

# Boards and Commissions Annual Report to City Council

**Today's date:** January 9, 2026

**Name of board or commission:** Historic and Architectural Preservation Board

**Board chair or designee:** Mark Beebe

**Date of presentation to city council:** February 24, 2026

1. **Past year's achievements:** The Board has continued to develop community awareness of historic preservation through mail out publications and educational seminars. A specific forum was held in May that brought together City Planning and Historical Resource staff, a member of the HAPB, and contractors experienced in historic preservation to provide owners of candidate properties for the local register an opportunity to understand the process and have questions answered. The session was well attended and we are hopeful that it will provide positive results. The plan is to make this an annual event. The board approved the development of a historic preservation brochure as well. The HAPB has reviewed and made determinations on five (5) Certificates of Architectural Compliance (CAC) and has nominated two (2) properties to be added to the local register of historic places. They have also recommended one (1) property to Venice city council for ad valorem tax exemption.
  
2. **Proposed agenda of priorities for the coming year:**
  - 1) Continue to review applications for Certificates of Architectural Compliance (CAC) for properties in the architectural control districts and other applicable applications.
  - 2) Continue a historic preservation education outreach program. Maintain the Legacy Awards program.
  - 3) Continue community education seminars for historic architectural styles and historic preservation within the City of Venice and encourage Local Register applications for those who are eligible. Analyze and make recommendations based on the consultant provided survey of historic resources.
  - 4) Finalize the update of the approved color palette for the architectural control districts and reformat for easier use by Venice residents and businesses.
  
3. **A) What goal in the City's strategic plan does your proposed agenda for the coming year support and B) describe how your proposed agenda will support that goal:**
  - A) Goal Six: Preserve the Venice Quality of Life through Planning
  - B) Policy 3 of this goal says, "Preserve Venice's historical resources and significant structures." The three objectives associated with Policy 3 to accomplish Goal 6 are being implemented by the HAPB in that historic preservation standards are being applied, the City's local register of historic resources is being promoted, and compliance and active participation in the Certified Local Government (CLG) program are being maintained.

4. **Areas of concern:** Some board members have indicated a desire to review properties that are non-Nolen and are on the local register of historic resources. However, SB 180 has prevented any modification moving forward for Planning Commission and City Council consideration as it would be “more burdensome” on an applicant. This can be revisited if there are changes to SB 180 that may allow this consideration.
  
5. **Activities/Tasks/Goals:** As indicated, the board will continue to promote historic preservation by educating the public about the City’s Local Register of Historic Resources. This goal can be pursued consistently with the ongoing historic resource surveys of the City regarding potential candidates for the register. The board also will continue to fine tune section 7 of the Land Development Regulations regarding historic and architectural preservation.

**Date board members attended annual Sunshine and Public Records Law training:**

December 8, 2025