

Capitol Planning Commission 2012 Annual Report



Capitol Complex from the 2010 Master Plan

October 23, 2012

Date: October 17, 2012

To: Mr. Michael Marshall, Secretary of the Senate
Mr. Charles Smithson, Chief Clerk of the House

I am pleased to submit the Capitol Planning Commission's Annual Report for 2012 to the Legislature. If you have any questions, please contact Mike Carroll, Director of the Department of Administrative Services and Secretary of the Capitol Planning Commission.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Catherine S. Brown", is written over a horizontal line.

Catherine Brown, Chair
Capitol Planning Commission

**The Capitol Planning Commission is authorized under
Chapter 8A.371—378 of the Code of Iowa.**

“It shall be the duty of the commission to advise upon the location of statues, fountains and monuments and the placing of any additional buildings on the capitol grounds, the type of architecture and the type of construction of any new buildings to be erected on the state capitol grounds as now encompassed or as subsequently enlarged, and repairs and restoration thereof, and it shall be the duty of the officers, commissions, and councils charged by law with the duty of determining such questions to call upon the commission for such advice.

“The commission shall, in cooperation with the director of the department of administrative services, develop and implement within the limits of its appropriation, a five-year modernization program for the capitol complex.

“The commission shall annually report to the general assembly its recommendations relating to its duties under this section. The report shall be submitted to the chief clerk of the house and the secretary of the senate during the month of January.”

—Code of Iowa, Chapter 8A.373

All capital projects on the capitol complex shall be planned, approved, and funded only after considering the guiding principles enunciated in any capitol complex master plan adopted by the commission on or after January 1, 2000. At a minimum, the extent to which the proposed capital project does all of the following shall be considered:

- a. Preserves and enhances the dignity, beauty, and architectural integrity of the capitol building, other state office buildings, and the capitol grounds.*
- b. Protects and enhances the public open spaces on the capitol complex when deemed necessary for public use and enjoyment.*
- c. Protects the most scenic public views to and from the capitol building.*
- d. Recognizes the diversity of adjacent neighborhoods and reinforces the connection of the capitol complex to its neighbors and the city of Des Moines.*
- e. Accommodates pedestrian and motorized traffic that achieves appropriate public accessibility.*

—Code of Iowa, Chapter 8A.376

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Vision

The vision set forth in the Capitol Complex Master Plan is for a Capitol Complex that exemplifies in setting and function the dignity it embodies in spirit and purpose.

2012 Members of the Capitol Planning Commission

- Catherine Brown, Chair
- William Dikis, Vice-Chair
- Elizabeth Isaacson
- Allison Dorr Kleis
- Carl Voss
- Robert Scott Weiser
- Senator Matthew McCoy
- Senator Pat Ward*
- Representative Dennis Cohoon
- Representative Ralph Watts
- Mike Carroll, Secretary
- Director, Department of Administrative Services

** The Commission was sorry to learn of the passing of Member Senator Pat Ward on October 15, 2012. The Commission appreciates Senator Ward’s contributions and wishes to convey condolences to her family.*

This year the Capitol Planning Commission met on January 4, April 18, July 19, and October 17. For further information, contact Department of Administrative Services staff member Jennifer Moehlmann, 515-725-0454.

Executive Summary

This 2012 Annual Report summarizes the work of the Commission during the last year and provides planning recommendations for the future of the Capitol Complex. Please note that Iowa Code Chapter 8A.373 provides that before any physical changes are made to the state capitol complex "it shall be the duty of the officers, commissions, and councils charged by law with the duty of determining such questions to call upon" the Capitol Planning Commission for advice.

The Capitol Planning Commission members, as well as DAS staff, welcome the opportunity to discuss future projects at the request of any legislator.

Building Renovation, Restoration and Placement

" ... the placing of any additional buildings on the capitol grounds, the type of architecture and the type of construction of any new buildings to be erected on the state capitol grounds ... and repairs and restoration thereof ..."

Master Plan Update

The guiding principles of the master plan are contained with the following topics:

- Concept
- Approaches and Gateways
- View Corridors and Streets
- Access and Circulation
- Landscape Framework
- Monuments and Public Art
- Site Amenities
- Signs and Visitor Information
- Buildings
- Architectural Design
- Utilities
- Parking
- Transit
- Pedestrian and Bicycle Circulation
- Sustainable Design Principles

The Commission began working on developing more detailed standards for building identity and parking signs and site amenities, as recommended by the master plan, and applied those draft standards to the new building identity sign for the Oran Pape Building and the new light fixtures for the exterior of the Grimes Building.

