

2013 Council Study Issue

CDD 13-11 Examination of Commercial and Residential Structures Located Downtown for Possible Inclusion in the City's Heritage Resource Inventory

Lead Department Community Development

History **1 year ago** None **2 years ago** None

1. What are the key elements of the issue? What precipitated it?

The study would examine residential and commercial structures located within the downtown and surrounding older neighborhoods for possible inclusion in the Heritage Resource inventory. Previous windshield surveys have identified structures in this area that appear to exemplify architectural value and history.

Commissioners have noted that certain structures along Sunnyvale Avenue between El Camino Real and Iowa Avenue, as well as older single-family homes built north of the railroad may be worth further study. Existing Heritage resources in the downtown area includes Murphy Avenue and the Taafe Frances neighborhood. The study is similar to the previously deferred study (CDD 12-02) but would concentrate on downtown and may include residential properties. With assistance from a consultant, a more comprehensive survey and study would be conducted to determine eligibility for inclusion in the City's Heritage Resource inventory.

2. How does this relate to the General Plan or existing City Policy?

GOAL CC-5 Protection of Sunnyvale's Heritage

To enhance, preserve and protect Sunnyvale's heritage including natural features, the built environment and significant artifacts.

Policy CC-5.2

Enhance the visual character of the City by preserving diverse as well as harmonious architectural styles, reflecting various phases of the City's historical development and the cultural traditions of past and present residents.

Policy CC-5.1

Preserve existing landmarks and cultural resources and their environmental settings.

GOAL CC-6 Knowledge of Sunnyvale's Heritage

Promote knowledge of, and appreciation for, Sunnyvale's heritage and encourage broad community participation in heritage programs and projects.

Zoning Code 19.96.050. As detailed in this code section, the City Council can designate improvements, features, trees, etc. as heritage resources based upon specific criteria.

3. Origin of issue

Board or Commission Heritage Preservation Commission

4. Staff effort required to conduct study Major

Briefly explain the level of staff effort required

Staff would conduct extensive research of structures within a focused study area within downtown. A consultant would provide assistance in determining which properties deserve further attention based historical information and notable architectural design. Staff would also conduct public

outreach with those property owners, prepare reports and schedule public hearings.

5. **Multiple Year Project?** No **Planned Completion Year** 2013

6. **Expected participation involved in the study issue process?**

Does Council need to approve a work plan? No

Does this issue require review by a Board/Commission? Yes

If so, which? Heritage Preservation Commission

Is a Council Study Session anticipated? No

7. **Briefly explain if a budget modification will be required to study this issue**

Amount of budget modification required 15000

Explanation

Consultant assistance would be needed to conduct the detailed research needed to consider Heritage Resource Designation.

8. **Briefly explain potential costs of implementing study results, note estimated capital and operating costs, as well as estimated revenue/savings, include dollar amounts**

Are there costs of implementation? No

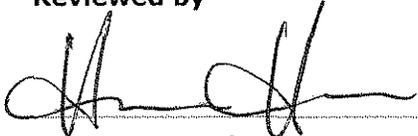
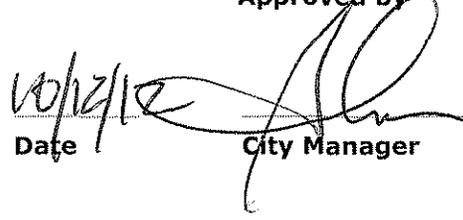
Explanation

9. **Staff Recommendation**

Staff Recommendation Defer

If 'Support', 'Drop' or 'Defer', explain

Although similar to the previously deferred study relating to city-wide non-residential properties, staff supports a study which focuses on an older neighborhood that played an early role in the development of Sunnyvale. However, the costs associated with this study suggest the item should be delayed until grant funding or other revenue sources are available.

Reviewed by	Approved by		
			
Department Director	City Manager	Date	Date