
4.60.030 Historic preservation commission.

- A. *Purpose.* There is established an historic preservation commission to encourage and further the interests of historic preservation by identifying, protecting, and interpreting the municipality's significant historic and cultural resources for the economic and social benefit of the community.
- B. *Composition and terms of members.*
1. The commission shall consist of nine voting members, appointed by the mayor subject to confirmation by the assembly. Members of the commission serve at the pleasure of the mayor.
 2. Each member shall be appointed pursuant to chapter 4.05 or for the unexpired portion of a predecessor's term.
 3. Unless otherwise provided in this section, the commission shall be governed by the provisions of Chapter 4.05.
 4. Any official action by the board shall require the favorable vote of the majority of all authorized seats of the board. (Note to reader: This underlined provision was added by Assembly Ordinance No. 2023-57(S), which was adopted by the Anchorage Assembly on May 9, 2023.)
- C. *Ex-officio members.* To assist the commission, there shall be three ex-officio members:
1. The Director of Community Development, or designee;
 2. The Director of the Real Estate Department, or designee; and
 3. The Alaska State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO).
- D. *Qualifications.* At a minimum, each voting member of the commission shall have a demonstrated interest, competence or knowledge of:
1. The history of Anchorage;
 2. Architecture, design, history, real estate, construction or other matters relevant to judging the economic and cultural value of particular historic preservation activities; or
 3. Historic preservation.
 4. To the extent available in the municipality, commission members shall include:
 - a. One architect, art historian or historic preservation architect;
 - b. One member with experience in building construction, such as a building contractor or structural engineer;
 - c. One member with experience in the real estate, such as a real estate developer, appraiser or broker;
 - d. One historian;
 - e. One archeologist;
 - f. One Native Culture Advisor with knowledge of local indigenous history and culture;
 - g. One member with legal expertise in historic preservation, land use, or real estate;
 - h. Two citizens-at-large members.
 5. If upon written documentation that a reasonable effort has been made to fill a position from a professional discipline that is not represented on the commission, the commission shall seek expertise

in this area from consultants meeting the Secretary of the Interior's professional qualifications standards.

E. *Powers and duties of commission.* The commission shall:

1. Prepare regulations and submit to the assembly for approval establishing standards, definitions, and procedures for identification of, designation of, and review of actions pertaining to historic resources.
2. Prepare and maintain a comprehensive inventory of historic and cultural resources. The local Historic Inventory shall be compatible with Alaska Heritage Resources Survey categories. A digital file shall be submitted annually to the State of Alaska Office of History and Archeology.
3. Prepare and submit to the assembly, mayor, and planning and zoning commission for approval by ordinance, a procedure for designating, without changing or modifying the underlying zoning classification:
 - a. Resources on the Historic Inventory with "HI"; and
 - b. Properties listed in the Alaska Landmark Register, the National Register of Historic Places and/or the Municipality of Anchorage Local Landmark Register with "HR".
4. Formulate an Historic Preservation Plan, and submit to the assembly, mayor, and planning and zoning commission for incorporation into the 2020 Comprehensive Plan.
5. Review applications for designation of Historic and Cultural Resources, including nominations to the Alaska Landmark Register and National Register of Historic Places, and under applicable federal and state laws, nominate such resources to the Municipality of Anchorage Local Landmark Register:
 - a. The commission may nominate municipal properties including those listed on the Alaska Landmark Register and National Register of Historic Places for the Anchorage Local Landmark Register.
6. Under the Alaska Historic Preservation Act and the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, 54 USC 300101 et seq.:
 - a. Serve as the historic preservation review commission for the municipality for the purpose of maintaining the municipality as a certified local government;
 - b. Serve as the local historical district commission for the municipality under AS 29.55 and AS 45.98, and maintain the Municipality of Anchorage Local Landmark Register.
 - c. Under federal and state law, recommend eligible properties to the state historic preservation officer for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places.
7. Recommend to the Mayor and the Assembly resources and potential incentives to assist historic property owners in the preservation, restoration, rehabilitation and repair of historic property.
8. Advise the assembly and planning and zoning commission concerning historic preservation planning and its implementation, and recommend appropriate amendments to the Comprehensive Plan, Title 21, and other local development regulations to promote the purposes of this chapter.
9. Recommend to the Assembly and the Planning and Zoning Commission maintenance programs for municipally-owned Historic Properties, Historic Resources or properties within Historic Districts.
10. Make recommendations to the mayor and assembly concerning:
 - a. Acquisition of property or interests in property;
 - b. Availability and use of public or private funds to promote the preservation of properties and districts within the municipality;

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- c. Enactment of legislation, regulations and codes to encourage the use and adaptive reuse of historic properties.
 - 11. Provide information, in the form of pamphlets, newsletters, workshops or similar activities, to historic property owners on methods of maintaining and rehabilitating historic resources.
 - 12. Officially recognize excellence in the rehabilitation of historic buildings, structures, sites and districts, and new construction in historic areas.
 - 13. Develop and participate in public information, educational and interpretive programs and activities to increase public awareness of the value of historic preservation.
 - 14. Establish liaison, support, communication and cooperation with federal, state and municipal governmental entities and departments, as well as boards and commissions, to further historic preservation objectives, including public education.
- F. *Historic Preservation Officer.*
- 1. The Director of Community Development shall appoint a municipal employee as an Historic Preservation Officer (HPO).
 - 2. The HPO shall have a demonstrated interest in historic preservation and be a qualified professional in one or more pertinent fields, such as historic preservation, architecture, archeology, architectural history, cultural anthropology, history, historic architecture or a closely related field.
 - 3. The duties of the HPO shall include:
 - a. Act as staff support for the commission.
 - b. Act as intermediary between the commission and municipal departments, including notification of appropriate officials of Historic Inventory (HI) and Historic Register (HR) properties.
 - c. Receive and present applications, with comments and evaluation as appropriate, to the commission for review.
 - d. Provide technical and background information to the commission.
 - e. Perform such other duties as required by the commission.
- G. *Local landmark register.* There is established a Municipality of Anchorage Local Landmark Register.
- 1. *Purpose.* The purpose of this section is to establish the Municipality of Anchorage Local Landmark Register. Local landmark registers are a foundational element in historic preservation programs throughout the world. The purpose of the local landmark register is to document the buildings, districts, structures, sites, landscapes, travel routes, traditional cultural properties and objects significant to the history and culture of Anchorage, and the communities within.
 - 2. *Qualification.* The local landmark register is a voluntary program available to anyone seeking to document and recognize a resource by this nomination process. Resources listed in the local landmark register neither supersede nor limit National Register of Historic Places, or Alaska Landmark Register eligibility and listing. To be qualified for listing on the local landmark register, a resource must be identified as at least 30 years old and must be both "significant" and retain sufficient "integrity" to convey the significance, as those terms are defined in Anchorage Municipal Code of Regulations Chapter 4.60.
 - 3. *Nomination and designation process.* Anyone may file an application to initiate the designation of a resource to the local landmark register, provided they have obtained the owner's permission. The historic preservation officer shall review the application and refer completed applications to the

historic preservation commission in accordance with Anchorage Municipal Code of Regulations Chapter 4.60.

H. The sunset provisions in section 4.05.150 shall not apply to this board.

(CAC 2.64.680—2.64.690; AO No. 77-304; AO No. 82-49; AO No. 83-44; AO No. 86-154; AO No. 87-96; AO No. 2004-96, § 1, 6-8-04; AO No. 2006-175, § 1, 1-9-07; AO No. 2011-64(S-1), § 5, 6-28-11; AO No. 2011-81, § 3, 8-30-11; AO No. 2015-97, § 1, 9-15-15 ; AO No. 2021-32 , § 1, 4-14-21)

Charter reference(s)—Boards and commissions, § 5.07.

Cross reference(s)—Naming of municipal buildings, other fixed facilities and public places, ch. 3.97; historic preservation project fund, ch. 6.100; land use planning, supplementary district regulations, ch. 21.45; building regulations, ch. 23.05; public lands, tit. 25.

State law reference(s)—Historical commissions, AS 29.55.010; historical district revolving loan fund, AS 45.98.