In the next year, the Commission plans to finalize the standards for building identity and parking signage and site amenities and work on standards for wayfinding signage. In future years, the Commission will develop more detailed site development implementation documents such as a landscape plan and a site amenities plan.

Other Related Capitol Complex Projects

In 2012, the Capitol Planning Commission meetings provided a forum for the Department of Administrative Services and others to discuss on-going improvement issues and events on the Capitol Complex, including discussions on the following:

- 707 East Locust (IACCT Building) and 709 East Locust (Row House) — Legislative language in 2011 allows for the sale or demolition of these properties and the Commission strongly supports removal of these two buildings as part of the final phase of the West Capitol Terrace project. The Commission supported a plan to sell and relocate the 709 East Locust Row house and demolish the 707 East Locust building, but difficulties arose negotiating a cost-effective solution, and discussions are on-going. The Commission is anxious to conclude discussions and achieve removal of the two buildings by the end of 2012.

Monuments and Site Features

“... advise upon the location of statues, fountains and monuments ...”

Proposals for Monuments and Site Features

The Site Features Committee makes recommendations to the Commission on proposed monuments and issues relating to monuments and site features on the Capitol Complex. In 2012, the Committee and the Commission considered three monument issues, which are described further below. In the next year, the Commission will consider an offer to install a B-cycle Station.

Relocation of the Peace Officer’s Memorial

The Commission approved final plans for the Department of Public Safety (DPS) to move the Peace Officer’s Memorial from its current site north of the Lucas Building to a site on the hillside east of the Oran Pape Building. Work to move the monument began in Summer 2012 and is expected to be complete by the end of 2012, with additional amenities, such as benches, added in future years.

Japanese Bell

The State of Iowa was a recipient of 20 young Sakura cherry blossom trees as part of the 100th Anniversary of Japan’s gift of a thousand cherry trees to Washington, D.C. in 1912. The trees were sponsored by the Japanese Embassy, through its Chicago Consulate office. These Sakura Centennial trees culminate the restoration project headed by Iowa Sister States in 2010 and 2011. The Cherry Blossom Trees were planted by DAS in the Spring of 2012 and are expected to bloom in 2015. A celebration of this gift of trees was held in conjunction with the annual celebration festival on May 12, 2012.

Teacher Boulder

The Iowa Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance (IAHPERD) approached the Commission with a request to place a boulder on the West Capitol Terrace celebrating professional educators. Iowa has a long history of great educators including James Van Allen, George Washington Carver, Carrie Chapman Catt; but there are thousands more that have made a difference and continue to do so on a daily basis. The Commission approved the request, and the Teacher Boulder was placed in proximity to the Bryant Boulder. Engraved in the Boulder is one word: TEACHER. The Boulder was dedicated on May 6, 2012.



Holocaust Memorial

The Blank Family Foundation has proposed construction of a landscape feature on the West Capitol Terrace to memorialize Iowa’s gracious welcoming of survivors of the Nazi Holocaust, to tell some of their story and the story of the Iowa Soldiers who liberated the concentration camps in 1945.

In 2012, the Blank Family Foundation presented the final proposal for the memorial to the Site Features Committee and the full Capitol Planning Commission. On the recommendation of the Site Features Committee, the Commission reviewed and approved the site plan, materials, and the aesthetic concept for images and the text content of the proposed memorial. The Holocaust Planning Team continues to align project design and anticipated construction costs. Design refinements continued through the October Commission meeting.



Construction is expected to be completed in 2013.

Modernization Program for the Complex

“... develop and implement ... a five-year modernization program for the capitol complex.”

FY2013 Infrastructure Funding Requests and Appropriations

During the 2012 legislative session, the Commission was informed of funding proposals for Capitol Complex needs. In particular, the Commission had supported the projects listed below as top priorities; however, none of these projects received funding.

CPC Rank	Category	FY2013 Infrastructure Offers for Capitol Complex	FY2013
01	C	Building Repair vs. Replacement Assessment for IWD, Jessie Parker, Grimes, Fleet ¹	\$0
02	B	Monuments and Artwork Repair and Restoration Program	\$0
03	C	Capitol Interior and Exterior Restoration Continuation	\$0
04	B	Capitol Complex Parking Lot Improvements	\$0
05	C	West Capitol Terrace Phase 3	\$0
06	C	Capitol Complex Court Avenue Bridge Replacement	\$0

*CATEGORIES

A	Health, Life Safety, Critical Functional Improvements
B	Functional Improvements
C	Master Planning, Desirable, Aesthetic Needs
D	Out-Year Requests
E, F	Non-Infrastructure Requests
0	Operational Needs

¹ This FY2013 request for building assessments was changed in the FY2014 request to focus on relocation planning for fleet operations. DAS will request funding for additional building assessments in future years, following the Master Plan recommendations.

