



City of Denton

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

AGENDA INFORMATION SHEET

DEPARTMENT: Department of Development Services

DCM: Cassey Ogden

DATE: February 10, 2025

SUBJECT

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

On July 8, 2024, in preparation for updates to the historic tax exemption program, staff held a discussion and sought 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 program 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?

During the discussion, the following information from the 2019 Denton Historic Preservation Plan was presented:

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.

Recommendation #2.1 (*contributing properties*): Broaden the tax-exemption eligibility criteria for improvements to historic buildings.

Recommendation #2.2: Explore a program allowing for the partial or full property tax exemption from City of Denton and other applicable taxing authorities for locally designated homes.

The Commission directed staff to not move forward with Recommendation 2.1 to expand the tax-exemption eligibility criteria to cover additional historic resources (contributing properties); but unanimously agreed with Recommendation 2.2 that the tax exemption should be expanded to provide additional tax relief to owners to assist with maintenance and long-term preservation of historic properties.

Staff has been working on developing possible options to expand the historic tax exemption program. However, before staff proceeds any further, staff seeks to confirm the previous direction from the Commission and/or receive any additional direction that may impact the historic tax exemption options to be presented at a future HLC meeting.

EXHIBITS:

1. Agenda Information Sheet
2. [HLC24-024 Agenda Item](#) (July 8, 2024 HLC Meeting)

Respectfully submitted:
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