



UDC OHP Amendments
Task Force Subcommittee Meeting: Landmark Designation Process
July 25, 2019

Attendance

Amy Kastely
Jeff Fetzer
Patrick Christensen
Sarah Gould
Ashley Fairrmond
Ricki Kushner
Vince Michael
Sam Aguirre
Richard Acosta

City Staff

D1 -- Sydell Brooks
D7 – Fred Ramirez
Shanon Miller
Kathy Rodriguez
Cory Edwards
Alma Lozano
Lauren Sage
Jenny Hay

Meeting Notes

Goals

Develop designation process that is fair, equitable, efficient, and legally defensible.

Ideas

- 1) Non-owners may petition the HDRC to recommend and request council resolution to proceed
- 2) Petition requires a certain threshold of support by non-related individuals
- 3) Previously-inventoried sites are scheduled for hearing?
- 4) Non-inventoried sites have more substantial documentation requirements?
- 5) Public hearing must occur within 60 days of owner notification.
- 6) Owner must be afforded every opportunity to attend the public hearing or provide comment.

Work in process for appeal of staff's historic assessment (if done in past five years?)
Instead of non-owner application, use a petition format that demonstrates community interest.
Expedited reviews?

Potential Recommended UDC Amendments

- Update to 35-803, Update to quorum / voting requirements for designation cases where there is not owner consent
- New section in 35-457 to address landmark designation process



Notes

RRHS

- Discussion about fees and zoning change
- Commissioners comments on cultural significance; questions on how to treat cultural significance; what if physical modifications? ex: Cesar Chavez's church, McDonnell Hall in San Jose, a national landmark – is this question separated reviewing the Finding of Historic Significance; reliance on criteria;
- Petition idea
 - o Higher than 10 signatures
 - 30 people? What is the threshold for getting attention from a council person?
 - based on population, radius, based on address or geographically
 - living in the city limits or Bexar county
 - fair access to the council
 - Any petition from organization is taken seriously; no specific threshold
 - Ensure that the community has a voice
 - o Timeline question: 30 days to review demo. Groups given 30 day notice.
 - o How many designated properties against owner's desire? 2 in last 5 years; but takes time and money; how to minimize time?
 - o If haven't been previously inventoried, then different threshold
- Question about notifying council
- Demolition delay discussion – not very successful; opportunity for discussion
 - o Cape Cod, Alamo Heights are examples
- Question about if council request of designation
 - o Eastside Churches initiative
- Discussion about proactive requests versus reactionary
- Question about creating NCDs
- Question about murals
 - o Still in consideration
 - o Ex: Chicago's Pilsen district; Calle 24 in SF there is an ordinance; LA has a fee involved
 - o Easement, deed restriction
- Completeness review question
- Question if applicants are encouraged to reach out to the property owner?
- More discussion on neighborhood association sign-off; what if it's a larger/different organization, such as Conservation Society, Chamber of Commerce, etc; concerns about complicating the process; Vince mentioned SACS by-laws that president could sign petition then discuss as subsequent board meeting

Next steps:

- OHP to research petition best practices and how we might count organizational support