CHAPTER 4 – JOPLIN’S HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM

Joplin has an active historic preservation program that has recognized the significance of the city’s historic buildings and neighborhoods and supported downtown revitalization. Through a series of grants made available by participation in Missouri’s Certified Local Government program, Joplin has documented historic resources and created National Register Historic Districts that have enabled the use of federal and state rehabilitation tax credits by building owners.

Chapter 4 of the preservation plan outlines recommendations for strengthening Joplin’s historic preservation program through the role of the Historic Preservation Commission. The plan seeks to broaden the city’s preservation program by coordinating it with community development activities and applying it in new ways.

The role of the Historic Preservation Commission is to monitor and help facilitate the city’s historic preservation program’s use to the benefit of residents and property owners. The Historic Preservation Commission promotes recognition of the large number of historic resources within the city and how they contribute to Joplin’s quality of life.

Chapter 4 focuses on monitoring and coordinating all nine of the preservation plan’s goals presented in Chapter 3, Preservation Approach, by applying traditional historic preservation programs, tools, and methodologies to their implementation where possible and appropriate. The chapter’s
recommendations are based on six broad strategies, each of which is included in the recommendations that follow:

- Strengthen Joplin’s existing historic preservation program by continuing to creatively and effectively implement provisions of the Historic Preservation Ordinance;
- Continue to inventory and document Joplin’s historic resources in coordination with neighborhood revitalization strategies;
- Monitor the condition of historic resources city-wide and how they are impacted by public and private activities;
- Provide information and guidance on historic resources and community character to city leaders, boards, commissions, stakeholders, and staff;
- Focus on ways to improve the treatment of historic properties by property owners city-wide; and
- Promote public interest in and appreciation of Joplin’s history and historic resources through partnership programs with stakeholders.

### 4.1 Joplin’s Historic Preservation Commission

The City of Joplin initiated a city-wide historic preservation program in 1986 when it adopted a historic preservation ordinance and became a designated Certified Local Government (CLG). As outlined in Chapter 3, the CLG program is a federal program managed in Missouri by the Department of Natural Resources’ State Historic Preservation Office in cooperation with the National Park Service. Established by Congress in 1980, the program is a preservation partnership between local, state and national governments focused on promoting historic preservation at the grassroots level.

The requirements for participation in the CLG program include enacting a historic preservation ordinance, appointing a preservation commission, conducting an ongoing survey and inventory of historic properties, and conducting public outreach and education. Benefits include access to federal grants specifically designated to support local preservation planning and access to technical assistance provided by the Missouri State Historic Preservation Office and National Park Service.

Implementing a historic preservation program at the local level is the best means of encouraging the preservation and appropriate treatment of historic resources within a community. Designation as a CLG recognizes that a community has demonstrated the commitment and capability to implement historic preservation planning at a professional level.

Through the local program, the community and its residents determine what is important and the nature and extent of the protection to be given to specific historic resources. Most important is the local program’s ability to engage businesses and residents to broaden recognition of the importance of historic resources to community character and to encourage and support historic preservation through private sector initiatives.
Joplin’s Historic Preservation Program

The purpose of Joplin’s Historic Preservation Ordinance is to promote the educational, cultural, economic, and general welfare of the community by:

- Providing a mechanism to **identify and preserve** the historic and architectural characteristics of Joplin representing elements of its history;
- Fostering **civic pride** in the beauty and accomplishments of the past as represented in Joplin’s landmarks and historic districts;
- Conserving and improving the **value of property** designated as landmarks or within historic districts;
- Protecting and enhancing the attractiveness of the city to home buyers, tourists, visitors, and shoppers, and thereby supporting and promoting business, commerce, industry, and **providing economic benefit to** the city; and
- Fostering and **encouraging preservation**, restoration, and rehabilitation of structures, areas, and neighborhoods and thereby preventing future urban blight.

