



AGENDA MEMO

PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING DATE: OCTOBER 8, 2009

DEPARTMENT: PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

ITEM DESCRIPTION: TXT-35898 - APPLICANT/OWNER: CITY OF LAS VEGAS

** CONDITIONS **

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: APPROVAL

19.06.090 H HISTORIC DESIGNATION

E. Historic Preservation Commission - Qualifications

The membership of the HPC shall be as follows:

1. One member must be experienced in architecture (such as an architect, art historian or historic preservation architect).
2. One member must be experienced in urban design or planning (such as an urban designer, planner or landscape architect).
3. One member must be experienced in building construction (such as a building contractor or structural engineer).
4. One member must be experienced in the real estate profession (such as a real estate developer, appraiser or broker).
5. One member must be experienced in the archaeological profession (such as a professional archaeologist).
- ~~56.~~ One member must be representative of a recognized local historic preservation association or historic preservation interest group.
- ~~67.~~ One member must be experienced in Nevada history (such as an historian or archaeologist).
- ~~78.~~ **Five** ~~Four~~ members must be ~~citizens~~ members at-large. When one or more areas have been designated as Historic Districts pursuant to this Subchapter, one of the at-large positions shall pertain to each such Historic District. For any Historic District, the corresponding at large position shall be filled by a person who owns real property and resides within the Historic District, if a person so qualified is available

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to serve. If no such person is available, a person who owns real property within the Historic District may fill that position. If more than four Historic Districts have been designated as such pursuant to this Subchapter, the City Council shall determine which ~~five~~ four of the Historic Districts are to be represented on the HPC.

89. The Director of Planning and Development, or the Directors designee, shall serve as an ex-officio member, with no vote except as otherwise provided in this Subchapter.

910. The Director of the Nevada State Museum and Historical Society, or other designee of the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), shall serve as an ex-officio member, with no vote except as otherwise provided in this Subchapter.

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**** STAFF REPORT ****

APPLICATION REQUEST

This is a request to amend Title 19.06.090 to add archaeologist as a qualification for Historic Preservation Commission membership and change the citizen at-large to member at-large.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

<i>Related Relevant City Actions by P&D, Fire, Bldg., etc.</i>	
02/20/91	The City Council adopted Ordinance 3557, which was introduced as Bill No. 90-39.
10/24/07	The Historic Preservation Commission voted to change the bylaws and Title 19.06.090 to require an archaeologist on the Historic Preservation Commission at the 10/24/07 meeting.

ANALYSIS

The purpose and intent of Title 19.06.090 Historic Designation subchapter is to promote the public welfare by providing protection for significant properties and archaeological sites which represent important aspects of the City's heritage; to enhance the character of the community by taking such properties and sites into account during development; and to assist owners in the preservation and restoration of their properties.

To further the objectives of Title 19.06.090, the Las Vegas Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) was established to act in an advisory capacity to the Planning Commission and the City Council in all matters concerning historic preservation. The Historic Preservation Commission shall make recommendations to the Planning Commission regarding designation of Landmarks, Historic Properties and Historic Districts.

The Historic Preservation Membership consists of eleven voting members who are appointed by the City Council and two ex-officio members. Of the 11, one member must be experienced in architecture (such as an architect, art historian or historic preservation architect; one member must be experienced in urban design or planning (such as an urban designer, planner or landscape architect); one member must be experienced in building construction (such as a building contractor or structural engineer); one member must be experienced in the real estate profession (such as a real estate developer, appraiser or broker); one member must be representative of a recognized local historic preservation association or historic preservation interest group; one member must be experienced in Nevada history (such as an historian); and five members must be members at-large.

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Since archaeological sites may be designated historic landmarks and archaeologists possess essential expertise in the examination, dating and interpretation of sites and landmarks, the Historic Preservation Commission voted to change the bylaws and Title 19.06.090 (E) to require an archaeologist on the commission at the 10/24/07 meeting. The proposed amendment follows the Historic Preservations recommendation in adding an archaeologist as a qualification for Historic Preservation Commission membership. In the addition to an archaeologist as a qualified member, the number of members at-large would be reduced from five to four.

In the same section of Title 19.06.090 (E), the final request of this text amendment is to change citizen at-large to member at-large. Currently, the citizen at-large designation would require the Commission member to reside in the city of Las Vegas. By proposing to change the designation to member at-large, the member would not be required to reside in the city.

FINDINGS

The proposed text amendment will accomplish the following:

- Amend Title 19.06.090 to add an experienced archaeologist as a qualification for Historic Preservation Commission membership and reduce at-large membership from five to four.

The following table summarizes all proposed changes:

Code Requirements	Existing Regulations	Proposed Regulations
Title 19.06.090 Historic Preservation Commission membership	• No qualification for experienced archaeologist.	• One HPC member must be an experienced archaeologist.
	• Five members must be members at-large.	• Four members must be members at-large.

NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATIONS NOTIFIED

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

SENATE DISTRICT

NOTICES MAILED NEWSPAPER ONLY

APPROVALS 0

PROTESTS 0