



June 20, 2023

Subject: Rehabilitation of Historic Properties

Dear Historic Property Owner,

The City of York and its citizens value the rich history and beauty of York's many iconic structures as they contribute to the unique atmosphere of our vibrant community. As a property owner in the Historic District, we thank you for choosing to own property in our community and sharing in the responsibility of preserving our City's past. The main purpose of this letter is to share news, serve as a reminder and provide information that will aid you in the preservation and compliance of your property in relation to the Ordinance Provisions that govern property standards in the Historic District.

The purpose of the Historic District Overlay is to enhance all proposed development in the district and to preserve and maintain the heritage of the City. This is achieved through a standardized Certificate of Appropriateness process by the Board of Architectural Review for **ALL** exterior improvements, modifications, or construction. Refer to the *Historical District Construction Design Standards* and *Historical Downtown Façade Redesign Standards* that are available on our website, www.yorksc.gov, and visit the planning department tab under "Departments" for download and review. Also, the "Owning Property Within the City of York's Historic District" Brochure can be found by visiting the City's website as well.

Our Planning Department team is here to assist you and answer questions during regular business hours regarding questions and permit applications to modify the exterior of structures within the historic district. Lastly, the City has several resources that can aid you in the preservation and maintenance of your property, which is the *Special Tax Assessment program* that allows owners to lock in their assessed value for ten years upon making approved improvements to a historic district home or building and the *Façade Improvement Grant program* to assist building owners and businesses in the downtown area with eligible improvements.

Finally, the City has begun the historic district wayfinding signage project, which is a total investment of \$100,000 that is to be completed in the coming months.

Thank you again for accepting the responsibility of preserving our past to improve our future.

Sincerely,

Dalton Pierce, MPA
City Manager