



Capitol Area Architectural and Planning Board

Freeman Building
625 Robert Street North
Saint Paul, MN 55155
651-757-1500
<https://mn.gov/caapb/>

Date: May 23, 2025
To: Capitol Area Architectural and Planning Board members
From: Tina Chimuzu, Planner Fellow, Capitol Area Architectural and Planning Board (CAAPB)
CC: Erik Cedarleaf Dahl, Executive Secretary, CAAPB
Peter Musty, Principal Planner & Zoning Administrator, CAAPB
RE: **AGENDA ITEM #4 - Application to Propose a New Commemorative Work: Emergency Medical Services Line of Duty Death Memorial (EMS LODD)**

Emergency Medical Services Line of Duty Death Memorial (EMS LODD)

History and Description from the Application by Adam S. Harvey, President & Founder of MN State EMS LODD Memorial Foundation.

Emergency Medical Services (EMS) personnel dedicate their lives to saving others, often at great personal risk. Yet, their sacrifices are frequently overlooked. The Minnesota State EMS Line of Duty Death (LODD) Memorial foundation seeks to honor these brave individuals with a permanent memorial on the Minnesota Capitol grounds. This memorial will serve as a tribute to EMS professionals who have lost their lives in service, fostering public appreciation and providing a space for reflection and remembrance.

The Minnesota State EMS LODD Memorial foundation introduces several new and unique elements to the Capitol grounds that are currently absent from existing memorials:

First, while the Capitol grounds currently honor fallen police officers and firefighters through their respective memorials, there is no recognition of EMS personnel who have died in service. This memorial completes the representation of Minnesota's emergency response triad, offering a comprehensive tribute to all first responders who protect our communities.

Second, this memorial uniquely represents the intersection of emergency response and healthcare, reflecting Minnesota's distinctive role in advancing pre-hospital medical care. This aspect of public service is not currently represented in any Capitol ground memorial.

Third, the memorial will be the first to specifically incorporate tribal medical service representation through the integration of the 11 tribal seals, acknowledging the sovereign nations' contributions to emergency medical care within Minnesota's borders.

Minnesota's evolution as a leader in emergency medical services represents a unique legacy of innovation and excellence in pre-hospital care. The state's journey in emergency medical services tells a story of continuous advancement and dedication to saving lives.

1960s - Foundation Years: During this pivotal decade, Minnesota established itself as a pioneer in emergency medical care. In 1966, Minnesota became one of the first states to develop organized ambulance services following the National Highway Traffic Safety Act. This early adoption demonstrated our state's commitment to public safety. By 1969, the University of Minnesota had established one of the nation's first paramedic training programs, setting a standard for professional emergency medical care that would influence the entire country.

1970s - Pioneering Period: The 1970s marked a period of remarkable achievement in Minnesota's EMS history. In 1970, Minnesota hosted the first National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians (NREMT) Paramedic Examinations, establishing nationwide certification standards that continue to influence EMS education today. The state further demonstrated its leadership in 1973 by implementing the first statewide trauma system, creating a coordinated approach to emergency care that would save countless lives. In 1977, the creation of the Minnesota Emergency Medical Services Regulatory Board (EMSRB), now known as the Office of EMS, established a framework for oversight and continuous improvement of emergency medical services.

1980s-Present - Innovation Era: Minnesota's commitment to excellence in emergency medical services continued to grow through the modern era. The development of the Minnesota Mobile Emergency Care System in 1985 brought advanced medical care to remote areas of our state. In 1991, the implementation of the first statewide EMS communications network enhanced coordination and response capabilities. The state led the way in developing protocols for rapid heart attack response in 2001, setting new standards for cardiac care. More recent innovations include the implementation of community paramedicine programs in 2015 and the creation of pioneering COVID-19 mobile response units in 2020.

Staff Acceptance of Application, Review, and Preliminary Findings

On January 9, 2025, CAAPB staff received an application from Adam S. Harvey, President & Founder of EMS LODD Memorial Foundation, to add a new commemoration for emergency medical services personnel who lost their lives in the line of duty.

CAAPB staff reviewed the application per Minnesota Rules 2400.2703, Subpart 3, Item A, and deemed it to be incomplete. The applicant was advised of the determination via memo on January 16, 2025, including information on what was missing in the application. The applicant resubmitted the request on February 19, 2025, and after a second review, CAAPB staff found it to be complete on March 7, 2025.

The application from Adam S. Harvey is included in the packet, along with a detailed description of the proposal.

According to the rules, once CAAPB determines the application to be complete, Board staff must review and analyze whether the application for new commemorative artwork meets all of the conditions in M.R. 2400.2703, Subpart 2, and prepare a written report of the staff's findings.

