

Historical Preservation Commission Tuesday, June 24, 2025 - 6:00 p.m.

West Chicago City Hall – Council Chambers 475 Main Street West Chicago, IL 60185

AGENDA

- 1. Call to Order, Roll Call and Establishment of a Quorum
- 2. Public Comment
- 3. Approval of the draft May 27, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes
- 4. Approval of the draft May 27, 2025 Public Hearing Meeting Minutes
- 5. Public Hearing for a request filed by Daniel M. Beebe and Pamela J. Darrah, of 479 Colford Avenue, to remove a vacant 1.28 acre parcel of land (PIN 04-10-117-013), owned by the requestors, from the East Washington Street Historic District, in accordance with Chapter 4, Article 5, Sections 4-92 and 4-93, of the Code of Ordinances of the City of West Chicago Continued from May 27, 2025
- 6. Review and Recommendation of the removal of a vacant 1.28 acre parcel of land (PIN 04-10-117-013) from the East Washington Street Historic
- 7. Certificate of Appropriateness Review
- 8. **Preliminary Review**
- 9. Historic District/Landmark Updates
 - A. 2025 Architectural and Historical Survey Update
 - B. 1869 Chicago & North Western Train Depot Update
- 10. **Other Business**
 - A. Historical Preservation Webpage
 - B. Commercial Storefront Design Guidelines
- 11. **Adjournment** The next regularly scheduled meeting is July 22, 2025
- CC: Historical Preservation Commission Members; City Council Liaison to the Historical Preservation Commission; Mayor & City Council; City Administrator; Director of Community Development; Business and Community Relations Director; City Museum Director; News Media



Draft Meeting Minutes

HISTORICAL PRESERVATION COMMISSION May 27, 2025 – 6:00 P.M.

1. Call to Order, Roll Call, and Establishment of a Quorum

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Letsche at 6:00p.m. Roll call found Chairman Letsche, and Commissioners Edwards, Christman, and Cherrington present. Commissioners Vigsnes, Petcher, and Andrews were absent. With four members present, a quorum was established.

Staff in attendance included City Planner John Sterrett and City Museum Director Sara Phalen.

2. Public Comment - None

3. Certificate of Appropriateness (COA) Review

A. C.O.A. 25-11 – Iris Color Hair Salon – 117 Main Street – Window/Wall Sign

Mr. Sterrett stated that Iris Hair Salon located at 117 Main Street in the Turner Junction Historic District is requesting approval of a Certificate of Appropriateness to install vinyl window signage in the two 2 storefront windows. One window will have the phone number (1.2 square feet in area) and the other window will have the business logo (6.2 square feet in area). The windows are each 21.9 square feet in area. The applicant is also proposing a sheet metal nail polish bottle wall sign (8 square feet in area) that will be attached to the building through the mortar joints and not into the bricks themselves.

The collective window area for this tenant space is 43.8 square feet. The square footage of the proposed window signs is 7.4 square feet. The Commission's policy is to allow a maximum of 20% of the total window space to be covered, which in this case is 8.8 square feet. The City's Sign Code also considers window signage as wall signage and in this case the maximum allowed wall and window signage combined is 30 square feet. The applicant is proposing 15.4 total square feet of combined wall and window signage.

The applicant originally received COA approval from the HPC for the proposed signs in 2015. The work, however, was never performed and therefore that approval is null and void. The applicant is thus returning to the Commission for a new review.

The two-story building was constructed in 1896 in a Victorian style, but the façade was later altered to an all brick Federal Revival style giving the building its present day appearance. The building is a contributing structure to the Turner Junction Historic District but is not considered a candidate for local landmark status.

Members of the Commission stated that the applicant should be encouraged to install a projecting sign on the building. After a brief discussion, Commissioner Cherrington made a motion, seconded

by Commissioner Christman, to approve the COA application. With a voice vote of all ayes the motion carried.

B. C.O.A. 25-12 – 425 E Washington Street – Robert Collier – Driveway Repair

Mr. Sterrett stated that Robert Collier, owner of the single-family home at 425 East Washington Street in the East Washington Street Historic District, is requesting approval of a Certificate of Appropriateness to repair and replace the existing asphalt driveway on the property. The existing driveway material will be removed and replaced with 3-inches of compacted asphalt over a 6-inch stone base. No work is proposed on the existing concrete apron in the public right-of-way. The petitioner is also proposing to replace the existing 55-foot long concrete retaining wall along the west property line as part of the driveway replacement.

