Radio Access 102.5 FM Radio, or stream FreeTV.org and RadioAccess.org.

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MINUTES

1. Consider approval of the minutes of the April 21, 2021 meeting of the Historic Preservation Commission.

PUBLIC COMMENT

2. Public Comment (The public comment period is available for residents and other interested parties to address items on the agenda or any general public input for consideration by the Historic Preservation Commission).

AGENDA

3. Interpretative Signage Project.....3

4. Section 106 Review
 - a. Sertoma Park – Fitness Area Improvements..... 13
 - b. Lion's Park Acquisition 19
5. Review and Approval of Contractor Advertisement for Walking Map Brochures 25

OTHER BUSINESS

6. Other Business
 - a. Update on Historic Preservation Plan Subcommittee Activities
 - b. Update on Highland Acres Survey Project

ADJOURNMENT

7. **Adjourn.** The next regular meeting date is scheduled for **June 16, 2021.**

Enclosures: Meeting Minutes of April 21, 2021

MEMORANDUM

Interpretative Signage Project

TO: Chair Sakariassen and Historic Preservation Commission

FROM: Will Hutchings, Planner

DATE: May 14, 2021

During the public input portion of the April 21, 2021 Historic Preservation Commission meeting, members of the 2021 Leadership Bismarck-Mandan class made a request to consider a partnership to install interpretative signage at locations throughout Bismarck. This request complements an existing project that the Historic Preservation Commission identified during the 2021 solicitation for the Historic Preservation Fund grant that was subsequently awarded to the City of Bismarck. The federal grant award for this project is \$11,125 which can be used to cover ten historic sites and annual support plan costs.

Staff has consulted with a local company, Talking Trails, who provides and develops an interactive content experience that includes signage, a mobile application platform, a dial in system, geo-tagged markers, and data management. A copy of a proposal from Talking Trails and thier brochure are attached to this memorandum. In addition, a representative from Talking Trails will be present at the meeting to provide additional information and answer questions.

Per your guidance, the Leadership Bismarck-Mandan group will also meet with the Historic Preservation Plan subcommittee on May 18, 2021, the day prior to your meeting, to help identify the potential sites for installation of interpretative signage.

The proposal from Talking Trails would be \$6,500 for 10 sites and \$1,200 per year for annual costs. Staff recommends pre-purchasing two years of the annual costs to ensure these sites are covered and operational through the 2022 Sesquicentennial Celebration. There are several other agencies in the community that are also investigating interpretative signage and discussing options with the Leadership Bismarck-Mandan class and Talking Trails. Talking Trails has indicated in their proposal that they would provide a promotional option that would allow the annual costs to be split with multiple local groups to make it a more financially viable project for all. If this joint option is pursued, staff would recommend that an agreement is established with all project partners that outlines an annual cost renewal schedule.

Costs for installation of the signs and any mounting requirements would be the City of Bismarck responsibility but any associated cost could be covered with portions of the grant award. Existing sign or

light posts may be used for co-location where acceptable. If additional posts need to be installed for the proposed signage this would increase the installation costs. Staff would work with Engineering and Public Works to minimize any additional costs by attempting to co-locate signs with existing sign and light poles as much as possible.

Staff Recommended Action:

Receive this update from staff, Talking Trails and the Leadership Bismarck-Mandan group, and provide staff direction whether to move forward with this project as outlined.

If the Historic Preservation Commission supports this project as outlined, a motion is needed.

Attachments: Talking Trails Proposal and Brochure



Historic Bismarck, ND Talking Trail Proposal

PREPARED FOR:
Will Hutchings
Planner
Community Development Department
701-355-1840
whutchings@bismarcknd.gov

PREPARED BY:
Shawn Brannan
Business Development
Talking Trail
701-202-2123
shawn@talkingtrail.com

Why Talking Trail in Historic Bismarck, ND ?

1. User Experience

Share the whole story with your guests to create longer lasting connections, so they will spread the word like never before, and return more often. Guests love our audio recordings, which are scored with sound effects and instrumentals to create a more interactive and entertaining experience..

2. Our Mobile App Platform

We do more than provide site locations and hours of operation--we provide the rich content and stories that keep users coming back in search of their next adventure. Take advantage of the marketing synergy by connecting directly to the pockets of like-minded travelers already enjoying the Talking Trail mobile app platform at nearby sites!

3. Dial-in System

Don't have a smartphone, or don't like mobile apps? No problem! Users can interact with our content just by dialing a phone number and Talking Point number, which is found on the signage...

4. Geo-tagged Markers

Guests will be notified when they are within a certain distance of a Talking Trail Point. This feature will grab travelers who might otherwise miss out on certain points of interest along their travels. Use the Interactive Map on the app to see where your next Talking Point is located!

5. Data

Our data collection system equates to meaningful insights, which will help uncover trends and generate reports to improve your reach and marketing efforts. Understand more about your visitors so you can more effectively target them.

6. Signs Included

Our beautiful signs not only point out where guests can interact with rich content--they make it easier than ever. Plus, the signs remind travelers to download the mobile app, as well as share the Talking Point phone number so any phone can call in to hear the content!

7. Cost

We're growing for a reason--we price our services as competitively as possible while maintaining the highest level of standards. In addition, our referral program offers an incredible opportunity to grow your market synergy while reducing your costs on additional Talking Points!

Passion

Our passionate team thrives because of the enthusiastic way in which we approach every single project.

Accountability

Our Partners trust us with helping with their success, we don't take that trust lightly.

