

2026 WORK PLAN FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

HPC Approved 9.25.25

Trustee Liaison: Trustee Taglia

Staff Liaison: Brenton Boitse

2026 Initiatives

ENABLING LANGUAGE	PROJECT	OUTCOMES	TIMEFRAME	COST (if any)
Historic Preservation Commission Review	Review Certificates of Appropriateness for additions and alterations on contributing buildings within the historic districts	COA applications to be reviewed; numbers to be tallied and reported in 2025	2026	\$0
Historic Preservation Commission Review	Provide Advisory Review (including reviews of planning/zoning actions in historic districts or within 250 feet of landmarks)	Advisory Reviews to be provided for applicants; numbers to be tallied and reported in 2025	2026	\$0
Architectural Review Committee	Review and provide feedback for additions and alterations proposed for buildings within the historic districts	Reviews to be provided for applicants; numbers to be tallied and reported in 2025	2026	\$0
Architectural Review Guidelines	<u>Strategic HP Plan Recommendation:</u> update the Architectural Review Guidelines where necessary	The Commission will assist in maintaining the Architectural Review Guidelines and will support the updating/revision process with staff as needed	2026	\$0
Historic Preservation Ordinance	<u>Strategic HP Plan Recommendation:</u> maintain and update the Historic Preservation Ordinance as needed	The Commission will assist in maintaining the Historic Preservation Ordinance and will support the updating revision process with staff as needed.	2026	\$0
Historic Preservation Ordinance	Historic Landmarks	Designating individual properties as Historic Landmarks.	Ongoing	\$900 (three plaques) \$100 (research fees)
Historic Preservation Awards	Preservation Awards	Sponsor annual preservation awards and co-host the awards event with other Village of Oak Park commissions. Maintain yard sign program for Historic Preservation Award winners.	4 th Quarter	\$200 (selection and event costs) \$30 (award sign maintenance)

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Interdepartmental Cooperation	<u>Historic sidewalks and streets</u>	Work with Public Works to develop an ongoing strategy and recommendations for historic street elements like stone sidewalks and brick streets	Ongoing	\$0
Public Education	<u>Strategic HP Plan Recommendation:</u> Identify potential cooperative efforts between Village Historic Preservation officials and other Oak Park taxing bodies	Coordinate with a local working group of preservation professionals and the Oak Park Postmaster to support the long-term preservation of the Oak Park Post Office at 901 Lake Street and provide expertise, resources, and planning for restoration, maintenance, and potential future adaptive reuse options.	Ongoing	\$0
Public Education	<u>Strategic HP Plan Recommendation:</u> Create online guide as update to guidebook	Create a new online Oak Park guide for Oak Park's Frank Lloyd Wright and Prairie School Historic District, Ridgeland Historic District, and Gunderson Historic District, and replace the Guide to Oak Park's Frank Lloyd Wright and Prairie School Historic District, published by the Commission in 1999, which is out of print.	Ongoing	\$0
Public Education	<u>Strategic HP Plan Recommendation:</u> Educate contractors, architects, property owners, real estate community, and local business community	Provide educational outreach and training regarding historic preservation in Oak Park and the use of the Architectural Review Guidelines. Update and use Village brochures.	Ongoing	\$0
Public Education	<u>Strategic HP Plan Recommendation:</u> Educate contractors, architects, property owners, real estate community, and local business community	Host a table at Day in Our Village to educate local homeowners and others about the Historic Districts and the Historic Preservation Commission	Summer 2025	\$420
Public Education	Inform and educate the citizens of Oak Park concerning the historic and architectural heritage of the Village	Forward education and knowledge regarding Oak Park's Midcentury Modern architecture, including compiling and assessing existing resources for future use.	Ongoing	\$0

2026 Work Plan for the Historic Preservation Commission

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Public Education	<u>Strategic HP Plan Recommendation:</u> Develop and deliver a customizable training program for Village Board members and various Village Commissions to provide information on HPC programs and services.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide at least one customized training session and information to Village Trustees, VOP staff, and Village Commissions that have overlap with the work of the HPC, including Planning and EEAC. • Increase knowledge of HPC programs and incentives that can be promoted to property owners • Increase interaction and cooperation between Village commissions and staff • Produce a training document for current Village Board members and Board and Commission members. • Present a program to the above Board and Commission members to reinforce prior education efforts 	Throughout 2026 as requested. Will be an annual effort for the HPC going forward.	\$0
	TOTAL BUDGET REQUEST FOR 2025			\$1,650

