



CITY OF VENICE

FLORIDA

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Interoffice Memorandum

City Manager's Office

TO: Mayor Holic and City Council Members

FROM: Edward F. Lavalley, City Manager 

RE: Historic Landmark Designation

DATE: April 17, 2017

The Historic Preservation Board has been examining a process to establish an Historic Landmark Designation program in Venice. The purpose of the program would be to offer the opportunity to owners of properties that meet specific historic landmark designation criteria to apply to the City for property tax credit. The intent of the program would be to use property tax relief as an incentive for owners of qualifying properties to preserve them to retain their architectural or other specific relevant historic value.

In this 90th anniversary year of the City's founding, it would be appropriate to consider an initiative to focus on the preservation of local landmark properties. To properly consider adoption of such a program requires analysis of a number of issues, including: establishing specific eligibility criteria to qualify prospective properties; defining an internal application and review process for interested property owners; determining the potential financial impact on the City's ad valorem tax revenues for awarding property tax relief; and related assessment details such as minimum age criteria for qualifying properties and the potential percent or dollar value of relief for individual property owners.

If the City Council endorses the concept of the historic property tax credit program, staff will collaborate with the Historic Preservation Board to: research issues related to creating, implementing, and managing such a property tax credit program; develop an analysis of the potential financial implications, including revenue effects and operating overhead; refine a program model for Venice; and based on the operational and financial details obtained potentially present to City Council for adoption an Ordinance establishing a Venice historic landmark tax relief program.

EFL/jg