



TOWN OF ELIZABETH

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

TO: Historic Advisory Board

FROM: Zach Higgins, AICP Community Development Director
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DATE: September 9th, 2024

SUBJECT: Discussion on Reimagining Our Approach: Preparation for Upcoming Visioning Workshops

SUMMARY

As we approach our visioning workshops, it's crucial to reflect on our past efforts and look forward to shaping the future of historical and cultural preservation in Elizabeth for the next 5 to 10 years.

Our recent experience with the historic district initiative has highlighted areas where we can improve, particularly in community outreach and engagement. By focusing on making historical preservation more accessible and enjoyable for our community, we can build the public support necessary for future preservation efforts.

This is an opportunity to reimagine our work plan. We should consider innovative ways to educate, engage, and excite our community about Elizabeth's rich history and the importance of preservation. By doing so, we lay the groundwork for more ambitious projects in the future.

As we prepare for these workshops, consider the following:

1. How can we make historical preservation more engaging and fun for the community?
2. What new educational initiatives could we develop to reach a broader audience?
3. How can we leverage partnerships within the community to amplify our impact?
4. What creative outreach methods could we employ to generate enthusiasm for preservation?

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that HAB members approach these visioning workshops with an open mind and a willingness to explore new directions. This is your opportunity to shape the future of historical preservation in Elizabeth. Come prepared to discuss innovative ideas that will energize our community and create a strong foundation for future preservation efforts.