



**TO:** Heritage Preservation Commission  
**FROM:** Deanna Kuennen, Community & Economic Development Director  
**MEETING DATE:** September 20, 2021  
**SUBJECT:** Johnston Hall Update

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Following the Special HPC Meeting on September 8, 2021 – Allina Health Systems submitted an appeal to the HPC's decision to deny the Certificate of Appropriateness associated with the demolition of Johnston Hall. The item was included on the September 14, 2021 City Council Agenda as a discussion item. After discussion amongst the City Council members, and public comment – the City Council approved the appeal with a 5-2 vote, passing Resolution 2021-195 Approve Appeal of Heritage Preservation Commission's Denial of Certificate of Appropriateness for Building Demolition at 633 1<sup>st</sup> Street SE (Johnston Hall). A copy of the approved resolution is attached.

The HPC is asked to start thinking about the role they can play in preserving buildings before they get to the point of being a hazard and requiring demolition. At a future meeting, ideas will be shared and discussed, and a proposed plan prepared on how to take a proactive role in preservation. Some ideas (to start):

- Update database of historic structures
  - Photographic inventory of all buildings within the historic district (expanded district)
  - Photographic inventory of all buildings in Faribault listed on the National Register of Historic Places
  - Building conditions/scoring matrix
  - Identification of threatened buildings (those buildings showing increasing signs over time of disrepair)
- Identify funding sources and programs that are available to assist with building repair/restoration
- Reactivate the HPC Awards program – to highlight and celebrate buildings and property owners taking steps to preserve historic buildings