

PRESS RELEASE



MIKE COOPER
Mayor

CITY OF COVINGTON

317 North Jefferson Avenue
Post Office Box 778
Covington, Louisiana 70434
phone 985.892.1811
fax 985.898.4723
www.covla.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Wednesday, May 13, 2015

**RE: Public Meeting Notice Regarding Old Covington Fire Station
6 p.m. Wednesday, May 27, 2015
Covington City Council Chambers
222 E. Kirkland St.**

The City of Covington will host a public meeting to gather ideas and input relative to the proposed rehabilitation and reuse of the old Covington Fire Station. The meeting is scheduled from 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, May 27 at the City Council Chambers, 222 E. Kirkland Street.

Located in the downtown historic district, the two-story fire station once housed the vehicles, equipment and employees of the Covington Fire Department before the organization moved to its present location on N. Jefferson Avenue in 1972. Since then, the City has used the building sporadically for storage and office space. It is located at 432 N. Theard Street adjacent to the city's water tower and pumping station, both of which are no longer in use.

The public meeting is being held in connection with a feasibility study currently underway to assess the physical condition of the building and to make recommendations for its best use to benefit the community. WDG Architects Engineers of New Orleans is working with City Engineer Daniel Hill, P.E. to complete the study by June 30th.

To gather as much historical information as possible, local residents who remember the fire station from their childhoods are encouraged to attend the public meeting and bring along their old photographs, newspaper clippings and memories to share with the audience.

The 3,000 square foot building has structural problems ranging from weathering and termite damage to an unsupported 2nd floor balcony. Ideas for use that are under consideration include converting the building into a small community center, cultural heritage museum, or for other civic purposes.

"By completing the feasibility study and gathering ideas and input from citizens, we hope to launch a project that will transform the old building into an historic landmark or otherwise viable facility that will be cherished by local residents and serve as an economic engine for the city," Covington Mayor Mike Cooper.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Kelli Moore
Grants Administrator
(985) 898-4717
kmoore@covla.com