FY2014 Infrastructure Funding Requests and Rankings

The Commission has been briefed on the Five Year Infrastructure Plan developed by the Department of Administrative Services for FY2014 through FY2018. With regard to offers in the Infrastructure Plan that address health and safety, access for disabled persons, and major and routine maintenance, the Commission defers to the technical expertise of DAS staff and the wisdom of the Legislature. However, if such offers also address preservation and enhancement of “the dignity, beauty, and architectural integrity” of the Capitol Complex, those offers are included in the Commission’s priorities.

Of particular interest to the Commission and their top priorities are those projects that strongly support the goals of the Commission and the Master Plan. Those projects included in Fiscal Year 2014 of the DAS Five Year Infrastructure Plan are:

CPC Rank	Category	FY2014 Infrastructure Offers for Capitol Complex	FY2014
1	A	Wallace Building Renovation Provides funding to design the renovation of the Wallace State Office Building, including planning for relocation of the occupants. [Additional in FY2015 - \$46,800,000]	\$3,900,000
2	B	Capitol Interior and Exterior Restoration Continuation Provides funding for continued restoration of the Capitol. FY14 items include installing lighting under the rotunda glass floor, adding HVAC control to the rare book room, adding lightning protection, exterior building repairs, and driveway, parking and sidewalk improvements. [Additional in FY2015-FY2017 - \$20,587,300]	\$2,200,000
3	A	Historical Building Exterior Wall and Skylight Repairs This request will address the remaining repairs to the exterior granite wall panels in FY2014 and begin to repair the skylight system to eliminate water leaks in FY2015. \$1.2 million was appropriated in FY12 for initial critical repairs to the exterior granite wall panels and facility planning efforts. [Additional in FY2015 - \$625,000]	\$625,000
4	A	Ola Babcock Miller Building Stone Restoration Provides funding for architectural / engineering services and construction costs to repair stone failure on the south steps and landings located at the Ola Babcock Miller Building.	\$201,000
5	B	Capitol Complex Parking Lot Improvements Provides for design and renovation services to pave existing gravel parking lots, including associated building demolition, add storm water detention as required by Iowa code and repair or repave parking lots and to enhance the appearance and comply with Iowa code. [Additional in FY2015-FY2016 - \$2,000,000]	\$3,865,000

***CATEGORIES**

A	Health, Life Safety, Critical Functional Improvements
B	Functional Improvements
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E, F	Non-Infrastructure Requests
0	Operational Needs

The Commission also wishes to identify its continuing interest in other important priorities for the Capitol Complex. The following are projects included in Fiscal Years 2015 through 2018 of the DAS Five Year Infrastructure Plan:

CPC Rank	Category	FY2015-FY2018 Infrastructure Offers for Capitol Complex	FY2014
1	C	Relocation Planning for Fleet Operations Phase 1 of the 2010 Capitol Complex master plan calls for moving Fleet operations from the location at 301 and 307 East 7th Street and demolishing the existing buildings to allow for completion of the West Capitol Terrace. [FY2016-FY2017 - \$3,500,000]	\$0
2	C	West Capitol Terrace Phase 3 Provide for final phases of development of West Capitol Terrace including site improvements to the intersection of E. Locust and E. 7th Streets, entrance monument and walls on the west side of mall, fountain and additional plantings to create a major public green space at the west entrance to the Capitol Complex. [FY2016-FY2017 - \$2,250,000]	\$0
3	C	Monuments and Artwork Repair and Restoration Program Provides funding to finish cleaning and restoring the statue atop the Soldiers & Sailors monument in FY2014 and provide for annual cleaning and maintenance of the monuments on the Capitol Complex that do not have an endowment for annual maintenance. This will also provide funding for repair, restoration and conservation of interior and exterior artwork on the Capitol Complex that has been funded by the 1/2% Art in State Buildings Program. [FY2016-FY2018 - \$287,500]	\$0
4	C	Capitol Complex Property Acquisition and Related Services Provide funding for property acquisition and services related to property acquisition at the Capitol Complex including appraisals and environmental assessments. Area of particular interest, as identified in the 2010 Master Plan, is the area bordered on the south by Des Moines Street, on the north by Lyon Street, on the west by Penn Ave., and on the east by E. 9th. [FY 2016-FY2018 - \$3,000,000]	\$0
5	C	Capitol Complex Court Avenue Bridge Replacement Provides design and construction services for replacement of the bridge spanning Court Avenue south of the Capitol and leading to the Judicial Branch site. [FY2016-FY2017 - \$6,900,000]	\$0

*CATEGORIES

A	Health, Life Safety, Critical Functional Improvements
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0	Operational Needs