No work is proposed to the existing Queen Anne single-family home, which was constructed in 1895. The home is considered a significant structure in East Washington Historic District and a candidate for local landmark status.

After a brief discussion, Commissioner Cherrington made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Christman, to approve the COA application as presented. With a voice vote of all ayes the motion carried.

4. Preliminary Review

A. 351 E Washington Street – Removal of unused chimney on single-family home.

Mr. Sterrett stated that the homeowner of 351 E Washington Street, Anthony Saporiti, is interested in removing an existing chimney from their home at 351 E Washington Street. According to the homeowner, the chimney no longer works and thus the desire to remove it. The building is an L Form from 1880 and is contributing the Historic District. The Commission discussed the proposal and there was concern from the members that removing the chimney would impact the character of the contributing home. The Commission suggested to the homeowner that quotes should be received on the cost of repairing rather than removing the chimney.

5. Certificate of Appropriateness (COA) Review (continued)

A. C.O.A. 25-13-108 Galen Street – Martinez – Signage

Mr. Sterrett stated that Omar Martinez, owner of ReShop 4 Less at 108 Galena Street in the Turner Junction Historic District, is requesting approval of a Certificate of Appropriateness to install a 0.65 square foot vinyl decal advertising the name of the business. The decal is well below the 20 square foot maximum allowed for window signage at this location. An existing "Open" sign on the window is exempt from needing a sign permit or COA approval. There are existing rope lights outlining the storefront window, which are prohibited and must be removed immediately.

The structure is a 1950's commercial storefront that is neither contributing to the Historic District nor a candidate for local landmark status, according to the Survey of the Turner Junction Historic District.

Members of the Commission stated that the applicant should be encouraged to install a projecting sign on the building. After a brief discussion, Commissioner Cherrington made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Christman, to approve the COA application. With a voice vote of all ayes the motion carried.

ADMINISTRATOR

B. C.O.A. 25-14 – 441 E Washington Street – Keith Draper – Fence

Mr. Sterrett stated that Keith Draper, owner of the single-family home at 441 East Washington Street in the Turner Junction Historic District, is requesting approval of a Certificate of Appropriateness to replace 3 damaged sections of an existing 4-foot tall picket fence. The replacement fence will match the existing fence in size, style, and color.

The structure is a T-Form/Craftsman constructed in 1863. It is contributing to the District and is a candidate for local landmark status.

After a brief discussion, Commissioner Christman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Cherrington, to approve the COA application. With a voice vote of all ayes the motion carried.

C. C.O.A. 25-15 – 425 E Washington Street – Holly Perez – Fence

Mr. Sterrett stated that Holly Perez, owner of the single-family home at 312 East Washington Street in the Turner Junction Historic District, is requesting approval of a Certificate of Appropriateness to install a 4-foot wooden picket fence on the property. The fence will be located in the rear of the property. No alterations to the single-family home are proposed. Please see the attached details and photos for more information.

The structure is a Bungalow with Dutch Colonial features constructed in the 1920's. It is contributing to the District but is not a candidate for local landmark status.

After a brief discussion, Commissioner Cherrington made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Edwards, to approve the COA application as presented. With a voice vote of all ayes the motion carried.

6. Preliminary Review (Continued)

A. 100 Arbor Avenue – Proposed freestanding internally illuminated sign

Mr. Sterrett stated that the property owner of 100 Arbor Avenue, Kurt Jaros, has inquired about installing a freestanding internally illuminated sign at 100 Arbor Avenue. The sign would be for the existing business at the location. Members of the Commission were concerned with the proposal because the property is contributing to the Historic District and is an important structure because the connection with Asel Gates, an important early settler of the community. The Commission instead suggested that a wall sign be incorporated into the building that would complement the architecture of the building.

7. Historic District/Landmark Updates

A. Public Hearing for a request filed by Daniel M. Beebe and Pamela J. Darrah, of 479 Colford Avenue, to remove a vacant 1.28 acre parcel of land (PIN 04-10-117-013), owned by the requestors, from the East Washington Street Historic District, in accordance with Chapter 4, Article 5, Sections 4-92 and 4-93, of the Code of Ordinances of the City of West Chicago.

