Update to Chapter 18 – Historic Preservation

Public Workshop
Tuesday, March 8, 2016
Tonight’s Agenda

5:30 PM – Introductions & Presentation

5:50 – 6:50 PM – Workshop Activity

6:50 – 7:00 PM – Next Steps & Adjourn
Presentation Outline

• Background

• Chapter 18 Overview

• Issues Being Explored

• Break-Out Sessions
Background

• City’s first Historic Preservation Plan adopted September 2015:
  – Component of EnvisionCR, the City’s comprehensive plan
  – Guiding policy document for preservation
  – Identifies initiatives to pursue to implement the Plan’s vision
What is Preservation?

• Keeping resources intact for the benefit of future generations
• Maintaining key character-defining features of a property
• Keeping historic structure in active use
• Accommodating change that is appropriate
What are the Benefits of Preservation?

- **Livability and quality of life**
  - Traditional neighborhood design that encourages walking
  - Architecture creates a unique sense of identity

- **Economic benefits**
  - Preservation can add value to properties and neighborhoods
  - Workforce is attracted and retained in communities with a unique sense of identity

- **Environmental benefits**
  - Stewardship of existing building stock reduces environmental impacts
Historic Resources

• The City’s Cultural Resources:
  – 9 National Historic Districts
  – 40 National Historic Landmarks
  – 2 Local Historic Districts
  – 1 Local Historic Landmark

• Buildings and districts are a visual history of more than a century of development, representing more than ten significant architectural styles
Why Update Chapter 18?

- Implements the Historic Preservation Plan
- Ensure consistency and clarity in the process, and explore ways to streamline the process
- Incorporate best practices in historic preservation
- Address concerns raised by HPC, property owners, and other stakeholders
- Help to maintain the historic resources that make Cedar Rapids unique
Chapter 18 Overview

• Historic Review Process:
  – Applicable to properties in the City’s two local historic districts, and local landmarks
  – Properties required to go through historic review process for any exterior modifications that require a building permit
## Historic Review Stats

### 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>No.</th>
<th>%</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Applications Received</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>100%</td>
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<tr>
<td>HPC Approval</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>32%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Administrative Approval</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>68%</td>
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### 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tr>
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<td>100%</td>
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<tr>
<td>HPC Approval</td>
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<td>31%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Administrative Approval</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>69%</td>
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Recent Accomplishments

- HPC liaison provided assistance to property owners to:
  - Modernize an accessory structure; saving it from demolition and preserving historic features
  - Identify options to expand an accessory structure while maintaining the existing roof pitch and cedar shake siding
  - Continually offer cost-saving ideas, such as restoration of wood windows and doors, as opposed to replacement
Chapter 18 Overview

• Demolition Review Process:
  – Applicable to primary buildings 50 years and older city-wide
  – Properties required to go through demolition review process
  – Currently no administrative review process for demolitions
## Demolition Review Stats

### 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>No.</th>
<th>%</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Applications Reviewed</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>100%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Applications Approved</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>88.6%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Applications Placed on Hold</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>11.4%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Holds Released Early</td>
<td>3</td>
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</table>

### 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>No.</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Applications Reviewed</td>
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<td>100%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Applications Approved</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>82.4%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Applications Placed on Hold</td>
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<td>17.6%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Holds Released Early</td>
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Recent Accomplishments

• Relocation of a historically significant home in Wellington Heights
Issues Being Explored

• Historic Review Process:
  – Requiring historic review for all exterior modifications, not just those that require a building permit
  – Expanding administrative permitting
Issues Being Explored

- Demolition Review Process:
  - Allowing for the administrative review of primary structures 50 years and older
  - Adding a review process for accessory structures
  - Adding a review process for partial demolitions
## Anticipated Project Timeline

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Action</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>September 2015</td>
<td>Adoption of the City’s Historic Preservation Plan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct 2015– April 2016</td>
<td>Best Practice Research Stakeholder Engagement Sessions</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 2016</td>
<td>Public Workshop</td>
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<tr>
<td>April / May 2016</td>
<td>Draft Ordinance</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 2016</td>
<td>Public Open House</td>
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<td>June 2015</td>
<td>Draft Ordinance to SHPO for Review</td>
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<tr>
<td>July- October 2016</td>
<td>City Adoption Process</td>
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<tr>
<td>Begin December 2016</td>
<td>Post-adoption Implementation Trainings with City Departments</td>
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Why are we here tonight?

• We need your input!

  – City staff will facilitate break-out sessions
  – Each group needs to identify a note taker and a reporter
  – Ask questions and provide your thoughts and ideas
  – Input provided in the break-out sessions will be used to inform the draft ordinance
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