



City of Denton

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

AGENDA INFORMATION SHEET

DEPARTMENT: Department of Development Services

ACM: Cassey Ogden

DATE: July 8, 2024

SUBJECT

Receive a report, hold a discussion, and give staff direction regarding the current historic tax exemption program and potential program changes to better encourage the designation and/or preservation of historic properties.

BACKGROUND

The purpose of this agenda item is to continue the discussion related to the City's historic tax exemption program and is being presented as a follow-up to two previous work sessions held on May 13, 2024 and June 10, 2024 with the Historic Landmark Commission (HLC). During those work sessions, the following items were discussed: Denton's current 'Designated Historic Sites' Tax Exemption program and the average homeowner's savings, and examples of other Texas cities historic tax incentives programs and how they compare to Denton's current tax exemption program.

Following the two work sessions, the Commission determined that updates need to be made to the City of Denton's 'Designated Historic Sites' Tax Exemption program and/or additional incentives need to be established. The 2019 Denton Historic Preservation Plan, Goal #2, Policy 2.1 provides Recommendations #2.1 and #2.2 that seek to broaden the tax-exemption eligibility criteria, as well as the exploration of allowing partial or full property tax exemption.

Goal #2: Promote the preservation, adaptive use, and stewardship of historic resources as integral elements to a vibrant and sustainable Downtown Denton and residential neighborhoods.

Policy 2.1: Continue ongoing support for Main Street revitalization efforts and other preservation-based economic development initiatives, including heritage tourism, as a means to preserve, adapt, and reuse Denton's historic resources.

Staff is planning to discuss potential changes to the current tax exemption program during the August 12, 2024 HLC meeting.

In preparation for this meeting, staff will be seeking direction from the Commission regarding the following:

1. How should the City expand the tax-exemption eligibility criteria for the present 'Designated Historic Sites' Tax Exemption to cover additional historic resources?
2. What additional actions would the Commission like to take to encourage historic property owners to designate and/or preserve their properties?

EXHIBITS:

1. Agenda Information Sheet
2. [HLC24-018 Agenda Item](#) (May 13, 2024 HLC Meeting)
3. [HLC24-021 Agenda Item](#) (June 10, 2024 HLC Meeting)

Respectfully submitted:
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