Continued to June 24, 2025

B. Review and Recommendation of the removal of a vacant 1.28 acre parcel of land (PIN 04-10-117-013) from the East Washington Street Historic.

Continued to June 24, 2025

C. 2025 Architectural and Historical Survey Update

Mr. Sterrett stated that the City Council approved a contract with MKSK for preparing the Architectural and Historical Survey, which will begin sometime this summer.

D. 1869 Chicago & North Western Train Depot Update

Mr. Sterrett provided an updated on the interior demolition of the 1869 Chicago & North Western Train Depot Update

8. Other Business

A. Historical Preservation Webpage

Mr. Sterrett stated that a new Historic Preservation webpage will be created this summer.

9. Approval of March 25, 2025 Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Cherrington made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Christman, to approve the March 25, 2025 meeting minutes. With a voice vote of all ayes.

10. Adjournment

With no further business to discuss, Commissioner Christman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Edwards, to adjourn the meeting. With a voice vote of all ayes the motion carried and the Historical Preservation Commission, at 7:22 p.m., adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by John H. Sterrett, City Planner



Draft Meeting Minutes

HISTORICAL PRESERVATION COMMISSION PUBLIC HEARING West Chicago City Hall 475 Main Street West Chicago, IL 60185 May 27, 2025 – 7:06 P.M.

A request by Daniel M. Beebe and Pamela J. Darrah, of 479 Colford Avenue, to remove a vacant 1.28 acre parcel of land (PIN 04-10-117-013), owned by the requestors, from the East Washington Street Historic District, in accordance with Chapter 4, Article 5, Sections 4-92 and 4-93, of the Code of Ordinances of the City of West Chicago

1. Opening of Public Hearing

The Public Hearing was called to order by Chairman Letsche at 7:06p.m. Roll call found Chairman Letsche, and Commissioners Edwards, Christman, and Cherrington present. Commissioners Vigsnes, Petcher, and Andrews were absent. With four members present, a quorum was established.

Staff in attendance included City Planner John Sterrett

2. Chairman's Comment – Chairman Letsche stated that no court reporter is present for the Public Hearing and that one is required.

3. Continuance of Public Hearing

Commissioner Edwards made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Christman, to continue the public hearing to Tuesday, June 24, 2025 at 6:00 P.M. With a voice vote of all ayes, the motion carried.

At 7:07 P.M., the Public Hearing was continued to Tuesday, June 24, 2025 at 6:00 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted, John Sterrett, City Planner

CITY OF WEST CHICAGO

HISTORICAL PRESERVATION COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

ITEM TITLE:

Dan Beebe and Pamela Darrah 479 Colford Avenue PIN 04-10-117-013

Continued Public Hearing on a Request to Amend the East Washington Street Historic District Boundaries

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER: 5 & 6

COMMISSION AGENDA DATE: 06-24-25

STAFF REVIEW: John Sterrett, City Planner

SIGNATURE

ITEM SUMMARY:

Dan Beebe and Pamela Darrah of 479 Colford Avenue have submitted a request to remove a vacant parcel of land identified as PIN 04-10-117-013 (the "parcel") they own from the East Washington Street Historic District (the "District"). The parcel is 1.28 acres and is adjacent to the north of the home at 479 Colford Avenue, essentially serving as an extension to the backyard. The parcel was previously owned by the owner of 524 East Washington Street, the home adjacent to the north of the parcel, at the time the District was surveyed in 1998. Both 524 E Washington Street and the subject parcel were subsequently included in the District boundaries. Since then, the parcel has been conveyed to the owners of 479 Colford Avenue. The parcel has no frontage on Washington Street and is located over 300 feet south of Washington Street. If the parcel were developed, it would be accessed off Summit Avenue, which is not located in the Historic District, nor are any homes located on Summit Avenue. Furthermore, any future home on the parcel would not be visible from East Washington Street. Staff is of the opinion that removal of the parcel from the District will not have any adverse effect on the District. Removal of the parcel from the District will not cause any other property currently located in the District to be removed. Please see attached map for more details.

To remove the parcel from the District, an amendment to the District boundaries must be approved by the City Council. Prior to action being taken by the City Council, the Historical Preservation Commission must conduct a public hearing and provide a recommendation on the request. Per the requirements of Section 4-93 of the Code of Ordinances, notice to all property owners within the East Washington Street Historic District have been notified of the public hearing via certified mail and a notice of the public hearing was published in the Daily Herald at least 30 days prior to the hearing.

