REPORT TO THE HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

DATE: November 17, 2026

SUBJECT: Case #262214 – 128 N. Main Street Request for a Certificate of Appropriateness for exterior alterations

INTRODUCTION:

- Main Street Collierville (MSC) is requesting a Certificate of Appropriateness (CofA) for modifications related to the installation of two-dimensional mural depicting the Town's first fire truck on the north side of Fire House #1, which is oriented to a public alley.
- The subject property is owned by the Town of Collierville.
- The 0.85-acre property is zoned CB: Central Business District and is surrounded by other CB zoning districts.

BACKGROUND:

- Funding will be provided by Main Street Collierville – utilizing proceeds from the Pennies for Preservation campaign held in conjunction with Collierville Schools – along with a Town of Collierville grant and private donations.
- The project is estimated for completion by January 2027 and construction will not require any road closures.
- The Historic District Commission (HDC) considered this application in October 2027 but deferred the request so additional information could be provided (see Exhibit 11).

KEY POINTS:

1. Fire House #1 was constructed circa 1946 and is located inside the Local Historic District, but just outside of the National Historic Register District (see Exhibit 4).

- The one-story commercial building is around 80 years old and may have historical significance; however, alterations were made in 1967 and 1982.
- According to the 2004 Historic Resource Survey, the building is eligible for the National Register.

2. The artwork is a representation of the Town's first firetruck (see Exhibit 6).

- This project is a collaborative effort between the property owner, the Town of Collierville, the MSC Activate the Alley Committee, and the MSC Design Committee.
- The artist is Dan Knowles.
- The artwork was inspired by a historical photograph provided by the Collierville Fire & Rescue Department (see Exhibit 5).
- The artwork will be constructed from 1/8" Aluminum Composite Material (ACM).
- The artwork will be in a "cut-out" style (not rectangular) and will measure 14 feet in length and 5 feet 4 inches in height, centered between the first window and the flagpole on the north side of the building, with the base parallel to the bottom of the window.
- The final image on the wall is still subject to changes.

3. The artwork will be installed onto a square aluminum tubing mount (1 ½ inch x 1 ½ inch x 1/8 inch) which will be affixed to the wall (see Exhibit 7).

- The mount will be installed to the wall using #10 x 50mm Fischer DuoPower wall anchors embedded into the mortar joints approximately every two feet and #14 x 2-inch stainless steel screws.
- The artwork, which will be on a 1/8-inch ACM panel will be attached to the mount using #10 x 12-inch stainless steel Torx security screws, approximately every 16 inches.
- Overhead LED lighting fixtures will be installed for nighttime visibility. These fixtures will be of a gooseneck variety and made of alloy steel in a matte black finish. (see Exhibit 8).
- Town Administration has given permission to use electricity from Fire Station 1 to power the LED lighting.
- Signage for a stop on the Main Street Historical Tour will also be installed, in the form of a QR code, as found in other parts of downtown (see Exhibit 9).

4. The HDC's Design Guidelines provide little guidance on murals but provide direction on "best practices" for temporary changes.

- Both the Historic District Guidelines and the Zoning Ordinance are silent on public art murals, but the three documents, along with the Secretary of Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation, can be interpreted to support this mural request as a work of art, and not signage.
- The artwork should be considered appropriate because of its location on a "secondary façade" within the Historic District, the process used to create it, and its location on a façade of a non-contributing structure.
- Per the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation, the installation of the metal panels will be done in such a manner, if removed in the future, the essential form and integrity of the property will be unimpaired (see Exhibit 10).

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approval of the exterior alterations as the artwork will be located on a secondary façade and installation will not cause irreversible damage to the existing building.

ATTACHMENTS:

Exhibit 1 - Vicinity Map - 9-2-26.pdf
Exhibit 2 - Conditions of Approval - 9-17-26.pdf
Exhibit 3 - Cover Letter & Correspondence - 9-1-26.pdf
Exhibit 4 - TN Historical and Architectural Resource 2004 - 9-2-26.pdf
Exhibit 5 - Historical Photograph - 8-31-26.pdf
Exhibit 6 - New Rendering w Dimensions - 10.26.26.pdf
Exhibit 7 - Panel Installation - 9-2-26.pdf
Exhibit 8 - Lighting Information - 9-1-26.pdf
Exhibit 9 - Walking Tour QR - 9-1-26.pdf
Exhibit 10 - Secretary of Interior Standards - 9-2-26.pdf
Exhibit 11 - September 26 HDC Minutes - 11-10-26.pdf

PROPOSED MOTION:

To approve the Certificate of Appropriateness for exterior alterations to 128 N. Main Street, subject to the conditions in Exhibit 2.