As evidenced in the 2008 Multiple Resource Documentation Form prepared for Joplin as well as in the city’s 1990 Preservation Plan, the presence of historic building and landscape resources is extensive throughout the community. Practically every neighborhood over fifty years of age in Joplin is of significance to the city’s historical development and could be recognized as a National Register or local historic district. Programs and concepts outlined in the Historic Preservation Ordinance could be applied to most residential and commercial neighborhoods, and most buildings and landscape features within neighborhoods would be considered contributing to its historic character.

The Historic Preservation Ordinance can therefore be considered applicable throughout Joplin and can provide a basis for city-wide community revitalization. Historic preservation revitalization strategies have already been applied to Downtown Joplin and are currently being applied to the historic Murphysburg neighborhood. Historic preservation strategies can be extended to other older neighborhoods as well, and the Historic Preservation Commission can play an important role in their revitalization.

**Survey and Documentation**

Since adoption of the Historic Preservation Ordinance in 1986, the City of Joplin has taken advantage of CLG grants to document and revitalize historic resources. In 1988, a comprehensive historic resource survey was undertaken of the city’s downtown core, from Pennsylvania Avenue on the east to Wall Street on the west (four blocks wide) and from 1st Street on the north to 10th Street on the south (nine blocks long). The original intent was to create a National Register Historic District for the entire area. However, due to funding constraints, five separate smaller National Register Historic Districts were created between 2006 and 2011.
for portions of the larger area to support downtown revitalization by qualifying for the use of rehabilitation tax credits by property owners.

In 2006, the core of the larger area along Main Street was designated as a Local Historic District, known as the Sunshine Lamp District. Proposed construction projects within the district undergo review by the Historic Preservation Commission in accordance with established design guidelines to preserve and enhance the historic character of Joplin’s Main Street corridor.
In 2008, a Multiple Property Documentation Form was prepared for the City of Joplin that is important in providing the historic context for recognition of the significance of Joplin’s many historic buildings and neighborhoods. Almost any historic building in the city can find its place and identify its significance within the framework of the Multiple Property Documentation Form.

In 2012, a comprehensive historic preservation survey was undertaken for the Murphysburg residential neighborhood west of downtown. In 2015, a portion of the surveyed area was designated as a National Register Historic District. The area has also been designated as a Local Historic District. The City has also designated eleven significant individual buildings as local Landmarks.
The Difference between National Register and Local Historic Districts

National Register Historic Districts are different from Local Historic Districts. National Register Historic Districts are reviewed and designated upon request by the Missouri State Historic Preservation Office and National Park Service in accordance with a nationwide process as discussed in Chapter 3. Local Historic Districts are established by Joplin City Council through a process outlined in Joplin’s Historic Preservation Ordinance.

Listing on the National Register is purely an honorary recognition and does not place any obligations or restrictions on the property owner. Designation as a National Register Historic District does not give the federal, state, or local government any ownership or regulatory controls with respect to a property.

However, designation as a National Register Historic District provides the benefit of enabling property owners to use federal and state rehabilitation tax credits for construction projects rehabilitating their historic buildings as outlined in Chapter 3. Rehabilitation tax credits can be an important financial incentive in facilitating community revitalization, as has been the case in Downtown Joplin.

In contrast, Local Historic Districts are created to promote historic preservation by allowing design review of proposed construction projects in accordance with established design guidelines. The design review process encourages the use of appropriate best practices for historic preservation to preserve and enhance the character of the district.

The designation of National Register and Local Historic Districts has been instrumental in the revitalization of Downtown Joplin.
Historic Preservation Commission Responsibilities

Joplin’s Historic Preservation Commission has the responsibility to identify historic resources significant to the city’s history and character and to encourage their preservation and appropriate treatment. The Commission accomplishes this by overseeing the implementation of the city’s local historic preservation program outlined in this plan.

