

Olympia Heritage Commission

2025 WORKPLAN



Mission:

“Identify and actively encourage the preservation of Olympia’s historic resources by maintaining, updating, and expanding the Olympia Heritage Register and reviewing proposed changes to Heritage Register properties; to raise community awareness of Olympia’s history and historic resources; and to serve as the City’s primary resource in matters of history, historic planning and preservation.” **(OMC 18.12.055)**

Core Strategies:

Educate and Inspire	Partner, Promote and Collaborate	Integrate Preservation Best Practices in Good Government	Review and Permitting
• Heritage Month • Recognition Awards • Explore and encourage incentives • Special programs, events, tabling, tours • Build trust with owners, developers, contractors, realtors, & community	• ARCH • Community & Educational Org’s • Heritage Org’s • Local Businesses • Build relationships with Tribes & BIPOC community	• Input to City Planning efforts • Diversity, Equity & Inclusion • Heritage Commission Development • Research and Interpretation	• Timely review w/in permit process • Guidance for homeowners and contractors • Special Tax Valuation • Individual listings • District listings

Committees:

✓
Marketing & Outreach

✓
All Committees

✓
Policy, Ordinance & Guidance

✓
Heritage Review

Heritage Commission 2025 Projects



2025 Meeting Schedule: 5:30pm on 4th Wednesdays: Jan 22, Feb 26, March 26, April 23, May 28, June 25, July 23, Aug 27, Sept 24, Oct 22, November and December dates TBD

Activity	Task Detail for 2025	Schedule	Budget
Educate and Inspire: <i>Marketing & Outreach Committee</i>			
Heritage Month May 2025	Explore partnerships; A+H Awards and event	January to October	-0-
Community Engagement/Partnerships Events	OHC presence at Arts Walk, Arts+ Heritage Week, Walking tours	Ongoing	\$50
Educational Workshop Series	Informational sessions on topics such as: Cyclical maintenance for historic homes, What is the Olympia Heritage Register, etc	Ongoing goal to host 3 sessions through 2025	\$50
Picnic Social	Build relationships and welcome new commissioners	Summer 2025	-0-
Integrate Preservation Best Practices in Good Government: <i>Policy, Ordinance and Guidance Committee</i>			
Heritage Commission Training	Plan new member orientation, 2025 retreat and additional development training for OHC	Schedule Retreat and training	\$50
Commission Bylaws Update	Review and clarify commission bylaws	Spring 2025	-0-
Olympia Municipal Code (OMC) Ordinance Update	Participate in Staff update to OMC re: Historic Preservation and Cultural Resource Management.	Ongoing through 2025	-0-
Comprehensive Plan Periodic Update	Participate in the Periodic Update of the Comp Plan	Ongoing through 2025	-0-
Equity in Historic Preservation Discussions	Equity training discussion on preservation, including intangible heritage assets and cultural landscapes.	Ongoing	Grant required
Review and Permitting: <i>Heritage Review Committee</i>			
2025 Special Tax Valuation Applications	Review and recommend approval to City Council	Fall 2025	-0-
Explore National listings that should be listed in the Olympia Heritage Register	Talk with property owners, research properties and possible district boundaries, advocate to list districts and individual properties	March through December	CPED administration fund for plaques
Promote new listings	Advocate to list key properties around Olympia	April through December	-0-
Provide design guidance	Continue design consultations for historic properties, Evaluate OMC design guidelines and best practices for code updates as needed	Ongoing through 2025	-0-