



Community Planning and Economic Development Department

# News Release

Contact: Rose Lindsay (W) 612.673.5015; (C) 612.250.8661

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*Minneapolis City Goals: A Safe Place to Call Home □ Jobs & Economic Vitality □ Eco-Focused □ Livable Communities, Healthy Lives □ Many People, One Minneapolis □ A City That Works*

## **Minneapolis to Hold Meeting to Discuss Proposed Ordinance that Would Allow Neighborhoods to Request Conservation District Status**

**January 27, 2014 (Minneapolis)** - On Tuesday, January 28, the City of Minneapolis will be hosting a public meeting to discuss a proposed Conservation District Ordinance. The meeting will take place in City Hall Room 319 starting at 4:30 p.m.

The City's proposed Conservation District Ordinance effort is designed to ensure development in notable areas respects neighborhood character. Developed using public input, the ordinance conserves distinguished visual character in a manner that offers more protections than the zoning code, but fewer protections than historic district design guidelines. Under this proposed ordinance, two-thirds of property owners in a contiguous area with notable visual character would have the opportunity to request conservation district status.

"Conservation districts are a tool available in many cities throughout the state and country," said Council Member Cam Gordon. "Used thoughtfully they could be an effective way to balance growth while also protecting some of our most treasured and distinctive residential or commercial areas which contribute so much to our neighborhoods and our City."

If passed, the proposed ordinance would amend the City's existing [Heritage Preservation Regulations](#). Comments on the draft of this ordinance will be accepted in-person during the public meeting or by emailing City staff member John Smoley at [john.smoley@minneapolismn.gov](mailto:john.smoley@minneapolismn.gov) through 4:30 p.m. on February 4, 2014.

Following the gathering of public input, the ordinance will be revised and prepared for review by the State Historic Preservation Office, the Heritage Preservation Commission, and the City Council. For updated project information please visit: [www.minneapolismn.gov/hpc/Conservation\\_District\\_Ordinance](http://www.minneapolismn.gov/hpc/Conservation_District_Ordinance).

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