

**WINNESHIEK COUNTY HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION**  
201 West Water Street  
Decorah, Iowa 52101

July 10, 2019

Llew Jenkins, Chair  
Decorah Main Street Steering Committee  
105 Court Street  
Decorah, IA 52101

*Dear Llew Jenkins,*

The Winneshiek County Historic Preservation Commission endorses the proposed Decorah Main Street application. With Decorah's picturesque natural setting and the existing historical integrity of the downtown business district, revitalization of the commercial district and the creation of an economic development plan would provide major positive impact on the city's future.

While endorsing this application, the commission does have some reservations:

- The process appears to have been rushed
- The *Decorah Main Street Steering Committee* has not achieved a broad base of community support
- Failure to include major stakeholders early in the process such as the Chamber of Commerce, Winneshiek County Development, Winneshiek County Supervisors, and the Mayor weakens credibility of the project
- Non-endorsement by these four above-mentioned entities may weaken the application
- Lack of a clearly defined proposed budget; e.g., leaving in the county's financial support in the budget even though the Board of Supervisors declined

Sincerely,



Steven Johnson, Chair  
Winneshiek County Historic Preservation Commission

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