



City of Oregon City

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Staff Report

File Number: PC 19-057

Agenda Date: 6/11/2019

Status: Agenda Ready

To: City Commission

Agenda #: 3c.

From: Community Development Director Laura Terway

File Type: Planning Item

SUBJECT:

Historic Review Board Policy Changes

RECOMMENDED ACTION (Motion):

Staff recommends the City Commission review and provide comment on the proposed Historic Review Board policy changes.

BACKGROUND:

Historic Review Board (HRB) Policies were first established in 1988, under the authority of Oregon City Municipal Code (OCMC) 17.40.060, to give staff the ability to approve alterations to historic resources if the policies were met. The policies are meant to provide clear direction to historic property owners who want to gain approval without going before the Historic Review Board. The proposed changes address fences, walls, porches, decks, windows, siding, and solar panels. HRB policies apply to over 550 properties in Oregon City, including all properties in the Canemah National Register District, all designated structures in the McLoughlin Conservation District, and all designated historic Landmarks.

The attached proposed policy changes were approved by the Historic Review Board on May 28th after several months of community engagement and several work sessions. Public outreach for the HRB Policy Updates project included conversations with the McLoughlin Neighborhood Association and Canemah Neighborhood Association, an Open House on April 2, 2019, and an online survey. Information was mailed to all historic property owners and published in the Trail News, as well as on social media and the City website. The results of the outreach are summarized in the agenda materials. Full survey results are attached as well. Proposed policy changes are based on a combination of HRB discussions, community input, and Secretary of Interior guidance documents. The HRB Policies are not codified and therefore do not require a Legislative process or ordinance.

Changes to HRB Policies require adoption by the Board with specific opportunity for comment from the Planning Commission and City Commission. If any changes are requested by either body, the HRB is scheduled to consider changes at the June 25th meeting. The final approved changes will then be sent to the City Commission for approval by resolution on July 17th.