Honesty

We celebrate candor and directness and maintain open lines of communication.

Quality

To put it simply: we believe that nothing but the best is acceptable. Our recordings, our showcases, and our relationships reflect the highest level of quality.

Win/Win Partnerships

Strategic partnerships are key to our success. We create value for our partners and our established relationships are a testament to our commitment.

Support

Not only are we here to support you throughout the progress of your project, but when it is complete, we will continue to show our support by becoming your biggest fans!

Historic Bismarck Promotional Pricing

10 Talking Point Project	=	\$6,500
20 Talking Point Project (Welcome Video Promo Included)	=	\$12,000
30 Talking Point Project (Welcome Video Promo Included)	=	\$16,500
40 Talking Point Project (Welcome Video Promo Included)	=	\$21,000

Annual Cost (Promotional Pricing)

\$1200/yr

*Special Promo: Split the annual costs with multiple local groups to make this a financially viable project for everyone!

* This covers the cost of the mobile app, dial-in system, web page, admin site, data system, and storage costs.

* Welcome Video Promo: 60 second promo video professionally produced by Talking Trail team included.

*Talking Trail main signage costs included.

*Bismarck Community Development Department group is responsible for the installation of signs and sign posts when needed.

*Cost of circular Sponsorship Sign not included.



Closing:

We are proud to be from Bismarck, North Dakota, and it is our priority to share the history, heritage, and culture of the area. We applaud your efforts to promote and preserve that rich history and heritage. We've learned that the connections visitors make along the way is what matters most, and will keep them coming back. Talking Trail will continue those efforts to showcase and archive the rich history and stories of Bismarck, ND.

Our commitment is to enhance the experience and to create stronger connections by continuing the already impressive efforts to share the history of Bismarck, ND.

Thank you for giving Talking Trail your time and consideration.

Thank you!





Experience the Story...

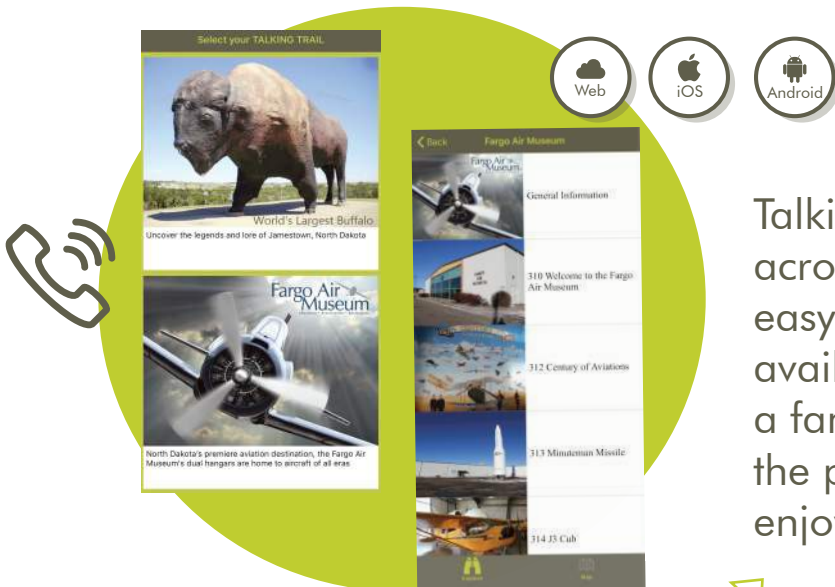
We create self-guided, expert-led tours. Utilize the power of the technology in the pockets of your guests—their cell phone, and give your guests the opportunity to create a long-lasting connection by engaging them with the rich history, culture, and heritage of your area.

TALKING TRAIL | info@talkingtrail.com | tel: 701-202-2123 | www.talkingtrail.com



Tell the stories that will be shared around the campfire...

Talking Trail goes beyond the line or two found on a sign and connects your guests with the whole story. Content is curated by Talking Trail writers who source the rich stories from local experts.



Talking Trail connects YOU to users all across North Dakota already enjoying the easy to use Talking Trail platform, which is available for free on iOS and Android. Not a fan of mobile apps? No worries! Just dial the phone number found on the sign to enjoy the content...

Users will be notified when they are within a specified distance of a Talking Point, so you can grab travellers that might otherwise miss out on your adventure. Plus, the Apple connected map gives users step by step directions to their desired Talking Point!



How it WORKS?



We make it EASY. You identify the number of Talking Points you want to include in your project. Our writing team does the research (including contacting local experts whenever possible). We share the rich stories that leave your guests wanting more.



Our sound team records the scripts, scores them with sound effects, and produces each one. Each Talking Point is loaded on the mobile app and dial-in system.



Our video production team shoots and produces the 60 second promo video, which plays the first time a user opens your Talking Trail (and can be replayed anytime after).



Got the goods when it comes to photos? Have a video you want to put to extra use? We'll use whatever we can!



Gain access to the real-time data collection system. Receive valuable analytics to better understand your audience and their engagement.



Our beautiful signage is included in the cost. The signs remind guests to download the mobile app, and give users the dial-in number with Talking Point number.



Talking Trail is affordable for everyone! Clients often use the signage as sponsorship opportunities! We don't take your partnership lightly. Upon completion of the project we will continue to promote you via social media and will always be your #1 fan!

We can do this!

Let's talk.

