

HCC Recommendation DATE: March 26, 2003

TOPIC: Downtown Walking Tour Proposal

SUMMARY: To designate and develop a self-guided walking tour route located in downtown Helena to showcase the City's historic character, businesses, and other points of interest. Approximate length is 1.86 mile beginning from 14th street (Town Center) west to Getchell Street, south to Park Avenue, south to Wong Street (Library), east to Last Chance Mall / Gulch, north to Placer Avenue, west on Fuller Avenue to Neil Avenue, east to Front Street to point of origin on 14th street.

bThe HCC recommends the Commission consider developing and implementing a downtown walking tour proposal with the features and partnerships outlined in the attached summary.

VOTE: Proponents 10 Opponents 0 Abstain 0

PROPOSERS:

- Walking tour would provide tourist with activities downtown.
- Proposed boundary should be expanded to include Reeder's Village, Cathedral, Jailhouse, Governor's Mansion, and Courthouse.
- Walking Tour idea needs to be coordinated with the TCC-2 committee.

OPPOSERS:

- NA

FURTHER DISCUSSION:

- See attached summary.

* CONCEPTUAL COMMENTS *

DOWNTOWN HELENA WALKING TOUR ROUTE

HELENA CITIZENS' COUNCIL

MARCH 26, 2003

PROPOSAL: To designate and develop a self-guided walking tour route located in downtown Helena to showcase the City's historic character, businesses, and other points of interest.

ROUTE: Approximate length is 1.86 mile beginning from 14th street (Town Center) west to Getchell Street, south to Park Avenue, south to Wong Street (Library), east to Last Chance Mall / Gulch, north to Placer Avenue, west on Fuller Avenue to Neil Avenue, east to Front Street to point of origin on 14th street.

FEATURES: Tour route may include the following amenities:

- Full / partial stamped concrete texture painted red as positive identifier.
- Bulb-out sidewalk curbs.
- Stationary, numbered information posts with fixed historic information and current city messages, business coupons, etc.
- Interface with Downtown Trolley stops.
- Promotion through BID pamphlets, Chamber, local business, etc.
- Rest stop benches for elderly, children, Trolley stops.
- Name of tour route complimentary to the historic character of the gulch.
- Incorporate tour route with existing historic plaques.

PARTNERSHIPS / FUNDING: Tour route may be conceptually and financially supported by the following:

- BID
- Chamber
- Local businesses
- Historic Preservation Committee
- Tour train sur-tax
- Fundraisers / donations / grants

· CTEP or TCC-2 funding sources