



MEMORANDUM

Date: September 4, 2026
To: Deadwood Historic Preservation Commission
From: Kevin Kuchenbecker, Historic Preservation Officer
Re: South Dakota State Historic Preservation Office Agreement

Consideration of the proposed agreement with the South Dakota State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) was continued from the August 12, 2026, meeting. The Historic Preservation Commission determined that the proposed increase under its agreement with SHPO should be considered through the formal budget process before action is taken. The proposed agreement increases the annual funding of \$80,000, an increase from the \$70,000 annual amount under the agreement that expires in 2026.

During the budget process, the Commission is requesting consideration in implementing the proposed increase incrementally due to uncertainty regarding the revised funding formula. The proposed annual funding amounts are as follows:

2026-27 — \$70,000
2027-28 — \$72,500
2028-29 — \$75,000
2029-30 — \$77,500
2030-31 — \$80,000

Under the agreement, the SHPO will provide dedicated staff support for Deadwood's historic preservation program and work closely with the City on matters affecting historic resources. SHPO will regularly travel to Deadwood, as schedules permit, and will review and comment on nonexempt projects that may encroach upon, damage, or destroy historic properties. Initial project reviews will generally be completed within five business days.

The agreement also establishes an expedited review framework by identifying routine projects that do not require separate state review and projects with potential adverse effects that must be submitted to SHPO under state statute. Review decisions will be based on Deadwood's preservation plan and design guidelines, applicable City ordinances and building codes, South Dakota preservation statutes and administrative rules, and the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines.

MOTION: *Move to approve the proposed phased funding increase and to recommend that the City Commission authorize the execution of an agreement with the South Dakota State Historic Preservation Office.*