ACTION PROPOSED:

The Historical Preservation Commission is being asked to conduct a public hearing on the proposed amendment to the East Washington Street Historic District for PIN 04-10-117-013. Following the close of the public hearing, the Commission should review the request and make a recommendation to the City Council.

Attachments:

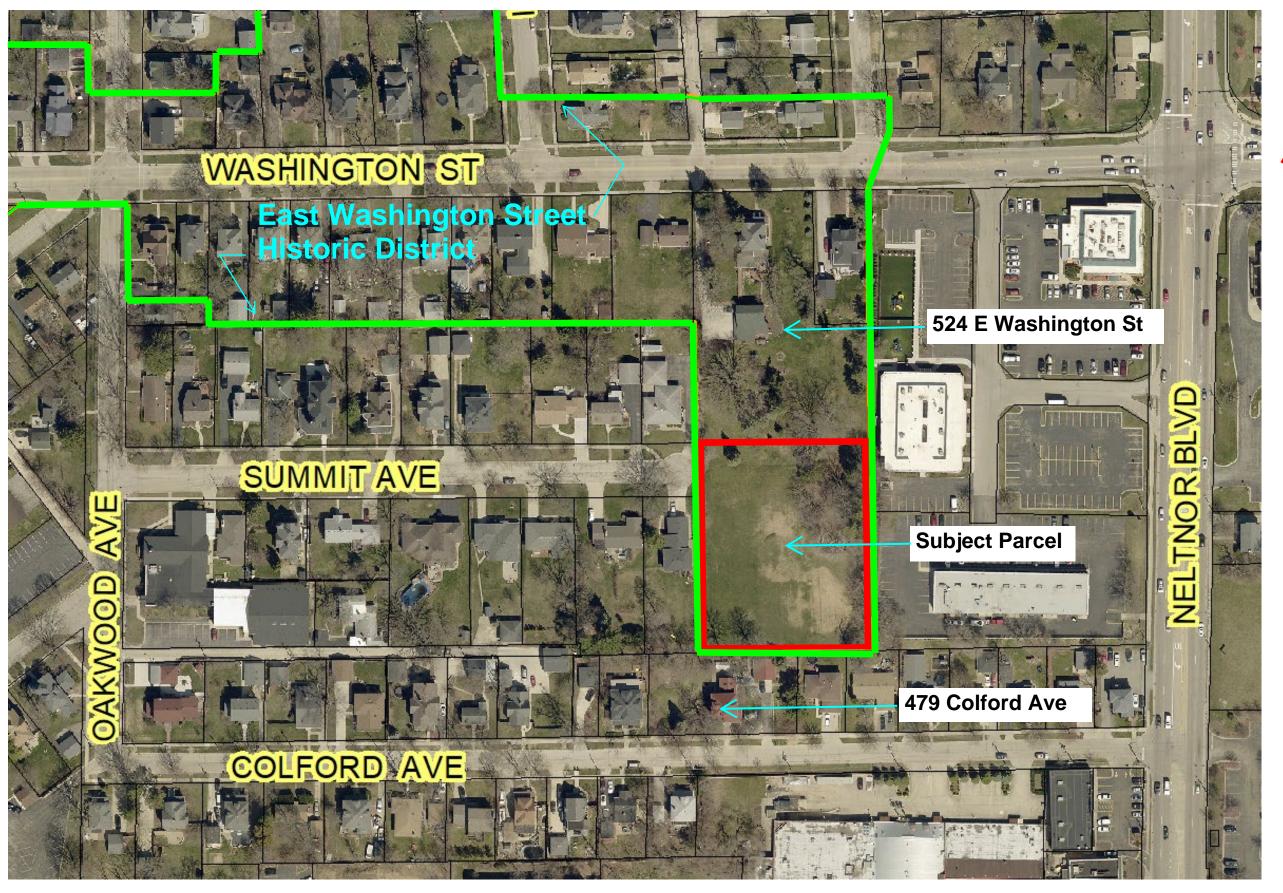
Exhibit A - Map of Subject Parcel

Exhibit B - Owners' Request

Exhibit C - Required Mailings

Exhibit D - Publication

EXHIBIT "A"







Removing a Property from the East Washington Historic Preservation District

From Dan Beebe

Date Sun 3/16/2025 7:26 PM

To John sterrett < Jsterrett@westchicago.org >

Cc Michael Guttman < MGuttman@westchicago.org >

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization.