Talking Trail will bring your rich heritage, history, and culture to life. Users of the Talking Trail platform love to see where they should plan their next adventure—let's bring them to your community. #ExperienceTheStory

We offer packages to fit all sizes, big and small. Reach out to discuss how Talking Trail can splash excitement into your world.

Thank you for giving Talking Trail your time and consideration.



MEMORANDUM

Section 106 Review Participation | Sertoma Park – Fitness Area Improvements

TO: Chair Sakariassen and Historic Preservation Commission

FROM: Will Hutchings, Planner

DATE: May 14, 2021

The City of Bismarck has been notified by the North Dakota State Historic Preservation Office of a Section 106 review for a Bismarck Parks and Recreation District project. This project would consist of Fitness Area Improvements at Sertoma Park and would utilize federal funds allocated through the National Park Service. A copy of the review request notification letter from North Dakota Parks and Recreation is attached.

The Historic Preservation Commission's role is to review the proposed project and provide a recommendation to the State Historic Preservation Office. Participation can also involve providing comments on the identification of historic properties, effects to historic properties, and ways to mitigate or avoid adverse effects to historic properties and districts.

Results and Proposed Finding:

North Dakota Parks and Recreation has not proposed a finding. After a preliminary review, the State Historic Preservation Office has indicated a likely finding of 'No Historic Properties Affected'.

Staff Recommended Action:

Review the submitted documentation for Section 106 review of the proposed Bismarck Parks and Recreation, Sertoma Park – Fitness Area Improvements and complete the attached declaration of your findings for the State Historic Preservation Office.

Attachments:

- North Dakota Parks and Recreation Letter – April 25, 2021
- Declaration

April 25, 2021

Mr. William Peterson
ND State Historic Preservation Officer
ND Heritage Center
612 East Boulevard Avenue
Bismarck, ND 58505-0830

Attn: Lisa Steckler, Review and Compliance Coordinator
**Project involves LWCF federal funds allocated through NPS.*

Project Name: Sertoma Park – Fitness Area Improvements

Project Sponsor: Bismarck Parks and Recreation District

Project Description: The proposed project improves upon and expands the existing fitness area in south Sertoma Park by improving the youth and adult tennis courts and accessibility to the courts, as well as adding new fitness elements.

County: Burleigh

Latitude: 46° 47' 47.38" N

138-80-5

Longitude: 100° 48' 09.27" W

Dear Mr. Peterson:

The North Dakota Parks and Recreation Department is proposing the above-mentioned project. Specifically, the tennis courts would be renovated, and resurfaced, and new lighting would be added to extend the playability. In addition, three new fitness components would be added, including a fit lot for ages 12+, a new obstacle course for ages 5+, as well as two active benches with signs. The project also includes accessible pathways from the parking lot to the tennis courts and spectator area and the new fitness features, as well as a new shared-use trail connection to the Sertoma Trail system.

To ensure that all social, economic, and environmental effects are considered in the development of this project, we are soliciting your views and comments on the proposed project pursuant to Section 102(2) (D) (IV) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended. We are particularly interested in any property which your department may own or have an interest in, and which would be adjacent to the proposed project site. We would also appreciate being made aware of any proposed developments your department may be

1600 East Century Ave. Ste. 3 | Bismarck, ND 58503

PHONE: 701-328-5357 | FAX: 701-328-5363 | EMAIL: parkrec@nd.gov | WEBSITE: www.parkrec.nd.gov

21-0257

contemplating in the areas under consideration for the proposed site. Any information that might help us in our studies would be appreciated.

Information or comments relating to environmental or other matters that you might furnish will be used in determining if this project is a "categorical exclusion" or whether an "Environmental Assessment" or a "Draft Environmental Impact Statement" will be prepared.

It is requested that any comments or information be forwarded to our office on or before May 25, 2021. If no reply is received by this date, it will be assumed that you have no comment on this project.

If further information is desired regarding the proposed project, please contact Char Langehaug at cbinstock@nd.gov or 701-328-5364.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

