

December 7, 2011

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Mayor and Board of Aldermen  
**FROM:** Michael W. Avery, Director of Planning and Inspections  
**RE:** Public Hearing Historic Preservation Plan - December 13, 2011

**Background Information:**

In the summer of 2010 the City of New Bern received a grant from the North Carolina Historic Preservation office and contributed local funds to prepare its first ever Historic Preservation Master Plan. During the fall and winter of 2010 the City contracted with Hanbury Preservation Consulting to assist in plan preparation and appointed a steering committee to help support and guide the effort.

A series of public workshops, steering committee meetings and surveys culminated in a draft plan in the late summer of 2011. That draft has been further reviewed, revised and recommended to the Board of Aldermen by the Planning and Zoning Board and Historic Preservation Commission.

The proposed goals for the plan are:

- Protect New Bern's historic resources.
- Expand designation, recognition, and participation to include more diversity.
- Increase awareness and education about New Bern's history, resources, and preservation.
- Identify and increase the resources for preservation and build capacity among partners.
- Review and improve existing municipal preservation program infrastructure and implementation.
- Develop policies to address development including infill, parking, and height issues.

Mary Ruffin Hanbury will be on hand to present the final draft plan and help respond to questions. Attached are the key excerpts from the plan. The complete document is located in the lower right hand corner of the City's webpage (Historic Preservation Plan).

Please contact me at (252) 639-7581 if you have any questions or need additional information.

**Requested Action:**

Receive plan presentation, conduct public hearing and adopt the Historic Preservation Plan.