

Department of City Development

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April 17, 2006

Mayor Gary Becker
Members of the Common Council
c/o Janice Johnson-Martin, City Clerk

Subject: The Establishment of Design Standards for the Expanded Downtown Area

Dear Mayor Becker and Honorable Aldermen:

In June of 2005, the City of Racine adopted the Racine Downtown Plan as a resource to consult in the continued effort to revitalize the Downtown business district.

A number of the recommendations of the plan have been, or are being implemented including the reconstruction of Monument Square, the redevelopment of the northeast corner of Main and State Streets, and the promotion of housing development in the western parts of the Downtown Area. An additional recommendation of the plan addressed the need to establish specific design standards in sub-areas of the downtown area for parties to consult when pursuing development, re-development, maintenance, and remodeling or restoration projects within the existing and expanded Downtown Area.

With the expanded Downtown Area boundaries soon to be established, it is now time to put into place the recommended design standards for the Downtown Area to help promote and enhance characteristics of appearances and development that are found in specific areas of the Downtown.

I respectfully ask that this matter be referred to the Plan Commission for its review and recommendation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Brian F. O'Connell". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

Brian F. O'Connell
Director of City Development

C: Devin Sutherland, Downtown Racine Corporation
File

BFO:mgs