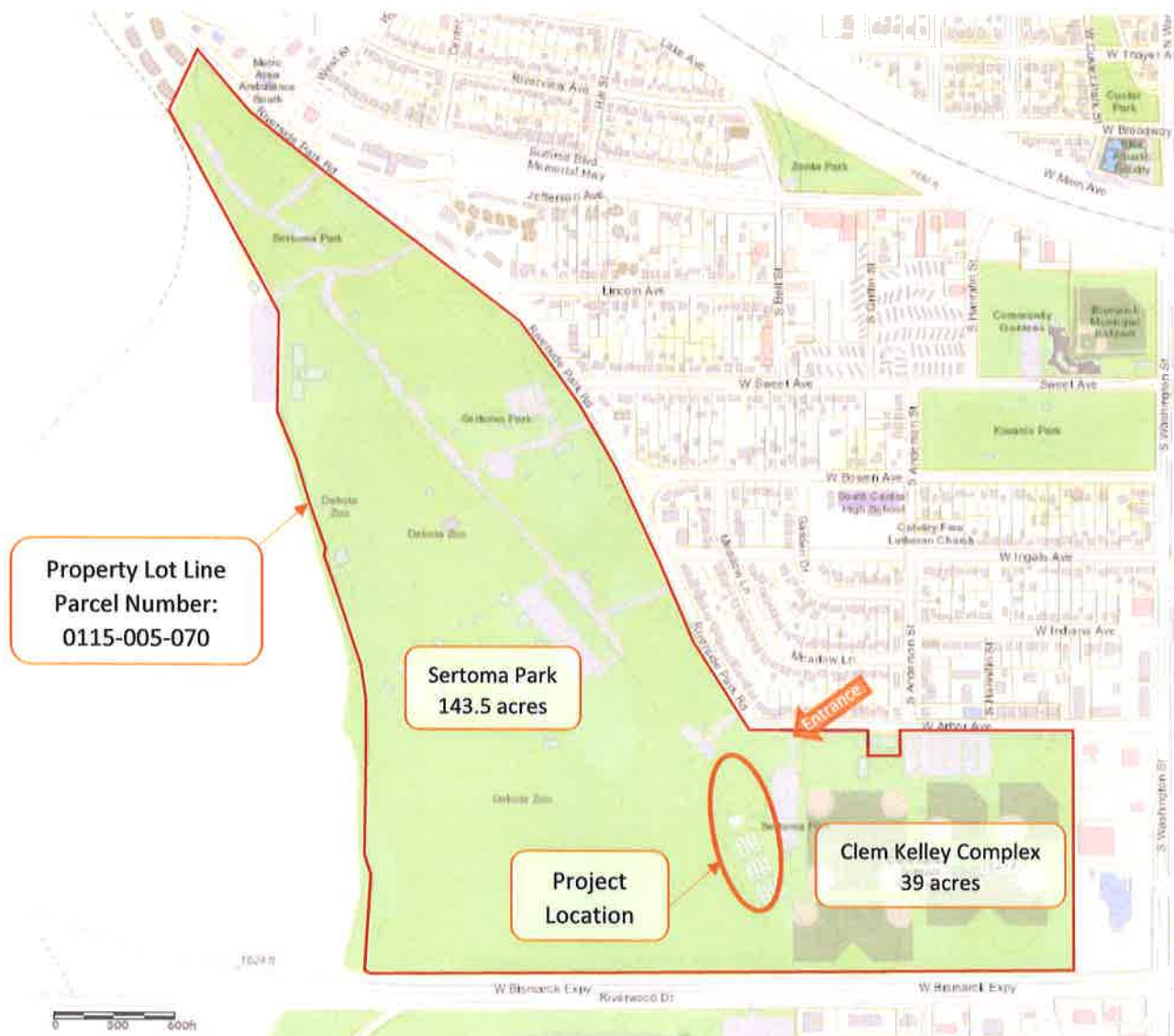
Char Langehaug

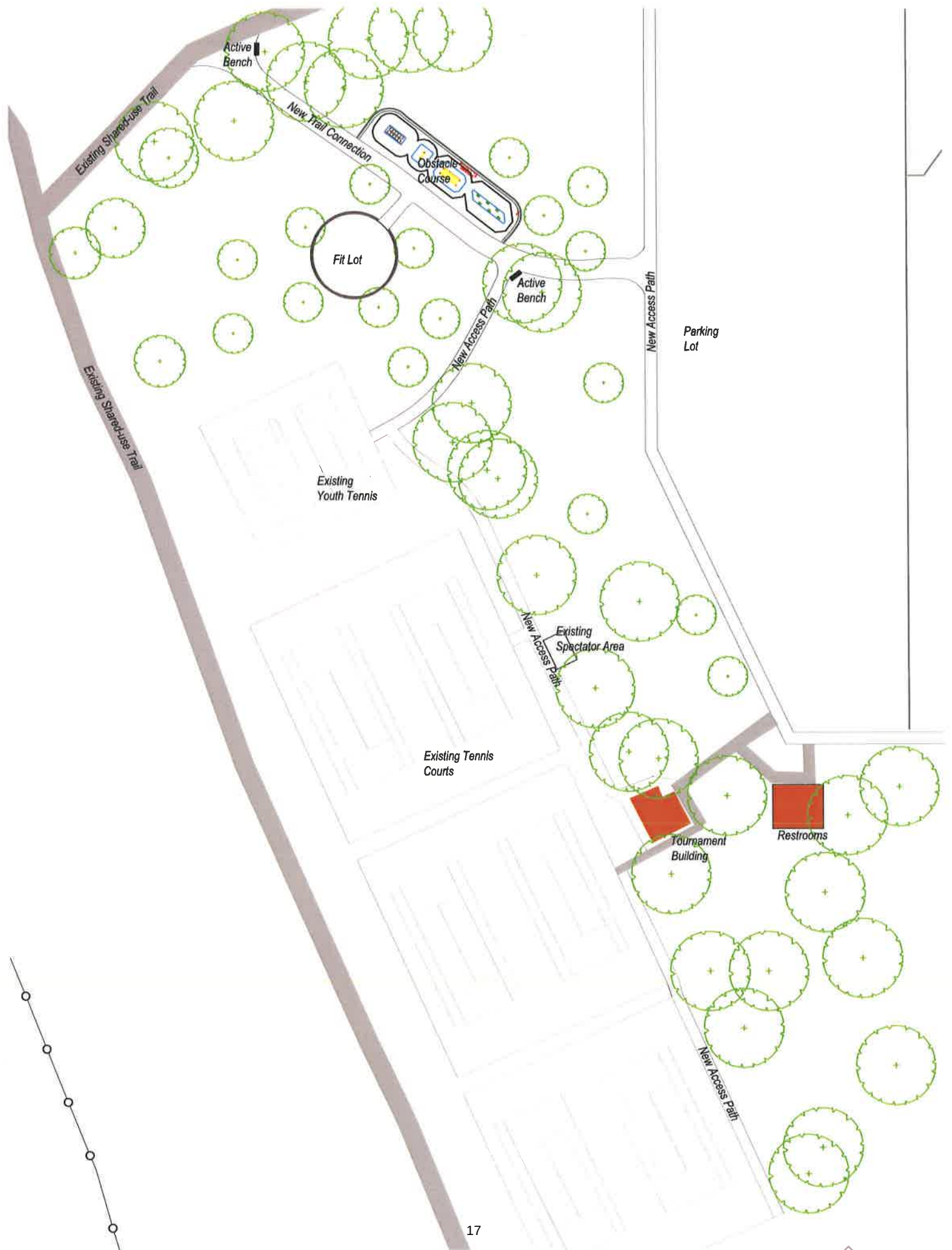
Char Langehaug
Grants Coordinator
North Dakota Parks and Recreation