*Subp. 2. **Conditions for adding new artwork.** The board must consider displaying new commemorative artwork in the Capitol area if the artwork meets all of the following conditions:*

- A. there has been documented public support of the artwork;*
- B. the artwork has lasting statewide significance for Minnesotans;*
- C. the artwork is respectful of the diversity of Minnesotans;*
- D. viewing the artwork provides a rich experience to broaden the understanding of Minnesota's shared history, heritage, and culture; and*

Therefore, CAAPB staff conducted a review of the application and observed that:

- **Regarding Condition A:** The applicant states that the memorial has garnered significant support from various stakeholders across Minnesota, and that he has secured endorsements that demonstrate broad-based community backing for this important project:
 - Letter of support from the Office of EMS (formerly EMSRB) - received January 2025
 - Letters from families of fallen EMS personnel
 - Endorsements from EMS agencies statewide and organizations, including 137 signatures from Arrowhead EMS Association.

Staff Analysis: The Applicant has provided an extensive list of letters of support, approximately 15 -16 from organizations including from MN Office of EMS, more than 200 from EMS personnel, and letters for a deceased family member. Therefore, there is documented evidence of public support for the artwork.

- **Regarding Condition B:** The Applicant describes Minnesota’s journey in emergency medical services and its pioneering role within field,
 - 1960s – Being one of the first states to develop organized ambulance services following the National Highway Traffic Safety Act.
 - 1970s – Minnesota hosting the first National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians (NREMT) Paramedic Examinations, establishing nationwide certification standards.
 - 1970s – Coordinated the first statewide trauma system, creating a coordinated approach to emergency care.
 - The Applicant also highlights the contributions from Tribal EMS services including
 - The Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community integration of modern emergency medicine and community-based care.
 - The Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe’s lead in rural emergency response.
 - In describing the diversity aspect, the Applicant mentions the statewide reach of EMS services including both metro and rural areas and contributions from the diverse EMS workforce.

Staff Analysis: The Application has positioned the proposal with a statewide perspective, pointing out the state’s achievements and their impact on national EMS services, as well as the broad reach of EMS services within the state.

- **Regarding Condition C:**
 - The applicant has described the historically diverse backgrounds of the EMS workforce, including examples of past and current gender and ethnic diversity.
 - The applicant has also included the criteria that will be used in selecting categories of providers for commemoration.
 - The applicant’s design guidelines include a proposition to include 11 Tribal seals within the design as an acknowledgement of the Sovereign nation’s contributions to emergency medical care within Minnesota. The Applicant however acknowledges that the design is subject to determination as the application undergoes the commemorative work process.

Staff Analysis: The application clearly acknowledges the diversity of Minnesotans throughout the application by describing the diversity within the EMS workforce over the years, including mentions of its first female director, first Hmong ENT and the introduction of certification in multiple languages. The applicant also proposes to include the 11 Tribal seals within the design guidelines.

- **Regarding Condition D:** The Applicant mentions the existence of the Firefighters and Police memorial on the Mall and how there is no recognition of EMS personnel. He asserts that this proposed memorial would complete the recognition for Minnesota's emergency response triad on the Capitol Mall, in addition to representing Minnesota's distinctive role in advancing pre-hospital medical care.

Staff Analysis: The applicant highlights the memorial gap that exists on the Capitol mall regarding Minnesota's emergency response commemoration since only the Police and Firefighters are commemorated. The Applicant argues that the inclusion of the EMS Memorial would complete the emergency response triad and therefore broaden the understanding of Minnesota's history, heritage and culture.

Considering the above stated observations, CAAPB staff concluded that, whilst acknowledging the need for verification of historical facts stated in the application, **CAAPB staff determine that so far the request meets all the conditions in Minnesota Rules 2400.2703, Subpart 2.**

Per M.R. 2400.2703, this memo to the Board serves as the required 'report' to the Board on the completed application. The memo and a summary of the addition request are available on the CAAPB website.

Following this determination, CAAPB staff are seeking the Board's affirmation to set a 30-day public comment period and host at least one public meeting to gather input on whether the addition request meets all of the conditions in M.R. 2400.2703, Subpart 2. The public meeting will be hosted, organized, and managed according to M.R. 2400.2703, Subpart 10.

Once the 30-day comment period and public meeting are complete, CAAPB staff will prepare a written summary of the public comments and provide a recommendation to the CAAPB on whether to accept that the application meets all the conditions in Subpart 2 and may proceed to the next step in review process. A majority vote of the full CAAP Board is required to accept the application for addition as complete and therefore affirming the conducting of a site selection study by the Board staff and Architectural Advisors, together with the applicant.

Suggested Board Resolution

The Capitol Area Architectural and Planning Board (“Board”) authorizes its staff to move forward in the CAAPB’s Commemorative Works Rules process regarding the application to add new commemorative artwork to the Capitol Grounds – Emergency Medical Services Line of Duty Death Memorial (EMS LODD), submitted by Adam S. Harvey, President & Founder of MN State EMS LODD Memorial Foundation.

