



**Regarding:** Development of Landmarks Commission Education Series

**Legistar File ID #** [32028](#)

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## Summary

33.19(1) Purpose and Intent. It is hereby declared a matter of public policy that the protection, enhancement, perpetuation and use of improvements of special character or special historical interest or value is a public necessity and is required in the interest of health, prosperity, safety and welfare of the people. The purpose of this section is to:

- (a) Effect and accomplish the protection, enhancement and perpetuation of such improvements and of districts which represent or reflect elements of the City's cultural, social, economic, political and architectural history.
- (b) Safeguard the City's historic and cultural heritage, as embodied and reflected in such landmarks and historic districts.
- (c) Stabilize and improve property values.
- (d) Foster civic pride in the beauty and noble accomplishments of the past.
- (e) Protect and enhance the City's attractions to residents, tourists and visitors, and serve as a support and stimulus to business and industry.
- (f) Strengthen the economy of the City.
- (g) Promote the use of historic districts and landmarks for the education, pleasure and welfare of the people of the City.

33.19(5)(i) Other Duties. In addition to those duties already specified in this section, the commission shall:

3. Work for the continuing education of the citizens of Madison about the historic heritage of this City and the landmarks and landmark sites designated under the provisions of this section.

In keeping with the Purpose and Intent and the Other Duties specified in the Landmarks Ordinance, Staff suggests that the Landmarks Commission consider developing a program that would educate Landmarks Commissioners, City Commission members, and the citizens of Madison on historic preservation-related items.

For example, the Landmarks Commission could host an education program at a meeting in February, another in May (preservation month), another in August and again in November. The topics would change and people with knowledge of the specific topic would be invited to provide the presentation.

Due to the planning involved in these events, the Commission would need to advertise the events to the public in advance and it may be worthwhile to start the presentations at 5:00 PM each time so that a consistent expectation is established.

Topics could include the following:

- Windows 101 (tentatively scheduled for February 6)  
Tentatively invited Jen Davel from WHS to discuss tax credits, Bruce Peterson from Hellenbrand Glass and Sam Briedenbach from TDS to discuss window repair and replacement options, and Charlie Quagliana to discuss historically appropriate window details.
- Siding 101  
Similar to above.
- Energy efficiency

Similar to above.

- What is historic preservation?

Scheduled in May of the election year to accommodate new Alders, Commissioner appointments, and the annual letter mailing. The presentation would cover general theories of preservation, the Madison Landmarks Ordinance, historic districts and landmarks, and how this process works with National Register programs.

- What happened in the Third Lake Ridge? What are burial mounds? What is the Park and Pleasure Drive?

Historically important happenings occurred all over our City and those stories should be perpetuated as a way to connect us to our City roots.

- Preservation Think Tank

A biennial event that invites everyone with interesting and creative preservation ideas to discuss and share. This could be in conjunction with the Madison Trust for Historic Preservation. Maybe it is set up like a Pecha Kucha. Maybe it is opposite the "What is historic preservation?" event.