- Please see enclosed map(s). Thank you!

Sertoma Park – 6f Boundary Map

rev. 10/12/2020





DECLARATION

The City of Bismarck - Historic Preservation Commission has been advised of the proposed **Sertoma Park - Fitness Area Improvements** project and hereby (AGREE) (DISAGREE) with a determination of 'No Historic Properties Affected'.

Additional Comments:

Amy Sakariassen, Chair
Bismarck Historic Preservation Commission

Dated: _____

MEMORANDUM

Section 106 Review Participation | Lion's Park Acquisition

TO: Chair Sakariassen and Historic Preservation Commission

FROM: Will Hutchings, Planner

DATE: May 14, 2021

The City of Bismarck has been notified by the North Dakota State Historic Preservation Office of a Section 106 review for a Bismarck Parks and Recreation District project. This project would consist of acquisition of leased land at Lion's Park and would utilize federal funds allocated through the National Park Service. A copy of the review request notification letter from North Dakota Parks and Recreation is attached.

The Historic Preservation Commission's role is to review the proposed project and provide a recommendation to the State Historic Preservation Office. Participation can also involve providing comments on the identification of historic properties, effects to historic properties, and ways to mitigate or avoid adverse effects to historic properties and districts.

Results and Proposed Finding:

North Dakota Parks and Recreation has not proposed a finding. After a preliminary review, the State Historic Preservation Office has indicated a likely finding of either 'No Historic Properties Affected' or 'No Adverse Effect.'

Staff Recommended Action:

Review the submitted documentation for Section 106 review of the proposed Bismarck Parks and Recreation, Lion's Park Acquisition and complete the attached declaration of your findings for the State Historic Preservation Office.

Attachments:

- North Dakota Parks and Recreation Letter – April 25, 2021
- Declaration

April 25, 2021

Mr. William Peterson
ND State Historic Preservation Officer
ND Heritage Center
612 East Boulevard Avenue
Bismarck, ND 58505-0830

Attn: Lisa Steckler, Review and Compliance Coordinator
**Project involves LWCF federal funds allocated through NPS.*

Project Name: Lion's Park Acquisition

Project Sponsor: Bismarck Parks and Recreation District

Project Description: Acquisition of Land for Possible Outdoor Recreation Opportunities

County: Burleigh

Latitude: 46° 48' 57.54" N 139-8034

Longitude: 100° 45' 41.42" W

Dear Mr. Peterson:

The North Dakota Parks and Recreation Department is proposing the above-mentioned project. Specifically, there will be no construction taking place this year. BPRD would like to evaluate the acquisition to ensure future outdoor recreation opportunities can potentially develop.

To ensure that all social, economic, and environmental effects are considered in the development of this project, we are soliciting your views and comments on the proposed project pursuant to Section 102(2) (D) (IV) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended. We are particularly interested in any property which your department may own or have an interest in, and which would be adjacent to the proposed project site. We would also appreciate being made aware of any proposed developments your department may be contemplating in the areas under consideration for the proposed site. Any information that might help us in our studies would be appreciated.

Information or comments relating to environmental or other matters that you might furnish will be used in determining if this project is a "categorical exclusion" or whether an "Environmental Assessment" or a "Draft Environmental Impact Statement" will be prepared.

1600 East Century Ave. Ste. 3 | Bismarck, ND 58503

PHONE: 701-328-5357 | FAX: 701-328-5363 | EMAIL: parkrec@nd.gov | WEBSITE: www.parkrec.nd.gov

21-0260



It is requested that any comments or information be forwarded to our office on or before May 25, 2021. If no reply is received by this date, it will be assumed that you have no comment on this project.

If further information is desired regarding the proposed project, please contact Char Langehaug at cbinstock@nd.gov or 701-328-5364.

Thank you for your time.

