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Mayor

I, Laura Baumgartner, City Clerk of said City hereby certify that at a meeting of the City Council of said City of Des Moines, held on the above date, among other proceedings the above was adopted.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal the day and year first above written.

City Clerk
City Citik



August 16, 2023

Honorable Mayor and City Council City of Des Moines, Iowa

Dear Mayor and Council Members:

On behalf of the Historic Preservation Commission, I am writing to express our excitement and enthusiasm for the proposed city-wide historic preservation plan, ReflectDSM: Honoring All Des Moines Histories. The plan's vision to preserve our city's tangible and intangible history is inspiring and motivating. The rich heritage and cultural significance of Des Moines deserves to be safeguarded for current and future generations to appreciate and cherish.

As members of the Commission, we recognize the numerous benefits that ReflectDSM can bring to our community. By actively participating in historic preservation, Des Moines can enhance its identity, boost tourism, and stimulate economic growth. The preservation of our architectural and cultural heritage has the power to foster a sense of community pride and cohesion, creating a stronger social fabric.

One of the initial efforts in implementing the ReflectDSM Plan will involve launching an ambitious city-wide survey. This process will engage community volunteers to collect survey data throughout the city, with a strong focus on equity and inclusion. This approach ensures that diverse perspectives and histories are represented, contributing to a more comprehensive and inclusive record of our City.

The success of the City's historic preservation program hinges on the allocation of adequate financial resources. We request your support in allocating the necessary funding to ensure the plan's effective implementation. These resources will enable City staff and the Commission to undertake vital preservation efforts, conduct historic research, execute needed surveys like the city-wide survey, and offer educational outreach, among other items.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

York Taenzer, Chair

Historic Preservation Commission