Joplin’s Historic Preservation Ordinance created the Historic Preservation Commission and gives it the powers and duties necessary to create and implement the city’s local historic preservation program, including:

- Conduct ongoing surveys to identify historically and architecturally significant properties, structures, and areas;
- Recommend the designation of properties or structures as Landmarks;
- Recommend the designation of Local Historic Districts;
- Make recommendations for the marking of streets and routes from one Landmark or Local Historic District to another;
- Advise property owners on the preservation, rehabilitation, and reuse of Landmarks and properties within Local Historic Districts;
- Nominate Landmarks and districts to the National Register of Historic Places;
- Inform and educate the citizens of Joplin on the history and architectural heritage of the city;
- Review and approve applications for work to be undertaken on Landmarks and properties within Local Historic Districts;
- Develop design guidelines for work to be undertaken on Landmarks or properties within Local Historic Districts;
- Review zoning amendments of applications for special use permits or zoning variances for Landmarks or properties within Local Historic Districts;
- Administer property or easements on behalf of the city;
- Testify before boards and commissions on matters affecting historically and architecturally significant properties;
- Confer recognition upon the owners of Landmarks or properties within Local Historic Districts;
- Develop a preservation component in the general plan of the city;
- Review the city’s zoning ordinance and recommend amendments; and
- Undertake any other action or activity necessary or appropriate to the implementation of its powers and duties or to implement of the purpose of the ordinance.

The Historic Preservation Commission should participate actively in city government and be integral to city activities, policies, and programs. As an advisory body, the Historic Preservation Commission should make sure that other municipal entities have the information and guidance they need to make informed decisions about actions that may have an impact upon historic areas, buildings, structures, and sites.
The Historic Preservation Commission should be active in city planning initiatives. The city’s abandoned historic railroad lines, for instance, have the potential to become a network of community trails through open space and trail planning.

The Historic Preservation Commission should work closely with City Council, the Planning and Zoning Commission, and any other board or department that is likely to have an impact on the physical character of the community. It should make recommendations to these bodies on issues related to historic preservation and advocate for the appropriate treatment of historic resources.

Based upon powers and duties listed above and the six strategies outlined at the beginning of this chapter, recommendations for Historic Preservation Commission activities are organized in this chapter under four topical headings:

- Inventory and Documentation;
- Monitoring Historic Resources;
- Designation of Historic Resources;
- Design Review;
- Information and Guidance to Boards and Commissions; and
- Public Outreach.

Recommendations for the operation of the Historic Preservation Commission in recognizing and addressing its roles and responsibilities are outlined here.
**RECOMMENDATION 4.1.A:** Clearly delineate the responsibilities of Historic Preservation Commission members.

- Prepare a **summary of the responsibilities** of members of the Historic Preservation Commission and expectations for their leadership and involvement in serving.

- Conduct **regular monthly meetings** of the Historic Preservation Commission to review ongoing issues and to determine courses of action when needed. Prepare an agenda that lists issues of concern organized by the city entity through which the issue is being addressed.

- Maintain a spreadsheet with a **running list of projects** and issues under consideration by city boards and commissions affecting historic resources. Include subdivision and land development projects under review by the Planning and Zoning Commission. Note the status of each project and dates by which action is required.

- Organize **assignments for members** for ongoing work of the Commission. Assign members to be liaisons to other city boards and commissions. Assign members to follow developments related to particular projects of interest or concern.

- Create **subcommittees** for special issues and ongoing projects that require sustained work over a period of time. Consider establishing subcommittees for inventory and documentation, monitoring of historic resource conditions, and public outreach.

- Expect Historic Preservation Commission members to **become informed** about the history of Joplin and the city’s historic resources. Expect members to **become educated** about historic preservation best practices and to attend periodic training sessions. Expect members to **participate** in the monitoring of historic resource issues and conditions, to **be engaged** in city affairs, and to **be effective ambassadors and advocates** for preservation and the appropriate treatment of the city’s historic resources.

