The Historic Preservation Board (HPB) was established to enhance the community’s local historic resources and promote the public health, safety, prosperity and welfare through the protection and preservation of the City’s architectural, historic and cultural heritage. This report provides an overview of activities and highlights of program activities that the Board and staff to the Board have accomplished during 2018.

BOARD MEMBERS
David Bailey
Christopher Endreson (Chair)
Greg Gnesios
Jody Motz
Ron Parron
Troy Reynolds
Brandon Stam

PRIMARY DUTIES
The Board’s primary duties are to:

1) Establish a City Register listing designated structures, sites and districts; and

2) Provide educational opportunities to increase public appreciation of Grand Junction’s unique heritage.

The Board also reviews proposed alterations to designated sites as necessary. It is comprised of five to seven members appointed by City Council, and includes one member from the Downtown Development Authority Board or staff.

Community Development staff organizes and helps manage Board activities including the Historic Preservation Board’s monthly meetings. In addition, staff addresses historic preservation interests in the community, helps address and provide information to the general public and reviews development projects, as necessary.
2018 PROJECTS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The Historic Preservation Board meets monthly on the first Tuesday of the month to conduct regular business or for special meetings as needed to review development proposals. The discussion below summarizes general projects, activities and accomplishments of the Board as well as highlights some of the larger projects in which the Board has been involved.

BOARD AND STAFF GENERAL ACTIVITIES

During 2018, general operations and activities of staff and the Board included:

- 1 new member was appointed and a chair selected for 2018
- Staff regularly responded to inquiries by the public via phone, email or counter visits regarding Historic Preservation.
- On behalf of the Board and with comment from the Board as needed, staff responded to requests for comment on federal- or state-related capital projects or other projects requiring review (e.g. communications facilities) for potential impact on historic resources.
- Staff completed historic preservation review as part of the required Environmental Review for all Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) activities funded for the 2018 Program Year as well as ongoing activities from previous program years.
- Staff completed an annual report to History Colorado/State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) of the environmental reviews conducted July 1, 2017 - June 30, 2018 per the City and State's Programmatic Agreement established in 2015.
- The Board helped promote and provided docent support for the North Seventh Street Historic Residential District Walking Tour during Historic Preservation Month.
- The Board helped promote and toured the exhibit created by the Colorado Mesa University (CMU) Spring 2018 Public History course regarding the history of the Las Colonias area of Grand Junction.
- The Board provided a letter of support for the Downtown Development Authority’s grant application to the State Historical Fund for a Historic Structure Assessment of Lowell School (R-5).
2018 PROJECTS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

DOWNTOWN HISTORIC BUILDING MARKERS

The remainder of the first phase of the historic sites and buildings marker project was completed during 2018. A total of 25 markers were approved by property owners and installed.

LOWELL VILLAGE TOWNHOMES

The Board reviewed and offered suggestions on the proposed Lowell Village Townhomes project pertaining to the North Seventh Street Historic Residential District Guidelines and Standards. The developer provided a subsequent, more detailed presentation to the Board regarding the proposal prior to the project receiving planning approval in late 2018.
HISTORIC WATER TREATMENT PLANT AND TOWER

Staff and Board members toured the historic Water Treatment Plant and Tower located on Orchard Mesa with staff from History Colorado. A team of City staff members have been working on a grant application to conduct a Historic Structure Assessment of the property. The Board recommended approval of a historic designation for the site. If approved in early 2019, the grant application will be submitted to History Colorado.

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

The Historic Preservation Board hosted a table at the Community Streets Event to provide interested citizens with information regarding historic properties and districts in the area as well as general information regarding historic preservation.

HISTORIC DESIGNATIONS

Staff worked with the Lincoln Park Neighborhood Association to expand the boundaries of the existing local historic district within the neighborhood. The expansion was heard by the Board and City Council approved the designation in May 2018.
The City installed signs at the corners of the District to demarcate the boundaries of the designated area. Staff also met with the neighborhood as it began the process of drafting guidelines and standards for the District.

Staff and the Board also worked with members of the East Rood Avenue and Main Street area of downtown toward designation of a local district. A volunteer with the Community Development Department completed extensive research on the area to assist the neighborhood with its application for designation. The Board recommended approval of the designation to be known as the Original Mile (1882) Keith’s Addition (1890) Historic District. City Council approved the designation in January 2019.

CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS REVIEW

Under the adopted Design Guidelines and Standards, the Board is tasked with review and final action on changes made to buildings and properties within the North Seventh Street Historic Residential District. During 2018, the Board reviewed and approved two such proposals: one at 604 North 7th Street for front yard fencing and one at 640 North 7th Street for roofing materials and fencing modifications.

GUIDELINES AND STANDARDS CODE AMENDMENT

The Board has been working with the North Seventh Street Historic Residential District to clarify the guidelines and standards pertaining to fencing within the District. A proposed amendment to the regulations will be considered by the Planning Commission and City Council in early 2019.