Mr. Sterrett,

City Administrator Michael Guttman referred us to you. We are writing to request assistance in determining and following a process for removing a property from the East Washington Historic Preservation District. The property in question is PIN# 04-10-117-013, Lot 1 in the Fox Subdivision, with a current official street address of 524 East Washington Street.

The reasons we are requesting that this property be removed from the district are as follows:

- 1. Despite the official street address, the subject property is not on East Washington Street and is, in fact, a little over 300 feet South of the East Washington Right of Way.
- 2. The subject property is vacant land currently associated with PIN# 04-10-118-039, 479 Colford Avenue, and has not been under the same ownership as 524 East Washington Street for almost 25 years.
- 3. Except for the residential property (524 East Washington) to the North of the subject property, none of the other adjacent properties are located in a Historic District. The Summit Avenue Right of Way and residential properties built in the 1950s and 1970s are on the property's Western border. Commercial properties are present on the Eastern border. Residential properties, built in the 1990s and 1980s are located to the South of the subject property. 479 Colford Avenue, built in 1906, is also South of the subject property.
- 4. In our opinion, removing the subject property from the East Washington Historic Preservation District does not, in any way, run counter to the Purpose of the district as noted in the City ordinance that created the district.

While we cannot speak for future owners of the property, we have no intentions to build on the subject property. We have lived at 479 Colford Avenue since 1990 and purchased the land in 2022 to prevent it from being sold to a developer. This land is an extension of our backyard, and the most we may do is have permitted work done to erect fencing in the hopes of reducing the amount of trash that blows in, especially from the commercial properties.

Below is Dan's contact information. We look forward to hearing from and working with you on this matter.

Best Regards,

Dan Beebe & Pamela Darrah 479 Colford Avenue West Chicago, IL 60185

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
CITY OF WEST CHICAGO
In accordance with Chapter 4, Article 5, Section 493(d), of the Code of Ordinances of the City of West
Chicago, you are hereby notified that a public hearing
will be held before the West Chicago Historical Preservation Commission on Tuesday, May 27, 2025, at 6-00
p.m., in the council chambers of West Chicago City
Hall, 475 Main Street, West Chicago, Illinols, to
consider the following matter:
A request filled by Daniel M. Beebe and Pamela J.
Darrah, of 479 Colfrod Avenue, West Chicago, Illinols,
to remove a parcel of land owned by the reduestors
from the East Washington Street Historic District, in
accordance with Chapter 4, Article 5, Sections 472 and
479, of the Code of Ordinances of the City of West
Chicago. This parcel of land is legally described
below:
LOT 1 OF THE FOX SUBDIVISION, BEING A SUBDIVISION OF PART OF THE NORTHEAST QUARTER
OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 10,
TOWNSHIP 39 NORTH, RANGE 9 EAST OF THE
THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, ACCORDING TO
THE PLAT THEREOF RECORDED JULY 11, 2000 AS
DOCUMENT NUMBER R2000-104445, COUNTY OF
DUPAGE, STATE OF ILLINOIS.
P.I.N.: 04-10-117-013
All interested persons are invited to attend said hearing and be heard. Written comments may be submitted prior to, during, or after the hearing to the
Community Development Department, 475 Main
Street, West Chicago, Illinois 60185, or by email to
isterrett@westchicago.org, or call (630) 293-2247. Questions related to the hearing should be directed to John
Sterrett. Assistant Director of Community Development, at 630-293-2247.
John Sterrett
Assistant Director of Community Development, at 630-293-2247.
John Sterrett
Assistant Director of Community Development, at 630-293-2247.

EXHIBIT "D"

CERTIFICATE OF PUBLICATION Paddock Publications, Inc.

DuPage County Daily Herald

Corporation organized and existing under and by virtue of the laws of the State of Illinois, DOES HEREBY CERTIFY that it is the publisher of the DuPage County DAILY HERALD. That said DuPage County **DAILY HERALD** is a secular newspaper, published in Naperville, DuPage County, State of Illinois, and has been in general circulation daily throughout DuPage County, continuously for more than 50 weeks prior to the first Publication of the attached notice, and a newspaper as defined by 715 ILCS 5/5.

