



City of Sunnyvale

Agenda Item

14-0730

Agenda Date: 1/30/2015

2015 COUNCIL STUDY ISSUE

NUMBER

CDD 12-02

TITLE Possible Nomination of Non-Residential Properties to the Heritage Resource Inventory

BACKGROUND

Lead Department: Community Development
Support Department(s): N/A

Sponsor(s):

Board/Commission: Heritage Preservation Commission

History:

1 year ago: Deferred

2 years ago: Deferred

SCOPE OF THE STUDY

What are the key elements of the study?

In 2009, a study was completed that identified new Heritage Resources and possible Heritage Districts. The study included a survey of homes and residential neighborhoods within the City. The Heritage Preservation Commission has suggested further research be completed of the City's non-residential development to identify possible additions into the City's Heritage Resource inventory. The study would examine such properties and structures to determine if additional protections are warranted based on the criteria for designation.

Similar to previous studies, a windshield survey would be conducted to map the various non-residential properties that may be eligible for listing on the inventory. The Commission has noted that there are several examples of commercial architecture representative of the period that they were constructed throughout the City. A historic consultant would assist in the identification of possible notable architectural structures as well as research the history of any technological innovations that may have occurred at certain sites for possible incorporation to the Heritage Resource inventory.

In 2013, the Heritage Preservation Commission requested the addition of the following language to clarify the intent of the study: "The study could be used as a marketing tool and bring further awareness of Sunnyvale's key role in the development of Silicon Valley through the recognition of certain locations where technological and industrial innovations have occurred."

What precipitated this study?

The Heritage Preservation Commission sponsored the study during a meeting in 2011 after a discussion of notable commercial buildings throughout the City. Since a study had been recently

completed of residential neighborhoods, recognition of non-residential structures and locations was considered worth further study. Although related to another previously considered study, Commissioners have noted that this study could recognize certain locations in Sunnyvale where historic technological events have taken place.

Planned Completion Year: 2015

FISCAL IMPACT

Cost to Conduct Study

Level of staff effort required (opportunity cost): Moderate

Amount of funding above current budget required: \$25,000

Funding Source: Will seek budget supplement

Explanation of Cost:

The funds would be used to hire a consultant to conduct the survey of the City's non-residential structures.

Cost to Implement Study Results

Some cost to implement.

Explanation of Cost: There may be additional consultant costs if properties identified in the study are determined to need further historic evaluation. The costs of those studies could range from \$4,000 to \$6,000 per property.

EXPECTED PARTICIPATION IN THE PROCESS

Council-approved work plan: No

Council Study Session: No

Reviewed by Boards/Commissions: Heritage Preservation Commission

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Position: Defer

Explanation: A comprehensive study has not been conducted since the 1990s of the City's non-residential properties to determine whether such properties or structures warrant additional protections as those listed in the City's Heritage Resource Inventory. Staff is recommending deferral of the focused study due to budget constraints. In a related Study Issue (CDD 15-07) staff recommends that to best preserve the City's heritage resources it is worthwhile to periodically add items to the inventory; staff recommends that this update should occur approximately every ten years. New resources were last added to the inventory in 2009. CDD 15-07 focuses on updating the documentation on existing structures and also includes the potential addition of resources to the inventory.

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