

R-19-28 Meeting 19-142 November 13, 2019

SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA ITEM 1

AGENDA ITEM

Historic Preservation Training

GENERAL MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION

Receive training on historic resources definitions, rules, regulations, and requirements affecting historic structures. No Board action required.

SUMMARY

This is the second in a series of three study sessions to fully inform the Board of Directors (Board) about existing historic structures regulations and requirements, and standard policies, procedures and best practices to determine whether Board policy changes related to historic structures are warranted. The first study session on August 29, 2019 (R-19-117) provided an overview of the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District's (District) existing historic structures policies, guidelines, and practices. This second study session provides a more in-depth training by a qualified historic resources consultant on historic resources definitions, rules, regulations, and requirements. A third study session in early 2020 will focus on partner agency policies and processes to understand standard best practices of similar organizations.

DISCUSSION

The desired focus of the training is to aid Board members in understanding the rules, regulations, and requirements that affect historic structures. In adherence to Board Policy 3.03 *Public Contract Bidding, Vendor and Professional Consultant Selection, and Purchasing Policy*, District staff requested a proposal with scope and fees from three firms with historic preservation expertise. After consulting with the General Manager's Office, District staff selected Page and Turnbull for their well-respected expertise and experience working on historic preservation, and for providing similar trainings and seminars related to historic preservation to agency staff and elected officials.

On November 13, 2019, representatives from Page & Turnbull will provide training on the following topics:

- Responsibilities of Board and District staff
- Historic Preservation Overview
 - o National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA)/National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)
 - o Individual Resources / Historic Districts / Cultural Landscapes
 - o Mothballing / Treatment Recommendations

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- Historic Properties Evaluation
 - o Significance Eligibility Criteria and Period of Significance
 - o Integrity
 - o Character-Defining Features
- Benefits and Tradeoffs of Listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR), and Local Registers
- Introduction to Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines
- California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Review Process and Flowchart for Historic Resource Reviews

FISCAL IMPACT

The Historic Preservation Training has no immediate fiscal impact. There are sufficient funds in the adopted FY2019-20 Budget to cover the cost of the training.

BOARD COMMITTEE REVIEW

This item is being presented to the full Board to inform future Board direction on historic resources.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public notice was provided as required by the Brown Act.

CEQA COMPLIANCE

This historic preservation training is not a project subject to CEQA.

NEXT STEPS

A third study session in early 2020 will focus on outside agency policies, processes, and best practices.

Staff will provide responses to all Board follow-up questions received from Study Sessions 1 and 2 (August 29 and November 13 meetings) in early 2020, as part of the Board packet for the third Study Session on Historic Resources.

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