



City of Denton

City Hall
215 E. McKinney Street
Denton, Texas
www.cityofdenton.com

AGENDA INFORMATION SHEET

DEPARTMENT: Department of Development Services

CM: Todd Hileman

DATE: June 20, 2017

SUBJECT

Hold a public hearing and consider adoption of an ordinance designating the property known as the O'Neil Ford Civic Complex, bounded by Withers Street on the north, Bell Avenue on the east, McKinney Street on the south and Austin and Oakland Streets on the west, a historic landmark, under Section 35.7.6. of the Denton Development Code; providing for a penalty in the maximum amount of \$2,000.00 for violations thereof; providing a severability clause and an effective date.

BACKGROUND

O'Neil Ford designed many buildings in Denton, his adopted hometown. Among them are the City of Denton Civic Center (1966) and the City Hall (1967). O'Neil Ford and his firm also designed additions to the Emily Fowler Public Library in 1969 and again in 1980. Also designed by the O'Neil Ford firm in 1965 is the City of Denton Municipal Swimming Pool, though only a few elements still remain of the original design. Acclaimed architecture critic, David Dillon, wrote that O'Neil Ford (1905-1982) was the most influential Texas architect of the twentieth century. Few would venture to argue otherwise.

In July of 1992 the City of Denton officially designated the area, bounded by Withers Street on the north, Bell Avenue on the east, McKinney Street on the south and Austin and Oakland Streets on the west, as the O'Neil Ford Civic Complex. In July 1993, the City Council installed and dedicated a Local Historic Landmark marker in the courtyard on the south side of the City Hall; however, the Planning Division has been unsuccessful in locating the ordinance that would legally designate the Complex as a local historic landmark. The item before you is to consider adoption of an ordinance formalizing designation of the complex. On April 10, 2017, the Historic Landmark Commission voted (8-0) recommending approval to the Planning and Zoning Commission to formally designate the O'Neil Civic Complex as a Historic Landmark. On May 24, 2017, the Planning and Zoning Commission held a public hearing and voted (5-0) to recommend to this body the designation of the O'Neil Ford Civic Complex as a Historic Landmark.

OPTIONS

1. Recommend approval as submitted
2. Recommend approval subject to conditions
3. Recommend denial
4. Continue the item

RECOMMENDATION

The Historic Landmark Commission recommends approval (8-0).

The Planning and Zoning Commission recommends approval (5-0).

Staff recommends that the O'Neil Ford Civic Complex be formally designated a Historic Landmark. This designation is consistent with the goals and objectives of the Denton Plan 2030 and meets the criteria for Historic Landmark Designations as outlined in the Denton Development Code.

PRIOR ACTION/REVIEW (Council, Boards, Commissions)

On April 10, 2017, the Historic Landmark Commission recommended approval the designation (8-0).

On May 24, 2017, the Planning and Zoning Commission recommended approval the designation (5-0).

STRATEGIC PLAN RELATIONSHIP

The City of Denton's Strategic Plan is an action-oriented road map that will help the City achieve its vision. The foundation for the plan is the five long-term Key Focus Areas (KFA): Organizational Excellence; Public Infrastructure; Economic Development; Safe, Livable, and Family-Friendly Community; and Sustainability and Environmental Stewardship. While individual items may support multiple KFAs, this specific City Council agenda item contributes most directly to the following KFA and goal:

Related Key Focus Area: Safe, Liveable & Family-Friendly Community

Related Goal: 4.4 Provide and support outstanding leisure, cultural, and educational opportunities

EXHIBITS

1. Agenda Information Sheet
2. Staff Analysis
3. Draft Ordinance
4. Resolution R92-040
5. Image of Marker installed on July 21, 1993
6. Denton Record Chronicle Article on O'Neil Ford, January 1993
7. May 10, 1993, HLC Minutes - Consideration of Wording of Marker
8. Letter from City Manager agreeing that Complex should be designated
9. Letter from Attorney for Woman's Club to consider inclusion of that building in the complex
10. October 5, 1993, Memo to HLC regarding options for review
11. 1993 O'Neil Ford Civic Complex Map
12. October 11, 1993, HLC Minutes
13. August 17, 1993, Designation of Complex Memo
14. Current Map of the area
15. Responses to notice
16. Planning and Zoning Meeting Minutes from May 24, 2017
17. Presentation

Respectfully submitted:
Munal Mauladad
Director of Development Services

Prepared by:
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Historic Preservation Officer