



PREPARED FOR THE LANDMARKS COMMISSION

Project Name: Madison Historic Markers Program
Legistar File ID # [82639](#)
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Background

The City is proposing a new historic markers program that would replace the failing Sesquicentennial historic markers and begin implementation of a program with a focus on diversifying the stories we tell about Madison. The new program would have the Landmarks Commission giving final approvals of all signage language. Staff will work with information from our historic surveys and with community partners to identify stories that the City should be telling, make use of opportunities inherent in City undertakings that could incorporate historic signage, and ensure we are using a broad geographic scope so that all areas of the City can have coverage.

The first phase of the program is to approve six (6) initial markers and removal of the Sesquicentennial markers. The second phase will involve finalizing a process for future historic marker selection with approvals of the final language for the markers coming from the Landmarks Commission. To that end, a resolution to form the program and kick it off with these 6 initial markers was introduced to Common Council on April 16. The Landmarks Commission must make a recommendation to Common Council on if they should approve this program.

Staff Recommendation

Motion to recommend to Common Council to:

1. Approve the new Historic Places Marker Program,
2. Approve the removal of the existing Sesquicentennial Markers,
3. Approve the selection of the first 6 markers and have staff return to the Landmarks Commission with the final historic marker language, location, and future process for selecting additional historic markers in the future.