

My name is Terry Trogdon Mooneyham and I reside at 1733 E Charles Republic. I am currently serving as the President for the Republic Historical Society.

The Republic Historical Society is here tonight to update our progress creating a Museum and Community space at 221- 225 N Main Street where the Public Works building once stood.

Our plan is to construct a 16,230 sq ft, two story, brick facade building that is reminiscent of the original buildings on Main Street. The museum building will give the appearance of three storefronts on Main Street. The street level will feature large glass storefront windows with vintage style recessed doorways. The second story will have arched windows copying the look of many of our old historic buildings.

The Museum will have a welcoming two-story foyer/entrance with wall murals featuring Republic's history in timeline with revolving displays of community and historical artifacts. A large open stairway leads to the second floor with more display areas, classroom space, and a large research center for community use utilizing our archives which currently holds thousands of records. This floor will be accessible to all with an elevator and two fire retardant enclosed stairwells.

The south side of the first floor will be our event center. The space will accommodate up to 160 people with an audio-visual area for programs, a catering area and separate Main Street entrance. French doors will open onto the existing park area creating a lovely setting for gatherings. On the north side will be the coffee shop and gift shop area. This will have a museum entrance along with a Main Street Entrance. Lots of cozy inside seating along with tables outside.

The Historical society is a 25+ year non-profit all volunteer organization that has completed several projects for the community. The Republic Arrow sign on Hwy 60 and Main, saved, restored, and placed on land purchased by the Historical Society. Two highly successful books have been published. We have a growing membership and have experienced an increased interest in Republic History and in Museum visitors.

With the city's partnership we are confident that we will fund this exciting project and create a destination that our community will have pride in, while participating in the revitalization of our historic downtown. We ask the City council, thru resolution, to grant the property at 221 N Main and the Pocket Park to the Republic Historical Society for the purpose of creating a space in Republic for many to enjoy.