**RECOMMENDATION 4.1.B:** Organize the Historic Preservation Commission to engage city boards and commissions and be informed of city affairs.

- Maintain a list of **city boards and commissions**, their meeting times, current membership, and contact information. Confirm Historic Preservation Commission assignments as liaisons (discussed above). **Attend meetings** and **cultivate relationships** with the members of other boards and commissions.

- Retain a **professional consultant** experienced in historic preservation to be on call to advise the Historic Preservation Commission on issues as they arise as well as with respect to special projects.
Have the Planning staff obtain the agendas and minutes of other boards and commissions, maintain them in files, and provide them to Historic Preservation Commission members on an ongoing basis.

Grants and technical assistance obtained through the Missouri State Historic Preservation Office have been used to survey historic buildings in Downtown Joplin.

RECOMMENDATION 4.1.C: Maintain an ongoing relationship with the Missouri State Historic Preservation Office as a Certified Local Government. Take advantage of State Historic Preservation Office programs and support implementation of the State Historic Preservation Plan.

- Continue to meet requirements of the Missouri Certified Local Government Program. Consult with State Historic Preservation Office staff responsible for the CLG program at least twice a year to review conditions and programs in Joplin. Take advantage of the technical assistance, advice, and support they provide.


- Consult with State Historic Preservation Office staff on survey and mapping of historic resources in Joplin. Review and obtain recommendations and support for new surveys to be undertaken.
- Participate as an interested party in Section 106 and other state and federal environmental review processes in Joplin managed by the State Historic Preservation Office.

- Continue to apply for Historic Preservation Grants to support survey, documentation, planning, and other historic preservation projects in Joplin.

**RECOMMENDATION 4.1.D:** Undertake special projects to be completed over the long term as recommended in this preservation plan or as otherwise determined.

- Create a yearly work plan for projects to be undertaken or overseen by the Historic Preservation Commission. Prioritize projects with the assistance of Planning staff taking need, time limitations, and budget into consideration. Monitor progress on projects over the course of the year.

**RECOMMENDATION 4.1.E:** Prepare an annual report for City Council and the Planning and Zoning Commission reviewing the condition of historic resources in Joplin.

- Monitor the progress of implementation of this Historic Preservation Plan on an ongoing basis. Consult with other city boards, commissions, and staff involved in different aspects of its implementation. Work with local stakeholders and neighborhood groups in implementing aspects of the plan that relate to their interests and activities. Report on progress in the annual report to City Council.

### 4.2 INVENTORY AND DOCUMENTATION

The City of Joplin has undertaken historic preservation surveys of two large areas within the city, Downtown Joplin in 1988 and and the Murphysburg neighborhood in 2012. There is need to continue the surveying of historic neighborhoods as an ongoing, long-term initiative. Use the 2008 Joplin Multiple Property Documentation Form as a base for documentation and assessment. Survey of Joplin’s historic neighborhoods should be coordinated as an aspect of neighborhood planning (see Chapter 6).

**RECOMMENDATION 4.2.A:** Continue to document and improve information on Joplin's historic resources. Coordinate with and make information accessible for neighborhood planning.

- Support local historians, students, and organizations such as the Joplin Museum in undertaking research on Joplin’s history. Develop research contexts on topics of particular importance and interest within which more detailed studies could be undertaken. Organize, coordinate, and digitize research papers. Support publication.
Continue to undertake and expand the **survey of historic resources** by neighborhood city-wide using Missouri State Historic Preservation Office survey forms and methodologies. Continue to use CLG grants and professional consultants to undertake historic resource surveys. In consultation with the State Historic Preservation Office, prioritize historic neighborhoods to be surveyed over time.

Coach and support neighborhood associations and local neighborhood **volunteers** to undertake historic resource surveys as part of neighborhood planning and support initiatives.