I further certify that the DuPage County DAILY HERALD is a newspaper as defined in "an Act to revise the law in relation to notices" as amended in 1992 Illinois Compiled Statutes, Chapter 715, Act 5, Section 1 and 5. That a notice of which the annexed printed slip is a true copy, was published <u>04/25/2025</u>

in said DuPage County DAILY HERALD. This notice was also placed on a statewide public notice website as required by 5 ILCS 5/2.1.

BY

Designee of the Publisher of the Daily Herald

Control # 288355 *DUPAGE*



Lighting

Light fixtures for commercial buildings should be as simple as possible and mounted where they will be partially or completely hidden. Original light fixtures should be preserved, maintained, and repaired.

Lighting...

- A. should be simple in design and/or concealed. Concealed up-lit light fixtures, fixtures of simple design, or fixtures appropriate to the period of the building are encouraged.
- B. should not consist of "Colonial" coach lights or similar fixtures.





11-13 Douglas Avenue (Elgin Downtown National Register Historie District)

Floir Bester Griddien Mennel







Signs and Graphic Designs - Commercial Areas

Elgin's commercial areas displayed a wide variety of signs and sign locations in the late 19th and early 20th century. This variety of design and placement remains appropriate for businesses in the commercial areas.

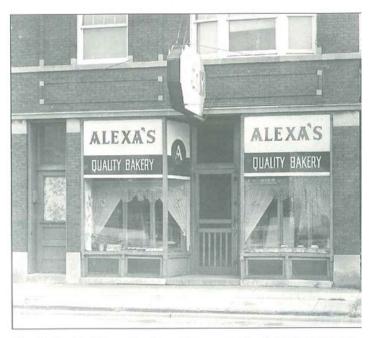
Signs and Graphic Designs...

- A. should follow regulations subject to the provisions of <u>Chapter 19.50</u> of the City's pening ordinance.
- B. should be preserved, maintained, and repaired, especially those from the pre-1945 era, such as painted wall signs or those of metal and neon.
- C. should be of traditional materials such as wood with ornamental copper or bronze letters, if new. Sandblasted wood signs are also appropriate. Plastic substrate signs or signs of unfinished wood are not recommended.
- D. should be sized in proportion to the building and not oversized.
- E. should have concealed lighting, if lit. Spot or up-lit lighting for signs is recommended. Internally-lit and flashing signs are not appropriate for the commercial areas.
- F. should resemble logos or symbols for businesses.
- G. should have colors coordinated with overall building colors.
- H. should have traditional lettering such as serif, sans serif, or script lettering.
- should be placed at traditional sign locations including storefront belt courses, upper facade walls, hanging or mounted inside windows, or projecting from the face of the building.

- should be anchored into mortar, not masonry, if mounting brackets and hardware are used.
- K. should not exceed three different locations (for those that are physically on the building), not counting painted window signs.



Appropriate wall signage located at 166 Symphony Way



Alexa's Quality Bakery, location unknown, was located behind this simple wood storefront, which included a number of innovative features such as screens on the bulkhead windows (which allowed light into the basement) and stamped decorative metal at the corners of the sash. Contrast this ca. 1910 view of the building with the ca. 1935 view on page 12.

OLD TIME TOYS AND RESTORATIONS, INC. SPECIALIZING IN DOLL RESTORATIONS

Photo© courtesy of Stapleton Photography.

THE SIGN'S STYLE, SIZE AND LETTERING SHOULD COMPLEMENT A BUSINESS'S PRODUCT OR SERVICE.

Lettering and Graphics

There are hundreds of lettering types available from sign contractors and designers. The building owner should select a style that expresses the business message and is compatible with the building and Downtown St. Charles. Decorative, serif and sans serif styles can all be used in the downtown area but should be selected for compatibility with the type of business and type of building.

In most cases, signs should be limited to a maximum of three colors, two materials and one lettering style. Use available information about the colors, materials, lettering style and placement of the original signs on the building when designing new ones. Sign colors should complement the building colors.

Wooden signs with raised letters, metal signs, painted signs and neon and gold leaf are all appropriate downtown, though not for every building.









