



PREPARED FOR THE LANDMARKS COMMISSION

**Regarding:** Amendment to Landmarks Commission Policy Guide

**Legistar File ID #:** [62133](#)

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**Background**

When the Landmarks Commission last reviewed a proposal for construction on a landmark site containing a burial mound, the commission members had extensive discussion about how to best evaluate the proposed work in relation to the archaeological resources and potential human remains on the property. Staff has been requiring that property owners provide evidence that they are complying with State burial law by submitting an approved Request to Disturb permit from the Wisconsin Historical Society, but that does not always incorporate tribal input into the review process.

Alder and commission member Arvina Martin requested that staff submit the project proposal to the Ho-Chunk Nation Tribal Historic Preservation Office to see if there were concerns for that project. Staff has prepared language to include in the Landmarks Commission Policy Guide to make that process standard practice for all project reviews that include tribally-affiliated cultural resources on landmark sites. Below is the proposed text and the amended Policy Manual is also attached (see page 9).

**Proposed Amendment**

Tribal Consultation for Archaeological Sites

For project requests that involve ground-disturbing activities on landmark sites with archaeology or human remains with tribal association, staff shall notify the Tribal Historic Preservation Offices of interested tribes about the proposed project and ask for comments or concerns related to the proposal. Staff will provide any tribal comments to the Landmarks Commission to incorporate into their review of the project proposal.