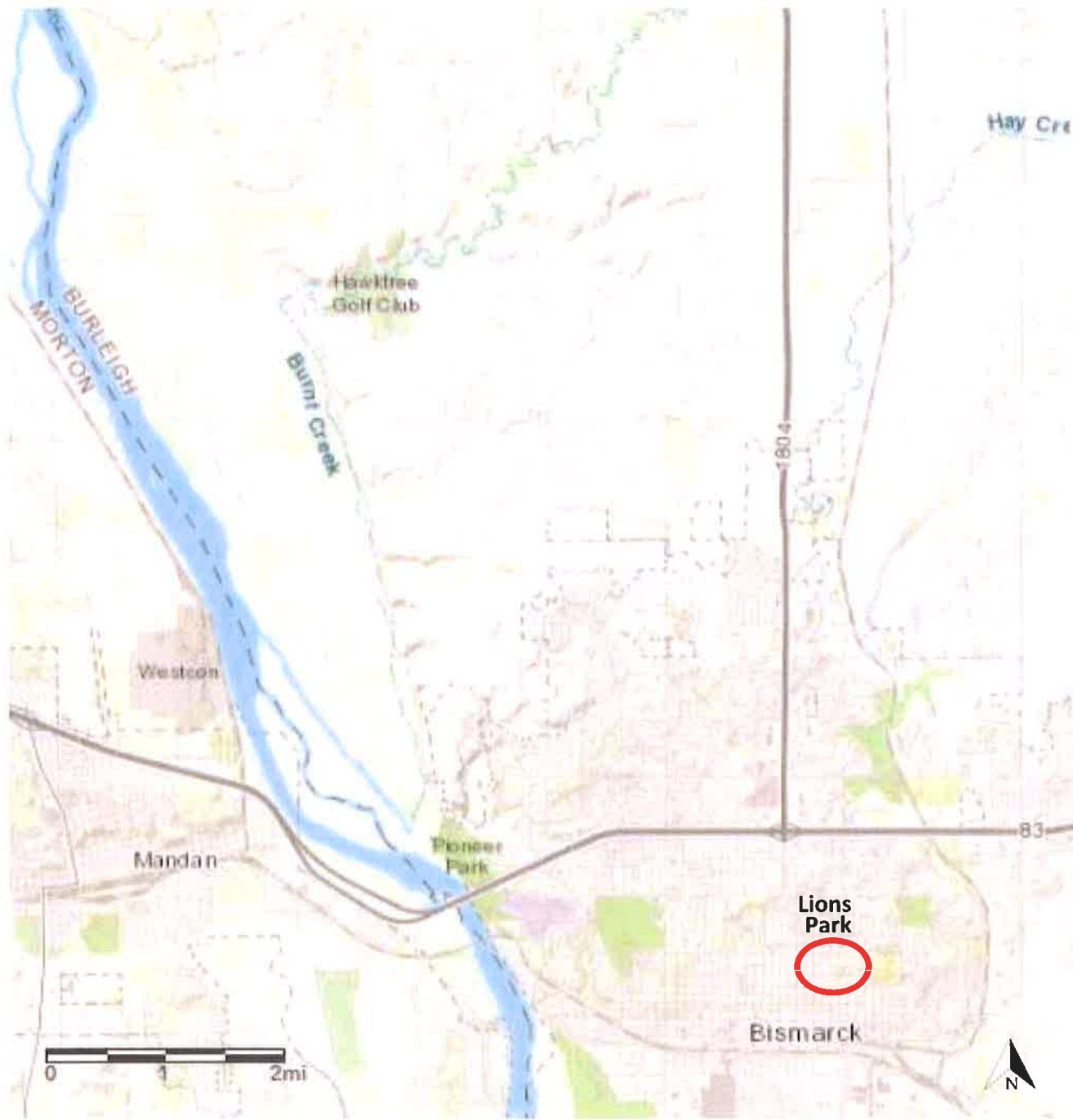
Sincerely,

Char Langehaug

Char Langehaug
Grants Coordinator
North Dakota Parks and Recreation

- Please see enclosed map(s). Thank you!

Location Map



6f Map – Lions Park



Source: City of Bismarck ArcGIS Map

Total Park Acreage
35.7 acres
Leased Lots Acreage
6.02 acres

Aerial Map – Lions Park



Source: City of Bismarck ArcGIS Map

DECLARATION

The City of Bismarck - Historic Preservation Commission has been advised of the proposed
Lion's Park Acquisition project and hereby:

(AGREE) (DISAGREE) with a determination of 'No Historic Properties Affected'

AND

(AGREE) (DISAGREE) with a determination of 'No Adverse Effect'

Additional Comments:

Amy Sakariassen, Chair
Bismarck Historic Preservation Commission

Dated: _____



MEMORANDUM

Review and Approval of Contractor Advertisement for Walking Map Brochures

TO: Chair Sakariassen and Historic Preservation Commission

FROM: Will Hutchings, Planner

DATE: May 14, 2021

A draft of an advertisement to solicit for a contractor to research, create and print historic walking map brochures is attached for your review. Staff is requesting the Historic Preservation Commission's review and any suggested edits prior to dissemination.

Staff Recommended Action:

Review the attached advertisement and provide any suggested edits. A motion to move forward with the advertisement is requested.

Attachments: Draft Advertisement



HISTORIAN SOUGHT TO CREATE HISTORIC WALKING MAP BROCHURES

The Bismarck Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) is seeking a qualified contractor to create printed walking map brochures of areas and events of historic significance in Bismarck, ND. The City of Bismarck and other agencies are actively preparing for the sesquicentennial (150 year) anniversary celebration of the City's founding in 2022. The Historic Preservation Commission's goal is to develop resources that will support this celebration and provide avenues that encourage self-exploration of our history and heritage.

These maps are intended to provide self-guided options for guests to experience the history of the two historic districts on the National Park Service's National Register of Historic Places in Bismarck:

1. Cathedral Area Historic District
2. Downtown Bismarck Historic District

Selected contractors are encouraged to utilize National Register of Historic Places surveys and nominations to source content for inclusion in the brochures as well as other primary and secondary sources.

Map distribution will occur through the North Dakota State Tourism Office and the Bismarck-Mandan Convention and Visitors Bureau. Distribution locations will include rest-areas, hotel/motels, local businesses and other historic sites around the area. The maps will also be used for ancillary historic material provided during sesquicentennial anniversary events.

