



Agenda Item Report

Meeting Type: Common Council

Meeting Date: August 18, 2026

Item Title: Consider and take action to approve sending an application for local historic designation of Fireman's Park to the Historic Landmarks and Preservation Commission for review. (CC 5/5/26)

Submitted By: David Bennett, Communications & Economic Development Coordinator

Detailed Description of Subject Matter:

The Council had previously voted against the motion to send the Fireman's Park Complex application for local historic designation review at its May 5th meeting. There were some concerns the Council noted to be addressed:

- Clarification regarding the designation boundary
- Comparison between Local, State, and National historic designations
- Specific benefits to the municipality due to local historic designation

A boundary containing the contributing historic structures within the parcel has been identified as per the National historic registry. The designation map and accompanying comparison to the overall parcel have been included in the updated application. The boundary comprises a small portion of the overall parcel and includes only the wall, Pavilion, and Rest Haven as contributing structures. Only structures within the boundary are impacted by local historic designation and potential approvals for a Certificate of Appropriateness (COA).

Each historic designation offers differing conditions needed for alterations, repair, etc. If approved, the City would have to apply and obtain a COA from the Historic Landmarks Preservation Commission (HLPC) in addition to review by the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO).

The City as a municipality does not qualify for tax credits, nor would receive any potential property value increase associated with local historic designation.

List all Supporting Documentation Attached:

- Updated local historic designation application for the Fireman's Park Complex, 1049 Park Ave.
- Historic designation comparisons and benefits charts

Action Requested of the Council:

HLPC recommends that Council approves the application and designates either the Mayor or Council President to submit the application on behalf of the City to HLPC to begin the review and approval process for local historic designation of the Fireman's Park Complex.

Strategic Plan Objective: