

March 3, 2022

To: CLPS Committee Council Members
From: Holly Davies, Chair
Olympia Heritage Commission
Subject: OHC 2022 Work Plan

The 2022 Work Plan for the Olympia Heritage Commission is offered in a new format this year. In a single, double-sided page we have organized our mission and core strategies, aligned them to working committees, and shared our priority projects for the coming year. This “SOAP” or Strategy on a Page is based on an example from La Grange, Kentucky and draws on examples from other Olympia Advisory committees. We hope you find it a quick and interesting read.

Highlights of 2022 Plan:

- Research and document **Olympia’s Indie Music History**, supported by a \$5000 Thurston County Heritage Grant (award has not been formally announced as of this date), exploring a unique aspect of Olympia history, promoting sense of place, and contributing to community pride especially in our downtown. Research completed in 2022 will be shared with the public through future exhibits, installations, heritage designations and events.
- Explore ways to recognize and share the value of “**intangible heritage assets**” -- heritage assets such as cultural landscapes and legacy businesses, that contribute to Olympia’s culture and character through means other than the built environment.
- Continue commission discussions on topics of **diversity, equity and inclusion in historic preservation, heritage, and the arts**, and, carrying over from 2021, work with the Olympia Arts Commission to develop a public **speaker series** on related topics.
- Integrate elements and themes from all the above projects – music history, intangible heritage assets, diversity and inclusion, and public education, and **explore the potential for a Fourth Avenue East heritage designation**. This work may also support other city initiatives such as the Creative District and economic resiliency and responds to the Downtown Strategy.
- In January 2022 the Commission significantly **revised guidance for installation of solar panels** on historic buildings, balancing important societal values by introducing broad flexibility for most installations and reflecting City Council priorities for sustainable energy practices.

On behalf of the entire Heritage Commission, thank you for all that you do, and for your interest and support of this work in 2022.