



## Community Development Department

**DATE:** March 15, 2022

**FROM:** Ben Ehreth, AICP, Community Development Director

**ITEM:** Update on efforts to nominate Highland Acres to the National Register of Historic Places

**REQUEST:**

Receive this update on the City-led effort to nominate Highland Acres to the National Register of Historic Places.

Please place this item on the March 22, 2022, City Commission meeting agenda.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

This is a regular update per request of the City Commission. The last update on this effort was on September 14, 2021 when Metcalf Archeological Consultants was selected as the consultant to complete the historic district nomination to the National Register of Historic Places.

Public engagement has occurred throughout this nomination effort and the associated neighborhood architectural survey of the neighborhood has been completed. Letters were sent to property owners at the beginning, middle and final stages, which included common misconceptions and counter facts about owning property listed on the National Register of Historic Places and outlined the process owners must follow to register their objections of the proposed historic district nomination.

On November 4, 2021, the City of Bismarck, in coordination with the Bismarck Historic Preservation Commission, the North Dakota State Historic Preservation Office and Metcalf Archeological Consultants, Inc. held a public information meeting at Highland Acres Elementary.

On February 16, 2022 the Historic Preservation Commission held a public meeting on the final draft nomination with an opportunity for public comments.

At the February meeting, the Historic Preservation Commission voted to approve the nomination as prepared.

Following the Historic Preservation Commission approval, the draft nomination was forwarded to the State Historic Preservation Office for staff review. The following outlines the next and final anticipated steps:

**Next Steps:**

March 2022	Notification of State Review Board Hearing
April 29, 2022	State Review Board Presentation and Hearing
June 2022	Nomination submitted to National Park Service for consideration
TBD*	National Park Service comment period
August 22, 2022	National Park Service expected determination on designation

**RECOMMENDED CITY COMMISSION ACTION:**

No action is needed at this time.

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