



In September 2020, the City of Albert Lea completed a Historic Preservation Chapter before beginning the Comprehensive Plan update process. Albert Lea has a Commercial Historic District which is listed in the National Register of Historic Places and protected locally by the city due to its economic and cultural value. The district includes 91 buildings, which are largely preserved through a careful, concentrated, and thoughtful approach to historic preservation. Generations of citizens in Albert Lea, including city staff, officials, boards and committees, and local champions and experts, alongside state and federal support, have worked for, expended resources and time, and contributed towards these 91 historic assets.

In the past 15 years, the City of Albert Lea invested over \$2,250,000 into buildings and public improvements within the Commercial Historic District. In 2017, Albert Lea hosted a state-wide historic preservation conference, and in 2019 hosted the Governor's Fishing Opener.

This completed Historic Preservation Chapter establishes objectives, policies, and actions seeking to build on the recent 15 years of success in the Commercial Historic District by providing a framework for historic preservation planning efforts in Albert Lea for the next 15 years. These objectives, policies, and actions are intended for execution during two proposed working periods – the near (2021–2031) and far (2026–2036) futures.

The full chapter and list of actions can be found in Appendix B of this document.