The budget for this project shall not exceed \$2,625 which includes all costs associated with content research, map design, and 6000 printed maps (3000 for each district). The selected contractor will be responsible for sourcing content and images and finding and coordinating the design and commercial printing of the brochures. The final brochure should be of an acceptable format to fit standard brochure racks.

Project Schedule

Advertisement for Contractor	May 25, 2021
Letters of Interest Due	June 18, 2021
Contractor Selection	June 21, 2021
Draft Brochures Created for Approval by Historic Preservation Commission	August 9, 2021
Printed Brochures Delivered	September 1, 2021

Interested parties are asked to submit a letter of interest outlining qualifications, project approach and a proposed budget.

Contact Information:

Will Hutchings, Planner
Community Development - Planning
221 North Fifth Street
P.O. Box 5503
Bismarck, ND 58506-5503
(701) 355-1850
whutchings@bismarcknd.gov

**BISMARCK HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
April 21, 2021**

The Bismarck Historic Preservation Commission met on April 21, 2021, at 3:30 p.m. in the David J. Blackstead Conference Room in the City-County Office Building, 221 North 5th Street. Due to ongoing public health concerns related to COVID-19, the meeting was held via Zoom. Chair Sakariassen presided remotely.

Commissioners present were Steve Bakken, Walt Bailey, Blake Dinkins, Calvin Grinnell, Beth Nodland and Amy Sakariassen.

Commissioner Tory Jackson was not present.

Staff members present were Sandra Bogaczyk – Office Assistant II, Jannelle Combs – City Attorney, Will Hutchings – Planner, Kim Lee – Planning Manager and Gabe Schell – City Engineer.

Guests present were Rich Garman, Melissa Barth, Westin Dressler, Tina Stanger, Annique Lockard – Members of the 2021 Leadership Bismarck-Mandan Class.

MINUTES

Chair Sakariassen called for consideration of the minutes of the March 17, 2021 meeting of the Historic Preservation Commission.

MOTION: A motion was made by Commissioner Dinkins to approve the minutes of the March 17, 2021 meeting of the Historic Preservation Commission, as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Nodland and with Commissioners, Bailey, Dinkins, Grinnell, Nodland and Sakariassen voting in favor of the motion, the motion was approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Chair Sakariassen asked if there were any public comments.

Mr. Garman, representing Members of the 2021 Leadership Bismarck-Mandan Class, addressed Commission members on the idea of enhancing past projects and building partner relationships with the Commission. Mr. Garman described the Talking Trail project where a recorded history can be heard by those interested in learning about many Bismarck historic places by using a smart phone application or by connecting with a smart phone. Mr. Garman also suggested that an app could be used to enhance interactive qualities for a visitor's experience at Art Alley. He stated that the 2021 Leadership Bismarck-Mandan Class is requesting the Historical Preservation Commission to offer advice for developing an app or

series of apps which would merge art and historical interests and grant monies to develop 10 to 12 historical locations to build talking trail projects, possibly in the following areas:

- Rail Depot
- Belle Mehus Auditorium
- Former Governor's Mansion
- Patterson Hotel
- Capital Theatre Building
- Weather Beacon on the Provident
- St. Alexius
- World War Memorial Building
- Bismarck Veterans Memorial Library
- Cathedral District

Mayor Bakken joined the meeting at this time and asked if the intention is to begin the project in the city core and then expand the project scope outward. Mr. Garman stated that there is a scope in mind and that due to the flexible aspect of the technology, the scope can be expanded to include more sites. He added that phase I of the project could include the historic points mentioned and Art Alley.

Chair Sakariassen asked if staff had any grant information. Mr. Hutchings stated that all three projects that the commission applied for have been fully funded, which included an interpretation signage project. He added that the draft contract must be reviewed by staff and reviewed by City Commission prior to any procurement. Mr. Hutchings has requested an amended timeline from the State to allow for City timelines to coincide. He asked for any additional feedback from Commission members so that he could schedule this request on a future meeting to discuss which sites would be included in the final request for approval.

Ms. Nodland suggested that the subcommittee discuss this at the May 18th meeting of the Historic Preservation Plan Subcommittee. Chair Sakariassen agreed.

Mr. Garman thanked the Commission for listening and expressing interest in working with and combining funding with Members of the 2021 Leadership Bismarck-Mandan Class. Chair Sakariassen stated that she looked forward to working as a larger group to take action on this priority Commission item and thanked the group for addressing the Commission. She mentioned that it was a good sign that the community shares the same goals as the Commission and ready to take action.

There being no public input Chair Sakariassen resumed the meeting.

REVIEW OF PROPOSED DOWNTOWN STREET IMPROVEMENTS

Mr. Hutchings stated that the City of Bismarck is requesting the Historic Preservation Commission to review and comment on roadway and streetscaping improvements to segments of East Thayer Avenue, East Broadway Avenue, North 4th Street, North 5th Street and North 6th Street. The Concrete and Pavement Repair (CPR) project would be funded in

part through the North Dakota Department of Transportation (NDDOT). Mr. Hutchings listed several components of the improvement plan and stated that the plan was already reviewed and approved by the Renaissance Zone Authority at their April 8th meeting. The City Commission will review when placed on the agenda. The City Engineering Department proposes to complete final designs of the project this summer and initiate construction in the Summer of 2022. Mr. Hutchings added that because this plan uses federal highway funding it is subject to Section 106 review. Mr. Hutchings gave an overview of the project outlining the scope and on-line story map provided by the Engineering Department.

