Lawrence Preservation Alliance

P.O. BOX 1073 • LAWRENCE, KANSAS 66044

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June 5, 2006

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City Commission:

The Lawrence Preservation Alliance has learned that the Planning Department is proposing a program improvement for the 2007 and beyond budget to hire an additional planner to expand the department's expertise and effectiveness in the areas of Urban and Preservation Planning.

The need for additional staff in the areas of urban and preservation planning is characterized by the fact that in the last few years the areas and properties that are listed as city, state and national historic sites or areas have expanded several fold. The result is an increase in the effort required by the Planning Department to provide expertise and assistance to Lawrence citizens. The historic downtown planning requirements are growing with the review of the use and improvements to the Carnegie Library and the proposals before the city for a new library. The planning staff input to the Certificate of Appropriateness Review and Certified Local Government Review used by the Historic Resources Commission is paramount to the effectiveness of that commission.

The LPA strongly supports the approval of the proposed program improvement to add an urban and preservation planner to the Planning Department budget.

Sincerely,

President, Lawrence Preservation Alliance