Statewide Historic Preservation Plan – Meeting in A Box Worksheet

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Task #1

1) Top three things that threaten historic preservation:
   a. Housing needs, including affordability
   b. Public (including lawmakers) does not value historic preservation highly
   c. Other: Education issue, i.e., the public does not understand the value of historic preservation or the rules associated with it. They also do not have a clear understanding of resources available for preservation.

2) Much more needs to be done to explain the positive economics and long-term value of historic preservation. Residents (particularly politicians) get wrapped up in the positive emotional impact of quick fixes to current social issues, e.g., affordable housing with anything goes ADU regulation, without considering how to creatively regulate to preserve existing assets. Lessons from The Economics of Historic Preservation by Donovan Rypkema should be shared along with creative solutions orchestrated by other communities. There are many ways to "manage the bees without destroying the hive".

Task #2

1) Rank order:
   a. The preservation of cultural identity/heritage
   b. Ensuring future generations have access to historical resources
   c. Economic vitality
   d. Good urban design
   e. The preservation of sacred places or space
   f. The ability for individuals to learn about Minnesota's history
   g. The ability to conduct historical research
   h. The ability to teach others about Minnesota's history
   i. Allows for community focused public spaces (Placemaking)

Task #3

A statewide preservation plan provides a "vision" that should be supported by Minnesota residents (including politicians) and tax dollars. It should feed into a nationwide preservation plan that is supported by the Federal government. Local politicians should be made aware of its content and the metrics to measure its success. They should be informed how they personally contribute to (or diminish) its success and how to locate resources for creative solutions to local issues.