Ms. Nodland stated that because she is a property owner within the project boundary she is uncomfortable commenting on some aspects of the project but can respond to any historic preservation questions and is happy to participate as long as there is no objection. Chair Sakariassen stated that she is very comfortable acknowledging Ms. Nodland's expertise. No objections were made to limit Ms. Nodland's involvement in discussion.

Mr. Bailey asked if new downtown areas have been surveyed for their historical and architectural value and if they have been found eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. Chair Sakariassen stated that the project area is within the Historical District but questioned if the resources are as detailed as Mr. Bailey would like. Ms. Nodland stated that the survey was completed quite a while ago and sites would need to be updated, especially if the project area is outside the historic district.

Mr. Bakken asked if any discussion or consideration has been given to the utility boxes which have been wrapped in DWAC (Dakota West Arts Council) images. Mr. Schell stated that the existing wrapped utilities would not be removed and they are not included in the scope of this project. Mr. Bakken asked if they were to be modified that DWAC be consulted.

Ms. Nodland described the preservation work that has been done. She noted several expectations of exposing some aspects of Bismarck's past, which project managers might find while excavating or moving street works.

Chair Sakariassen stated that aspects of Urban Renewal must be taken into account and deemed as historical evidence and added that it is a complex project.

Chair Sakariassen asked if it is an NDDOT project or a City project with a federal nexus. Mr. Schell stated that the project is federally funded through two separate urban grants the City was competitively awarded. The City is leading the effort of environmental clearance and design and construction administration but it does have NDDOT oversight and Federal funding.

Chair Sakariassen asked if watermain work was part of the project. Mr. Schell stated that non-participating items are listed on the grant and sanitary/sewer and watermain projects do not tend to get federal highway funding and instead is funded through the City's water rates.

Mr. Dinkins complimented the story map maker for its execution and found it very useful. Chair Sakariassen agreed.

Ms. Nodland stated that the most impactful issue for Historic Preservation Commission is that the project is slated to occur at the same time the City will be celebrating its sesquicentennial events. She noted that it should be a celebration of a lifetime to bring people downtown to celebrate 150 years of progress but instead will be a difficult menagerie of displaced parking, curb construction and detours which would deter people from visiting the downtown celebrations. She asked that the street project be delayed one year to allow the celebration to occur unhindered. She stated that the celebration is a huge economic opportunity for the City and is surprised that the project was slated to occur at the same time. Ms. Nodland also asked where events would be held if not in the downtown due to construction. Chair Sakariassen agreed that the timing is most unfortunate and asked if the grants could be delayed.

Mr. Schell stated that the funding could not be redistributed in later years, that the grant would be lost. The application was made for the entire downtown in one year instead of separating the work into two years so that annual funds could be combined.

Chair Sakariassen stated that since the timing of street works overlapping the sesquicentennial is unfortunate she asked if there was some way communication could improve. Mr. Hutchings suggested that once submitted, Section 106 reviews follow set deadlines but stated that any wishes of the Historic Preservation Commission and the Engineering Department may be communicated at the time.

Ms. Combs stated that the request by the City is for the Historic Preservation Commission to consider any impacts of the proposed project. No approval is needed at this time. The historic items listed previously is good information for the various stake holders to consider for a comprehensive implementation.

Chair Sakariassen stated that she knows the NDDOT will be developing discovery plans and she is glad to inform the public of elements of the process which the Historic Preservation Commission advises to consider.

Mr. Schell stated that he is very appreciative of the Historic Preservation Commission's advisory comments which allows the Engineering Department to create a more comprehensive plan which highlights some risks in beneficial ways. He added that the scope of the work is mostly surface work.

PARTICIPATION IN HISTORIC PRESERVATION MONTH ACTIVITIES

Mr. Hutchings stated that at the request of Chair Sakariassen the City of Bismarck recognize that May of each year be dedicated as National Preservation Month. Also known as Historic Preservation Month, the month celebrates the nation's heritage through historic places. Mr. Hutchings listed events and activities planned by the City, local organizations and the State

for the month. Staff recommended discussing upcoming opportunities and considering desired level of participation.

Chair Sakariassen commented on several activities and events being considered. Commission members addressed various planned projects.

Ms. Combs suggested that since Mayor Bakken was addressing an audience about Bismarck history and that he could highlight some of the sesquicentennial events planned by the Historic Preservation Commission. Mayer Bakken asked staff and Commission members to work with him so he could highlight items in a press release. Chair Sakariassen thanked Mayer Bakken for his request.

OTHER BUISINESS

SECTION 106 CONSULTATION INFORMATION GUIDE

Mr. Hutchings stated that Community Development will be adding a Section 106 Consultation information document to the City's website and asked that any comments or suggestions be directed to his office so he could improve the document as recommended.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES MAP

Mr. Hutchings demonstrated a new GIS (Geographic Information Systems) online map showing all planning development activities for the City of Bismarck and how points on the map are linked to staff reports and other public material including projects, permits and hearing dates to be accessed by the item's location.

Chair Sakariassen stated that the City of Bozeman made a similar project for its historical buildings and thanked staff for the great work.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chair Sakariassen declared the meeting of the Bismarck Historic Preservation Commission adjourned at 4:48 p.m. to meet again on May 19, 2021.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sandra Bogaczyk
Recording Secretary

APPROVED:

Amy Sakariassen, Chair