2025 Historic Preservation Commission Accomplishments

ENABLING LANGUAGE	PROJECT	OUTCOMES	TIMEFRAME	COST (if any)
Historic Preservation Commission Review	Review Certificates of Appropriateness for additions and alterations on contributing buildings within the historic districts	37 Certificates of Appropriateness were reviewed as of September 25, 2025	2025	\$0
Historic Preservation Commission Review	Provide Advisory Review (including reviews of planning/zoning actions in historic districts or within 250 feet of landmarks, as well as new construction within the historic districts)	9 Advisory Reviews were completed by the HPC as of November 14, 2024	2025	\$0

2026 Work Plan for the Historic Preservation Commission

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Historic Preservation Commission Review	Public Hearings	5 Public Hearings were completed by the HPC as of November 14, 2024	2025	\$0
Architectural Review Committee	Review and provide feedback for additions and alterations proposed for buildings within the historic districts	20 projects were reviewed by the Architectural Review Committee as of July 10, 2025 (including Advisory Review, COAs, and discussion items)	2025	\$0
Interdepartmental Cooperation	<u>Historic sidewalks and streets</u>	Project continued from 2020 (delays caused by the pandemic)	Ongoing	\$0
Architectural Review Guidelines	<u>Strategic HP Plan Recommendation (and ongoing)</u> : Review, update and re-write the Architectural Review Guidelines	Any potential Guidelines revisions to be compiled at the end of the calendar year.	2025	\$0
Historic Preservation Ordinance	<u>Strategic HP Plan Recommendation</u> : Examine the Historic Preservation Ordinance and its review processes to identify future process efficiencies.	Amended HPC Requirements for Roofing – Solar Panels of the Historic Guidelines.	2025	\$0
Historic Preservation Ordinance	Historic Landmarks	1144 Lake Street Landmark Nomination	2025	\$0
Historic Preservation Awards	Preservation Awards	Sponsor annual preservation awards and co-host the awards event with other Village of Oak Park commissions. <i>Anticipated Nov-Dec 2025</i>	4 th Quarter	\$200 (selection and event costs) <i>anticipated Oct-Dec 2025</i>
Public Education	<u>Strategic HP Plan Recommendation</u> : Identify potential cooperative efforts between Village Historic Preservation officials and other Oak Park taxing bodies	The Historic Preservation Commission has had on-going discussions regarding the long-term preservation of the Oak Park Post Office at 901 Lake Street.	2025	\$0

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Public Education	<u>Strategic HP Plan Recommendation:</u> Educate contractors, architects, property owners, real estate community, and local business community	Commission members had a table at Day in Our Village to educate local homeowners and others about the Historic Districts and the Historic Preservation Commission	2025	\$0
Public Education	<u>Strategic HP Plan Recommendation:</u> Educate contractors, architects, property owners, real estate community, and local business community	The Commission displayed signs for 2024 award winners during May of 2025 (Historic Preservation Month)	2025	\$0

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Public Education	<u>Strategic HP Plan Recommendation:</u> Educate contractors, architects, property owners, real estate community, and local business community	The HPC hosted the following Speaker Series in 2025: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • February: Speaker John H. Waters, Preservation Programs Director, Frank Lloyd Wright Building Conservancy, presented on the Frank Lloyd Wright Building Conservancy's work. • March: Frank Heitzman, AIA, presented incentives for historic homeowners to remodel or restore rather than tearing down and building new. • May: Speaker Carla Bruni, Preservation and Resiliency Specialist, Chicago Bungalow Association, speaking on innovative strategies and partnerships supporting homeowners with energy efficiency grants and educational tools to help them maintain their bungalows. • August: Speaker William Scholtens, AIA, LEED AP, Principal of Elements Architectural Group provided an in-depth discussion on the restoration of the Pieritz Bothers building and attaining net zero energy status. 	2025	\$0
	TOTAL BUDGET FOR 2025		2025	\$200