



TO: Elizabeth A. Pauli, City Manager
FROM: Lauren Hoogkamer, Assistant Historic Preservation Officer, Planning and Development Services
Peter Huffman, Director, Planning and Development Services
COPY: City Council and City Clerk
SUBJECT: Resolution – Designating 1002 S. Anderson Street, the Klinkenberg-Decker House, as a City
Landmark and placing said property on the Tacoma Register of Historic Places – March 9, 2021
DATE: February 22, 2021

SUMMARY AND PURPOSE:

A resolution designating the Klinkenberg-Decker House, located at 1002 South Anderson Street, as a City Landmark and placing said property on the Tacoma Register of Historic Places.

BACKGROUND:

The Klinkenberg-Decker House was constructed in 1904 as a single-family residence in the Central District of Tacoma for John and Cinda Klinkenberg. After the Klinkenbergs moved out, the house was consistently used as an income property, rented by working class Tacomans. The property, with its American Foursquare plan and early application of Classical Revival details, reflects the first wave of development in the Central District as Tacoma’s population grew following the completion of the direct transcontinental railroad line over Stampede Pass. The Klinkenberg-Decker House also represents a second period of growth in Tacoma as its conversion to a duplex, by 1942, reflects the city’s booming population during World War II to support defense industries. The nomination includes the principal structure and the garage and was submitted by Northwest Vernacular on behalf of the owner.

The nomination for the Klinkenberg-Decker House was received by the Historic Preservation Office in November 2020. On January 13, 2021, the Landmarks Preservation Commission scheduled the nomination for a public hearing on February 10, 2021. Following the hearing, the Commission voted unanimously to recommend designation of the Klinkenberg-Decker House to the Tacoma Register of Historic Places as an example of Tacoma’s pattern of development and as a significant neighborhood feature.

The nomination and designation process of properties to the Tacoma Register of Historic Places is described in Tacoma Municipal Code 13.07. Properties that are placed on the historic register are subject to design review for future alterations, thus protecting the historic character of the city. This recommendation for designation is based on the findings and recommendation of the Landmarks Preservation Commission. There are currently 182 properties listed individually on the Tacoma Register.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT/ CUSTOMER RESEARCH:

This item was reviewed in two separate public meetings, including a public hearing, to gather community input. The property owner’s ability to alter the property will be affected.



2025 STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:

Equity and Accessibility:

This property is located in the Central District, which is underrepresented on the Tacoma Register of Historic Places in comparison to Downtown and the North End. It is also an example of how historic homes can be adaptively reused as multifamily housing.

Economy/Workforce: *Equity Index Score:* High Opportunity

Increase positive public perception related to the Tacoma economy.

Civic Engagement: *Equity Index Score:* High Opportunity

Increase the percentage of residents who believe they are able to have a positive impact on the community and express trust in the public institutions in Tacoma.

Livability: *Equity Index Score:* High Opportunity

Increase positive public perception of safety and overall quality of life.

Explain how your legislation will affect the selected indicator(s).

Designation and protection of historic buildings within the city ensures these buildings remain for future generations to experience. In addition, such properties contribute to a sense of unique place and encourage investment into the neighborhood. Nominations also come from the public. Land use is not governed by historic designations.

ALTERNATIVES:

Alternative(s)	Positive Impact(s)	Negative Impact(s)
Not adding the building to the Tacoma Register of Historic Places	No additional restrictions to development or maintenance.	Future changes to the structure that negatively alter architectural character, including demolition, could take place without the review of the Commission. The property would not be eligible for financial and development incentives that encourage adaptive reuse.



City of Tacoma

City Council Action Memorandum

EVALUATION AND FOLLOW UP:

Additions to the historic register encourage financial investment in listed properties. These investment numbers are reported annually to the state and City Council.

STAFF/SPONSOR RECOMMENDATION:

Staff concurs with the recommendation of the Landmarks Preservation Commission to designate the above property as a City Landmark, which will help to preserve this important structure for future generations.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Map of property location and current photograph