Include historic resource surveys as layers in Joplin’s city **GIS database**. Identify individual historic properties in the GIS database. Work with Planning staff and State Historic Preservation Staff to assign attributes to the database that would be useful in neighborhood planning. Consider attributes such as building date, type, style, construction, integrity, and condition.

The large majority of Joplin’s historic neighborhoods have not yet been surveyed or assessed. The monitoring of threatened buildings and resources needs to be an ongoing process.
4.3 MONITORING HISTORIC RESOURCES

The Historic Preservation Commission should undertake an ongoing, long-term program of monitoring the condition of historic resources throughout Joplin and identifying threats to their integrity. Monitoring involves both being aware of activities that are being undertaken throughout the city on an ongoing basis and undertaking a systematic process of review and documentation.

RECOMMENDATION 4.3.A: Maintain an ongoing awareness of activities that are being undertaken throughout Joplin that might negatively impact the preservation and integrity of historic resources.

- Maintain contact and communication with city boards and commissions as outlined in recommendations above. Be aware of issues and timeframes within which actions will be taken. Try to anticipate issues that may arise with respect to historic resources before events proceed too far along.

- Stay informed of local affairs by reading the local newspaper, joining local organizations, and receiving newsletters and publications.

- Attend meetings of neighborhood associations on a periodic basis. Maintain a list of contacts for neighborhood associations and cultivate relationships with their representatives.

- Be open to contact with local residents with concerns about historic resources. Be on call to speak with and meet residents who raise concerns.

RECOMMENDATION 4.3.B: Undertake a systematic, long-term program of monitoring the condition of historic resources throughout Joplin.

- Maintain a list of historic resources that are threatened due to vacancy, inappropriate use, lack of maintenance, or demolition by neglect. Monitor their condition on a regular basis.

- Identify areas of increased potential threat to historic resources. Monitor conditions of historic resources within each area of the city on a rotating basis covering all areas within a three-year period. Digitally photograph threatened resources in these areas from the public way and maintain photographs in the survey files of the Commission. Include areas to be monitored in a given year in the Commission’s yearly work plan.
4.4 DESIGNATION OF HISTORIC RESOURCES

The Historic Preservation Ordinance authorizes the Commission to designate significant historic resources as Landmarks and significant historic areas as Local Historic Districts. Such designations should be promoted as an honor to be achieved due to the special significance, quality, and meaning of the resource to the city and the community.

The designation of additional Landmarks and Local Historic Districts is a long-term objective that can be achieved over time. Landmarks are individual properties of special significance to the community at large. Local Historic Districts are historic areas and neighborhoods that have achieved a particular level of identity and organization. Special programs and incentives should be developed to recognize and reward Landmarks and Local Historic Districts.

Joplin’s Carnegie Library is a Landmark of particular community-wide significance.

RECOMMENDATION 4.4.A: Continue to designate significant historic properties as Landmarks in accordance with the city’s Historic Preservation Ordinance.

- Prepare a list of properties of city-wide public significance that could be designated as Landmarks in Joplin. Focus on properties of public use and interest such as schools, social centers, theaters, historic churches, stores, and other sites that serve as public gathering places.

- Prepare a list of properties of special historical significance that merit designation as Landmarks. Such properties might include industrial, manufacturing, and transportation sites whose role and significance is no longer widely known and that might be threatened.
- **Prioritize** the lists and consult with property owners on the possibility of designation. **Work with owners** to recognize and designate properties over time.

- Create a program for the **recognition** of existing and potential Landmarks. Include public presentations and educational events on the history of specific properties and how they relate to larger themes of Joplin history. Include special tours of historic properties. Use the resources as the focus of ongoing research and public outreach.

**RECOMMENDATION 4.4.B:** Continue to designate significant historic neighborhoods as Local Historic Districts in accordance with the city’s Historic Preservation Ordinance.

- **Work with neighborhood associations** and the city’s Neighborhood Services Division as outlined in Chapter 6 to highlight and promote the history and historical significance of specific neighborhoods.

