MEMORANDUM

TO: Legal & Finance Committee
City Council

FROM: Sarah Hanzel, Planner II

DATE: June 1, 2016

RE: West Boulevard Historic District Resurvey Final Report

The Historic Preservation Commission utilized grant funding from the South Dakota State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) to conduct an architectural survey of the West Boulevard Historic District (District) and surrounding area through contracted services. This project aligned with the Comprehensive Plan directive to continue survey and inventory efforts. The primary objectives of the project were to 1) photograph and evaluate the integrity of each resource currently listed on the National Register of Historic Places, 2) evaluate each structure's status as "contributing" or "non-noncontributing" to the District, and 3) determine if other portions of the neighborhood are eligible for listing on the National Register.

Approximately 250 acres with more than 1,000 historic resources were surveyed over a two year period. The survey report found that within the existing District there are 54 structures whose status could change from "non-contributing" to "contributing" and 47 structures that could change from "contributing" to "non-contributing." The survey report also concludes that several properties not currently listed on the National Register of Historic Places may be eligible for listing, according to their age and architectural integrity.

The findings of the draft survey report were presented at a community open house on February 4th, 2016. Several neighborhood residents attended and staff received numerous written comments and calls related to the recommendations in the draft report. A vast majority expressed that the Historic District should not be expanded. As such, the Historic Preservation Commission, Planning Staff, and the SHPO do not recommend pursuing an expansion of the West Boulevard Historic District.
The comments received are attached in Appendix E. Though the individual status of the currently listed structures as "contributing" and "non-contributing" do not change as a result of the release of this report, the information gathered during this survey process will aid Staff, the Historic Preservation Commission, and the City Council to make recommendations and decisions regarding proposed alterations to historic structures.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Acknowledge the West Boulevard Historic District Final Survey Report

\footnote{LC-6.1C: Survey and Inventory Efforts – Update outdates surveys as needed. It has been nearly twenty years since the West Boulevard Historic District was surveyed.}