

Edwards,Michelle

FILED

**From:** Keri Yousif <keriyousif@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, July 4, 2025 5:12 AM  
**To:** outside email  
**Cc:** Edwards,Michelle  
**Subject:** EXTERNAL -GO 2, 2025

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Mayor Sakbun

I am emailing to ask you to support the historic preservation ordinance (GO 2, 2025). There are a number of reasons why Terre Haute needs a preservation ordinance, but I want to focus on the city's own, stated commitment to such preservation. That commitment is clearly outlined and repeated in the released final version of the "See You in Terre Haute 2025 Community Plan." Consider the following statements, taken directly from the plan:

Page 25:

- "Promote and preserve the historic Downtown area as the city's community center and gathering place.
- Encourage enhancement of current buildings and new buildings that blend with historic and/or neighborhood character through architectural review."

Page 36:

"This plan recommends that the City and County strengthen and enforce design standards for non-residential development projects to ensure high-quality, lasting projects that are compatible with the community's desired character. This recommendation will be a critical strategy for attaining both the community's economic development strategies and its tourism goals. These standards should apply to all new development and redevelopment in the City and the County. Within these areas, likely to be dominated by both medium and large-scale

buildings, conventional “best practice” design standards are applicable. All of these new standards should be incorporated into the zoning regulations and strictly adhered to during site plan review and/or division processes.”

Page 38:

- “•Capitalize on historic neighborhoods and neighborhood preservation.
- Establish high design standards in the zoning ordinance for buildings, landscaping, signage, exterior lighting, building materials and parking lots.
- Ensure zoning and building ordinances are promoting new buildings that are of high quality, and that blend with the character of existing development.
- Protect and enhance unique aesthetic qualities through the use of zoning standards requiring high-quality landscaping, building design, signage, lighting and public furnishings.”

Page 39:

- “• Collaborate with historic neighborhood adoption programs to address historic preservation within the community around infrastructure concerns.

Page 40:

- “• All building façades containing architectural details and of similar quality as the front building façade.

All of these stated goals are directly related to a historic preservation ordinance. In fact, in many cases, only a historic preservation ordinance can logistically enable the pursuit of the goals outlined: “high design standards,” “best practices,” “address historic preservation.” As you know, the proposed historic preservation ordinance, used throughout Indiana, *is* the state’s best practice.

I ask that you support GO 2, 2025 as a direct action item in response to the goals stated in the See You in Terre Haute 2025 Community Plan. As the plan suggests, a focus on design standards, zoning, and historic preservation is not antithetical to development, it is *integral* to development. Please support GO 2, 2025.

Keri Yousif