

Statements from the Co-chairs:

Good evening. My name is Olivia Dorfman. As you know, Bloomington is making plans for the future of our city. The new Transportation Plan and the Unified Development Ordinance, (or UDO), will guide development throughout our city for the next twenty years. It seems like a good time for us, the Near West Side, to be thinking about where we fit into the city's plans. We hope that tonight's program, and our programs planned for April and June, will help you make an informed decision about your own vision for the future of our neighborhood.

We would like to make it clear that this committee exists only to explore the idea of historic designation, and to share information with our neighbors. We will not submit an application for historic designation unless we have the support of Near West Side homeowners.

I would now like to introduce committee member Christine Lovelace who will begin tonight's program.

Olivia Dorfman, Co-chair
Near West Side Historic Designation Committee

[At this point, Christine Lovelace presented the introductory portion of the program, followed by Karen Duffy's remarks.]

Thank you all for coming out tonight for the first of our new discussion series.

When we held our three public meetings in December, you let us know that they were too closely spaced, and too amorphous in format and content.

In response to your feedback, we've organized three, more formal programs, and scheduled them at comfortable intervals over the next four months. Each program will include presentations by guest speakers, and a session for questions and comments from you.

Please use the index cards we gave you to jot down your questions so you don't forget them during the presentations; if we don't have time to take your question tonight, drop your card in the basket and we'll get back to you one way or another: by email if you include your address; on our website; or in future versions of the FAQ sheet you received at the door.

In offering these new programs, our committee's intent is to support you in your effort to think through what Local Designation could mean for you as a homeowner and a resident in our neighborhood. As we proceed, please know that we will continue to welcome your feedback about our programs.

Tonight, two speakers will begin our exploration of Local Designation. The first speaker, Jeff Goldin, will enumerate some of the benefits it can bring—some of the reasons *why*

other neighborhoods in Bloomington have sought it. Then, Conor Herterich will describe *how* designation works and *what forms* it can take.

Both speakers draw upon extensive experience that they share with us tonight.

Jeff has been a property appraiser in Monroe County for over 20 years; Bloomington's Board of Realtors recognized him as 2018 Realtor of the Year. He also serves as Chairman of our City's Historic Preservation Commission. And finally, he's a homeowner and resident in Greater Prospect Hill who worked with his neighbors (and, so I've heard, changed his own mind) as they grappled with issues about Local Designation.

Conor is Bloomington's new Historic Preservation Program Manager. He comes to us from east Texas, with a Master's Degree and preservation experience.

The speakers will present consecutively, without further ado from me. Please welcome them.

Karen Duffy, Co-chair
Near West Side Historic Designation Committee