



Press Release

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For immediate release

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Special Business District Supports Missouri Theatre Project

Unanimous Board Vote Favors New Center for the Arts

Columbia— Yesterday the Board of the Special Business District (SBD) unanimously voted to support the Missouri Theatre Center for the Arts project.

The SBD Board cited several reasons for their support including the economic benefit a restored theatre would bring to *The District*, the importance of restoring a historic building unique to Mid Missouri, and the plan to incorporate the Columbia Art League Gallery into the project. In addition, the board was impressed by the significant fundraising efforts of the Capital Campaign Committee headed up by Kevin Gibbens and Axie Hindman.

The SBD Board has long supported efforts of all *District* property owners to make physical improvements to their buildings, make their property more productive and take advantage of the state and federal historic tax credits. The downtown area was recently named a Historic District and placed on the National Register of Historic Places.

The Columbia Special Business District is an organization dedicated to beautification, business recruitment, economic development, historic preservation and other issues. Its sister organization, the Central Columbia Association, is a voluntary merchants' association dedicated to promoting shopping, dining and entertainment.