Originally opened on April 26, 1926, Union Station will be reopening this fall on September 7. The ribbon cutting will be at 10am and activities will run until noon.

The station was built when Winston-Salem was one of the largest cities in North Carolina and experiencing an industrial boom from tobacco and textiles. Union Station remained the central hub for travel and package delivery until the Great Depression decreased train ridership across the country.

The station regained prominence during World War II when it was used to take soldiers to bases around the Southeast. This would not last as cars took over as the primary form of personal transportation. Union Station stopped daily train service in 1970 and would only run occasional excursions afterward.

Come on September 7 to see the restored waiting rooms and learn about the history of the building and railroads in Winston-Salem. The event will kick off at 9:45am with Winston-Salem University State band, the Red Sea of Sound, playing outside the Excel-sior Street building entrance. Inside there will be exhibits about the station and trains, children’s activities, refreshments, shoe shining, an oral history presentation, and more.

All Aboard!

**Commercial Building Sketch Plan Review**

The Inspections Division of the Planning and Development Services Department will launch a Commercial Building Sketch Plan Review (CBSPR) program on September 27, 2019. This service will be similar to our Planning Sketch Plan Review that has been operating for over 15 years. The purpose of the program is to continue to build strong partnerships with our development partners, allow for interactive discussions with other agencies (Fire, Health Department, Utilities, etc.), increase the overall quality of plan submittals and assist development projects through the process.

As the Planning Sketch Plan Review process has evolved over the years, we believe that the CBSPR process will evolve over time. We are launching this service as a pilot project. We will review and evaluate the needs this service fulfills, and make adjustments to ensure we are offering programs to benefit our customers and add value for our partners and our department. We will initially offer this service one day a month, the last Friday of each month, at 11:00, immediately following the Planning Sketch Plan Review. The CBSPR will meet in the 2nd Floor Conference Room of the Bryce Stuart Municipal Building at 100 E 1st Street, Winston-Salem, NC 27101.

The program will provide 30-minute time slots for new concept projects (generally repurposing existing buildings without a designer involved). If these projects cannot meet the “minimum criteria” listed below, then the CBSPR can only be scheduled after the completion of a Commercial Building Evaluation.

For projects currently in the design phase by a licensed North Carolina design professional or a competent draftsperson, the program will provide a 50-minute preliminary review for 75% completed plans.

The CBSPR will occupy a 2 hour and 30-minute time slot and we will take as many applicants per review session as can be worked into that time. More information about submittal deadlines will be forthcoming but it is anticipated that the deadline will be the Friday, one week prior to the meeting date.

Minimum criteria for submittal include construction type, square footage of building, number of stories, current or intended occupancy type, and whether or not the building has a sprinkler system. All plans will be submitted through the idtPlans portal.

For more information, please contact Perry Williams at 336-747-7464 or Glenn Johnson at 336-727-2328. Please look for more information about this service on our website closer to the September 27 launch date.
The Planning Board is funded jointly by the Winston-Salem City Council and the Forsyth County Board of Commissioners.

CITY-COUNTY PLANNING BOARD - Chris Leak, Chairman; Melynda Dunigan Vice Chair; George Bryan; Jason Grubbs; Tommy Hicks; Clarence R. Lambe, Jr.; Johnny Sigers; Brenda J. Smith; Jack Steelman; Director of Planning & Development Services: Aaron King

CITY OF WINSTON-SALEM - Mayor: Allen Joines; City Council: Vivian H. Burke, Mayor Pro Tempore, Northeast Ward; Denise D. Adams, North Ward; Dan Besse, Southwest Ward; Robert C. Clark, West Ward; John C. Larson, South Ward; Jeff MacIntosh, Northwest Ward; Annette Scippio, East Ward; James Taylor, Jr., Southeast Ward; City Manager: Lee Garrity

FORSYTH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS - David R. Plyler, Chairman; Don Martin, Vice Chair; Fleming El-Amin; Ted Kaplan; Richard V. Linville; Tonya D. McDaniel; Gloria D. Whisenhunt; County Manager: Dudley Watts, Jr.

Historic Marker Applications Due October 31

Applications for historic markers to be placed in the City of Winston-Salem and unincorporated portions of Forsyth County during 2020 are due to City-County Historic Resources staff by 5pm on October 31. Applicants will be required to make a short presentation to the Historic Marker Committee of the Forsyth County Historic Resources Commission during November. Marker awards in the City of Winston-Salem are highly competitive.

Markers are awarded to historic sites, events, and organizations over 50 years old. Recognition of an individual must be based on contributions made more than 50 years ago and must be posthumous. The site, event, organization, or individual may not currently be recognized in Forsyth County with any other marker or program, either public or private. Proposed marker locations must be in a public right-of-way and in public view.

Additional details about the program and application materials can be found online [http://www.cityofws.org/Departments/Planning/Historic-Resources/Historic.Marker.Program](http://www.cityofws.org/Departments/Planning/Historic-Resources/Historic.Marker.Program)

Volunteer for 2019 Community Roots Day on October 19

The 27th annual Community Roots Day will be held on Saturday, October 19, at Griffith Elementary School, 1385 W. Clemmonsville Road, Winston-Salem.

Community Roots Day is a volunteer tree-planting event sponsored by Keep Winston-Salem Beautiful, the Winston-Salem Vegetation Management Department, and the Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Community Appearance Commission. The event begins at 9:00am with registration opening at 8:00am.

To sign-up to volunteer, contact George Stilphen with Keep Winston-Salem Beautiful at georges@cityofws.org or 336-771-5161. Volunteers can also sign-up online at [http://cityofws.org/departments/keep-winston-salem-beautiful/signup](http://cityofws.org/departments/keep-winston-salem-beautiful/signup).

Planning Board 2018-19 Annual Report Available

Each year, the City-County Planning Board adopts an annual report summarizing the work of the Planning Board and staff during the previous fiscal year. The 2018-19 annual report was adopted by the Board in August 2019. Highlights for 2018-19: appointed Aaron King as the new director of Planning and Development Services, following the retirement of long-serving director, Paul Norby; continued work on Legacy 2030 implementation and Phase I of the UDO Update; and significant progress on the first two plans in the Area Plan 3.0 process including recommending adoption of the US 158/Northern Beltway Interchange Plan and drafting the Peters Creek Parkway Growth Corridor Plan.