BRIDGE 9/18/16 L. ERICKSON

The City of River Falls is looking to add another site to the National Register of Historic Places. An extensive Historical and Architectural Resources Survey was recently completed. The survey revealed places in River Falls that could benefit the city by being added to the Register. The Historic Preservation Commission decided to add a bridge. Lisa Erickson has the story.

MP3 RUNS: 1:18 O/C (….FOR FALCON NEWS SERVICE, I’M LISA ERICKSON)

LISA ERICKSON: THE CITY OF RIVER FALLS IS MOVING FORWARD WITH ADDING THE GLEN PARK SUSPENSION FOOTBRIDGE, ALSO KNOWN AS THE "SWINGING" BRIDGE, TO THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES. TONY STEINER, THE CITY PLANNER FOR RIVER FALLS, EXPLAINS.

TONY STEINER: WE ALREADY HAVE ONE BUILDING IN THE PARK THAT'S ON THE NATIONAL REGISTER. WE HAVE, AT THE UNIVERSITY, WE'VE GOT NORTH AND SOUTH HALL THAT ARE ON THE REGISTER. SO WE START TO BUILD THIS CORE THAT WE CAN PUT INTO OUR WALKING TOUR AND IT'S ALSO SOMETHING THAT CAN ATTRACT PEOPLE TO COME AND VISIT RIVER FALLS 'CAUSE WE ARE INTO TOURISM.

LISA ERICKSON: HEIDI HEINZE, THE CHAIR OF THE RIVER FALLS HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION, SAYS GETTING A SITE ON THE REGISTER IS NOT AN EASY TASK.

HEIDI HEINZE: WE APPLIED FOR A GRANT FROM THE STATE OF WISCONSIN HISTORICAL SOCIETY TO HELP US TO APPLY FOR GETTING ON THE NATIONAL REGISTER. TONY STEINER FACILITATED THAT AND WE DID RECEIVE A GRANT THAT PAYS FOR US TO HIRE A CONSULTANT. WE'RE HOPING THAT WITHIN A YEAR WE'LL HAVE COMPLETED THE APPLICATION PROCESS. I BELIEVE THEY MEET FOUR TIMES A YEAR TO AWARD WHO MAKES IT ON THE REGISTER.

LISA ERICKSON: HEINZE DOES NOT ANTICIPATE ANY OTHER COST ASSOCIATED WITH GETTING THE BRIDGE ON THE REGISTER AND SAYS THIS ISN'T COSTING THE TAXPAYERS ANYTHING. FOR THE FALCON NEWS SERVICE, I'M LISA ERICKSON.

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