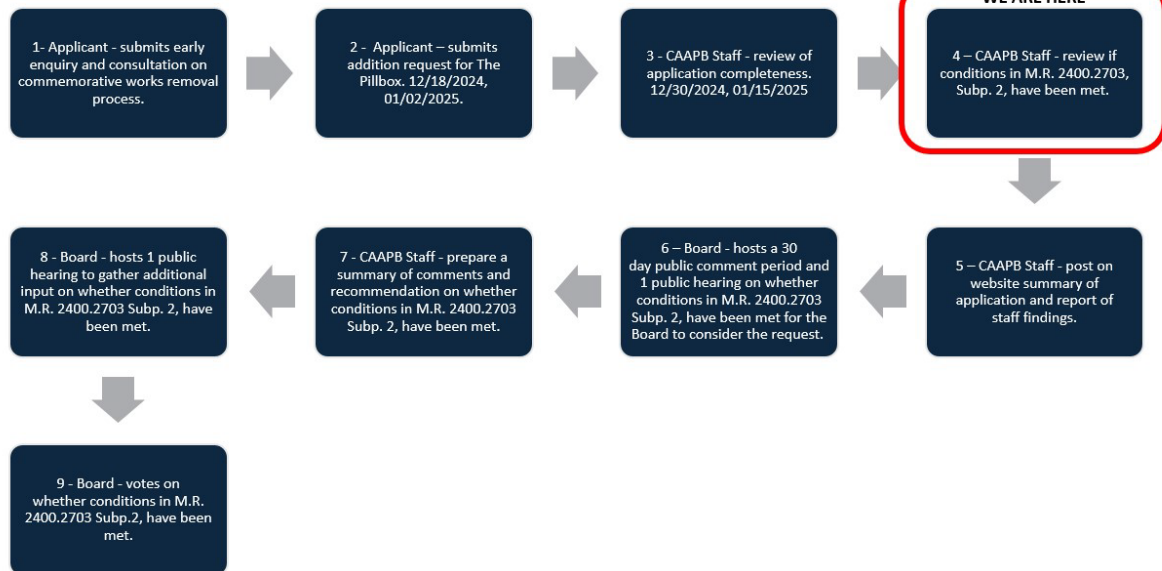
The Board specifically authorize the Board Executive Secretary to:

- Hold a 30-day public comment period and one Public Hearing to gather input on whether the addition request meets all of the conditions in M.R. 2400.2703, Subpart 2.

The Board wishes to further make clear that approval of these intermediate steps in the Rules process does not communicate approval nor disapproval of any portion of the current proposal by the applicant, and approval of these steps does not equate to agreement or judgement as to the veracity of any claim or assertion within the received application.

Application to add a new Commemorative Work process

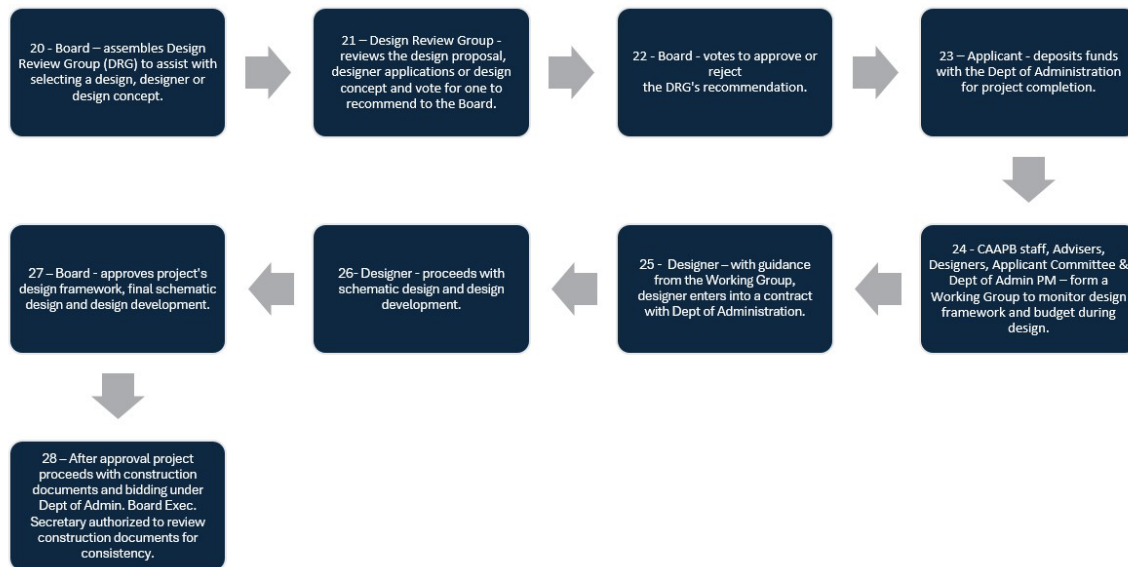
Commemorative Works Addition Process – The EMS Memorial (1 of 3)



Commemorative Works Addition Process – The EMS Memorial (2 of 3)



Commemorative Works Addition Process – The EMS Memorial (3 of 3)



Attachments:

1. **Attachment A: The EMS Memorial Applicant documents** – this includes the Application to add a new Commemorative Work for The EMS Memorial.
2. **Attachment B: The EMS Memorial Application Supporting documents** – this includes various letters of support submitted by the applicant. This attachment is online and can be found by visiting: <https://bit.ly/4kesL96>