- Create a program for the **recognition** of historic neighborhoods. Include public presentations and educational events on the history and historical development of specific neighborhoods. Include special tours and events hosted and conducted by neighborhood associations for other residents of the city.

- **Promote designation** as a Local Historic District as an honor and special recognition to be achieved over the long term. Create special services to be provided to Local Historic Districts through the Neighborhood Services program.

**RECOMMENDATION 4.4.C:** Identify properties and historic districts that should be listed on the National Register of Historic Places as an ongoing, long-term initiative.

- Develop a prioritized list of potential National Register Historic Districts in Joplin. Following the completion of surveys of specific historic neighborhoods, consider the preparation of **National Register nominations** for the neighborhoods. Work with neighborhood associations and residents on the potential for nomination. The preparation of National Register nominations is valuable in providing information and professional level evaluations of significance whether or not the listing process is completed.
4.5 DESIGN REVIEW

Designation as a Landmark or Local Historic District includes the responsibility of undergoing design review for proposed construction projects. The purpose of the design review process is to promote change that preserves and enhances historic character. Design review of construction projects proposed for Landmarks and Local Historic Districts is performed as a task of the Historic Preservation Commission.

For Landmarks, design review helps ensure that resources of special public significance are preserved and appropriately treated. For Local Historic Districts, design review protects neighbors and neighboring properties from possible inappropriate changes that could negatively impact the historic character of the neighborhood as a whole.

Design review is particularly important in commercial areas and has been a successful component of downtown revitalization in Joplin’s Sunshine Lamp District along Main Street. Design guidelines have been prepared for the Sunshine Lamp District for the benefit of both property owners and reviewers.

Design review should be a supportive process that engages property owners and designers in a positive way. Chapter 3 outlines the principles of historic preservation and design review as embodied in the Secretary of the Interior’s Guidelines for Rehabilitation. Early consultation with Planning staff and the Historic Preservation Commission for projects undergoing design review is encouraged.

Design review in Joplin’s Sunshine Lamp District has been an important component in support of downtown revitalization.
RECOMMENDATION 4.5.A: Use the design review process to strengthen the identity, historic character, and economic prosperity of commercial Local Historic Districts.

- Ask applicants to identify a building’s historic fabric before beginning the design process.
- Emphasize the preservation and appropriate treatment of authentic historic building fabric in rehabilitation projects.
- New construction should be appropriate to the historic character of the building but should be contemporary in design.
- Emphasize quality and creativity in all aspects of rehabilitation projects in commercial Local Historic Districts.

RECOMMENDATION 4.5.B: Use the design review process to support neighborhood revitalization in residential Local Historic Districts.

- Help homeowners identify and appreciate the character-defining features of the particular form and style of their residences.
- Emphasize the preservation and appropriate treatment of authentic historic building fabric in rehabilitation projects.
- Encourage repair rather than replacement of historic features and materials, such as original windows and wood siding and detailing.
- Encourage maintenance techniques appropriate to the specific historic materials of a building as recommended in preservation literature.

Joplin’s parks are historically significant landscapes and feature many historic resources. The Historic Preservation Commission should provide advice and support when appropriate.
4.6 INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

As discussed above, the Historic Preservation Commission should participate actively in local government and be integral to local government activities, policies, and programs. The Historic Preservation Commission is an advisory body to City Council and other city boards and commissions on issues affecting historic resources and community character. The Commission should make sure that other municipal entities have the information and guidance they need to make informed decisions about actions that may have an impact upon historic buildings, neighborhoods, and sites.

The preservation of Joplin’s remaining brick sidewalks, stone curbs, and other historic neighborhood features needs to be coordinated through the Public Works Department, an example of the need to work with other boards, commissions, and city departments.

RECOMMENDATION 4.6.A: Provide information, guidance, and advice to City Council, boards, commission, committees, and departments in the City of Joplin on issues related to historic preservation and community character.

