

Historic Preservation Commission 2023 Work Session

To: Historic Preservation Commission

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Meeting Date: September 19, 2023

RE: FY2024 HPC Priority Goals

About the Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) Priority Goals

The HPC adopted its mission statement more than 20 years ago.

Round Rock HPC Mission Statement:

To Preserve, Protect, and Promote the City of Round Rock's Historical Resources through Preservation, Public Education, Heritage Tourism and Community Partnerships.

Separate from the HPCs goals, PDS has a preservation program guided by *Round Rock 2030*, the city's comprehensive plan, which includes a **preservation plan**. The preservation plan's policy and implementation strategies and the HPC goals overlap; however, the preservation plan is adopted by City Council and is a broader document encompassing the roles of other groups (staff, nonprofits, public) as well as the HPC.

When the HPC develops priority goals, they should relate to its powers and duties.

HPC Powers and Duties (paraphrasing Code of Ordinance Part III Section 10.66):

- Certificate of Appropriateness
- Historic landmark & district designation
- Partial tax exemption for historic sites
- Renaming city facilities in honor of an individual
- Honoring local citizens or groups (Local Legend)
- Meet Certified Local Government requirements for municipalities (per Texas Historical Commission):
 - Meet at least 6 times per year and conduct meetings in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act;
 - Commissioners and staff must attend at least one preservation-related training per year;
 - Pursue local designation for STHLs, SALs and NRHP properties, and report actions affecting them to the THC;
 - Maintain a system for the survey and inventory of local historic properties;
 - Review and comment on nominations to the NRHP within its jurisdiction;
 - Provide input during Section 106 reviews;
 - File copies of staff and commissioners' resumes with the THC;
 - File copies of all HPC minutes with the THC and complete the CLG Annual Report.

The HPC's annual priorities should identify progress toward the objectives of the Preservation Plan, within the scope of the HPC's Powers and Duties. A copy of the preservation plan is provided in your resource binder and available at roundrock2030.com. Priorities identified at the work session should focus on what the HPC intends to accomplish within the next year.

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The following documents are included in your packets for review in advance of the work session:

Preservation Plan Update – Round Rock 2030 FY2023 Annual Report

Annual update of progress on the implementation strategies outlined in the 10-year Historic Preservation Plan. This document is a draft of just the preservation section of the annual update.

FY2023 Certificates of Appropriateness Log

Log of the Certificates of Appropriateness approved during FY2023. This information was also provided throughout the year in the monthly HPC updates and includes the Certificates of Appropriateness that were administratively approved by staff.

2023 Tax Exemption Ordinance

The City Council passed ordinance O-2023-195 on June 22 adopting the HPC's recommendation regarding the 2023 Partial Property Tax Exemption for Historically Significant Properties without modification.

FY2023 HPC Priority Goals Update:

Brief summary of progress on each of the priority goals adopted for FY2023.

The following are additional items in your packet related to specific 2023 priority goals. These items will be discussed in more detail at the work session.

Inspection reports of city-owned properties

A FY2023 priority goal was to complete an inspection of city-owned historic properties. Reports for the Sansom House and Washington Anderson House are attached. Inspections were not performed for the Stagecoach Inn because it is under construction, or for the Palm House because it will be relocated soon. The Water Tower was not inspected because it is a utility structure and the maintenance items in the tax exemption inspection report are not applicable. The Water Tower is maintained by the Utilities Department; restoration and a lighting upgrade were completed in 2019.

Mortar Repair: A Guide for Historic Property Owners

A FY2023 Priority goal was to host a restoration workshop. Commissioners attending the 2023 Real Places conference were to investigate potential presenters or topics. With no presenters or topics identified, staff prepared a handout and presentation on some of the issues that property owners should be aware of when repairing mortar on their historic buildings.

Draft Land Acknowledgement

One of the FY2023 Priority Goals was to research the development and adoption of a land acknowledgement to read at the beginning of each HPC meeting. **A handout to review and consider draft statements is provided in your packet to work on in advance of the work session.**

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At the work session, staff will review all accomplishments relating to the preservation program over the past fiscal year, including those expressed in the HPC's priority goals for FY2023.

When thinking about priorities for FY2024, consider the following:

- What can the HPC do this year so that it can perform its required functions and duties better?
- What Preservation Plan policies can be implemented with actions that are within the scope of the HPC's powers and duties? The Preservation Plan is comprehensive and includes strategies also suited to other entities, such as staff or nonprofits; however, some HPC goals may be related. – think about how preservation education increases awareness (and therefore compliance) with city preservation code.

At the work session, the Commission will draft a set of priority goals for FY2024. **A worksheet is included in your packet to prepare in advance of the work session.** The HPC will vote to adopt the goals at a subsequent regular meeting.