



Legislation Text

File #: 21-3982, **Version:** 1

HLC#21-002: Discussion on CLG Training for NACP Commission Assistance and Mentoring Program

Mansfield has been awarded a CLG grant to host a virtual two-day Commission Assistance and Mentoring Program (CAMP) regional training event with six sessions. As a host city, we are required to work with the Texas Historical Commission (THC) and the National Alliance of Preservation Commissions (NAPC) to support the training.

The host CLG is responsible for the following:

- Consult with THC and NAPC on content of the training
- Assist with advertising for the training
- Work with THC and NAPC on other program logistics as needed

The City was asked what challenges our local preservation program faced and how additional training might help. The following issues were identified by Staff:

- Demolition by Neglect: An increasing number of historic resources (not all of them local landmarks) in Mansfield are suffering from deferred maintenance where the owner cannot afford repairs. We are looking at funding mechanisms to assist these properties, but concerns have arisen regarding spending public dollars on a private building which may be subsequently sold. On the other hand, enforcing the Property Maintenance Code on substandard buildings may force the owner to demolish the building or make repairs using inappropriate or incompatible materials.
- Impact of New Development on Historic Resources: As part of Mansfield's downtown revitalization, developers may view historic buildings as an obstacle rather than an opportunity. This sometimes leads to the desire to demolish the historic building instead of incorporating it into the development. We would like to know methods to encourage the reuse of existing buildings as part of the development. We would also like to know more about what is involved in relocating historic buildings if there is no other alternative to demolition.
- Preserving Humble Buildings: Most of our historic grand homes have been demolished, but we still have smaller homes of different styles from the 1890s to 1930s. Our historic commercial buildings range from the 1890s to the 1960s but may have been substantially altered or are newer (Mid-Century). Because these buildings are not elaborate or decorative, they can be deemed less attractive and not worthy of preservation, leading to their replacement with a modern building that tries to replicate a historic appearance.

The proposed CAMP dates are June 17 and 18, 2021 or August 26 and 27, 2021. We have been awarded seven complimentary registrations so that our Commissioners may attend this training.

We are waiting for further details from THC regarding the extent of our participation. It is possible that we will need to provide a welcome for the attendees and participate in some of the training sessions.

Staff will keep the Commission updated on this project and will let the Commissioners know if we need your assistance with any of the sessions.

Attachment

2021 Training Application