- Where a property involves historic resources, the Historic Preservation Commission should provide information and prepare written recommendations on historic preservation aspects of the project to the Planning and Zoning Commission or other body for their consideration. Historic Preservation Commission members should make a verbal presentation of their information and recommendations at Planning and Zoning Commission or other review meetings.

- For projects involving significant historic resources or difficult preservation issues, retain a professional historic preservation consultant to advise and assist the Historic Preservation Commission and
Planning and Zoning Commission in assembling information and making recommendations.

**RECOMMENDATION 4.6.B:** Take a cultural landscape approach to historic preservation interests city-wide. Focus not just on buildings but on the historic landscape and neighborhood character.

- Consider historic buildings within their neighborhood contexts. Work to enhance the overall character of neighborhood landscapes as a way to provide an appropriate setting for historic buildings, increase property values, and to encourage property owners to take good care of the historic buildings.

**4.7 PUBLIC OUTREACH**

Building public interest and support for historic preservation in Joplin is important to the mission of the Historic Preservation Commission. The Historic Preservation Ordinance states that the Commission’s duty is “to inform and educate the citizens of Joplin concerning the historic and architectural heritage of the city by publishing appropriate maps, newsletters, brochures, and pamphlets, and by holding programs and seminars.”

Engaging the public and helping residents learn about the places where they live is the best way to gain support for historic preservation, neighborhood revitalization, and enhancing community character.

Chapter 8 of this plan, *Joplin’s Stories*, outlines recommendations for implementing a city-wide interpretive presentation for residents and visitors. The Historic Preservation Commission should be a lead partner in this endeavor. In addition, the Historic Preservation Commission should consider the following recommendations for public outreach focusing on building awareness and providing technical assistance to residents and local groups interested in historic preservation.

**RECOMMENDATION 4.7.A:** Collaborate with and support local organizations such as the Post Foundation, Joplin Museum, and Joplin Historical Society in undertaking research, producing publications, and offering programming related to Joplin’s history.

- Maintain a close working relationship with the Post Foundation, Joplin Museum, and Joplin Historical Society. Develop a yearly calendar of projects, events, and activities in which each organization contributes within its interest and capabilities.

**RECOMMENDATION 4.7.B:** Provide information and technical assistance to residents on the maintenance and appropriate treatment of historic buildings and landscapes.

- Develop a page on the city’s website that provides information on the history of Joplin, Joplin’s historic resources, and the maintenance and treatment of historic buildings and landscapes. Feature the web page as
a resource for residents who own historic buildings. Include links to publications such as the 2008 Joplin Multiple Property Documentation Form, surveys, and National Register nominations.

Guidelines and technical assistance on home improvements and the appropriate treatment of historic building fabric can be provided through neighborhood engagement.

- Provide links on the website to resources such as Preservation Briefs published by the National Park Service through its online Technical Preservation Services with practical information on the appropriate maintenance and treatment of historic building fabric. Publish and promote the availability of the website.

- Establish relationships with neighborhood associations providing consultation, support, and technical assistance to residents on matters related to the appropriate treatment of historic buildings and landscapes. Identify local and regional contractors and consultants who are qualified to provide such technical assistance. Establish a small fund to reimburse qualified consultants for technical assistance services.

- Offer workshops, programming, and consultation for neighborhood associations and the owners of historic residences on the appropriate maintenance and treatment of historic building fabric.

- Partner with the Chamber of Commerce, qualified local contractors, and Missouri State Historic Preservation Office in offering technical training
to small contractors on the appropriate maintenance and treatment of historic building fabric. Include a listing of contractors that have successfully completed the training for access by the public.

- Present annual awards in historic preservation for work on historic buildings and landscapes and in community involvement with respect to historic preservation.

Joplin’s history is a catalyst for neighborhood identity and engagement.