

Historic Preservation Ordinance Review Committee

Houston Archaeological and
Historic Commission

April 23, 2015



Last changed in 2010

- Removed the 90-day waiver
- Changed the way districts are created
- Added Shall Approve criteria

Since 2010

- More than 1,600 applications for Certificates of Appropriateness
- Greater than 90% approval rate
- Three new historic districts
- 50 new Landmarks
- 9 new Protected Landmarks

Historic Preservation code covers less than .004% of Houston city limits.

The Mayor's instructions:

“to correct and clarify...create greater consistency”

and

“streamlined approval...improved guidance...more efficient/user-friendly process”

and

“do not weaken the protections...refinements to, not an overhaul of”

Committee appointed by the Mayor

HAHC members

- Rob Hellyer
- Douglas Elliott
- Anna Mod

Planning Commission members

- Sonny Garza
- Truman Edminster

2014 Review Committee



Committee meetings were transparent and inclusive:

- Held in the evening in the Annex chambers
- Recorded, streamed, rebroadcast
- Notes and handouts distributed by email to interested parties
- CitizensNet distribution to 7,000
- Public comment at every meeting

Recommendations include, among others:

- Increase Administrative Approvals
- Create Design Guidelines process
- Clarify Shall Approves
- Improve criteria for New Construction
- Revise tax exemption policies and rules
- Improve Appeals process

The next steps

| | |
|------------------------------------|---------------|
| Post Committee Report | April 23 |
| Meet with interested groups | Through May |
| Complete Red-line | Early May |
| Accept for public comment | Through May |
| HAHC public meeting | Early June |
| Close public comment period | After June 10 |
| Final changes to HAHC for approval | June 18 |
| Council Committee: Quality of Life | Late July |
| City Council considers changes | August |

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