

Proposal seeks Historic District Designation for Downtown Falls City

(KTNC) - Work is underway to have Falls City's downtown area listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Falls City Main Street Executive Director Eric Barr and Elizabeth Chase with the Nebraska Main Street Program presented information about the process during a meeting last week.

Barr outlined the history of the National Register of Historic Places and the process for having Falls City's downtown area listed on the register.

Chase explained some of the benefits to owners of buildings in a historic district. She says there are tax incentives, both state and federal, for building owners in historic districts who renovate their buildings. (play audio :56 "increase in the tax.")

For those who do not take advantage of the tax incentives, Chase says there are no restrictions as to what one can do with a building in a historic district. (play audio :16 "want to.")

The area being considered for nomination to the National Register includes all of downtown Falls City, from 13th to 20th, and Harlan Street to Chase Street. It takes in the Richardson County Courthouse and Prichard Auditorium.

Chase says Falls City has some "awesome resources" to take advantage of. (play audio :16 "historic district.")

The process to have downtown Falls City listed on the National Register is in its beginning stages. Barr says he hopes to have the process completed in six months to one year.