



TO: T.C. Broadnax, City Manager
FROM: Peter Huffman, Planning and Development Services Director 
COPY: Neighborhoods and Housing Committee; Brian Boudet, Planning Services
SUBJECT: Nominations to the Tacoma Register of Historic Places
DATE: October 20, 2014

SUMMARY:

This memorandum provides background information on a request for council resolution to place the following properties on the Tacoma Register of Historic Places:

1. McKinley Hill Elementary School at 3720 McKinley Avenue
2. Oakland Elementary School at 3319 S Adams Street
3. Hoyt Elementary School at 2708 N Union Street
4. Shaw House (a private residence) at 2500 N Lawrence Street

On August 13, 2014, the Landmarks Preservation Commission voted to recommend inclusion of the above properties on the Tacoma Register of Historic Places, based upon written and oral comments received and the eligibility criteria listed in Tacoma Municipal Code 13.07.040.

Because the Landmarks Preservation Commission received a significant amount of public comment at its hearing on August 13, this is an informational briefing to provide additional background to Councilmembers. This item is scheduled for the City Council meeting of October 28.

BACKGROUND:

The elementary schools were nominated by Historic Tacoma, an independent citizen based advocacy group, based upon previous research conducted by Historic Tacoma, the Tacoma School District and the Landmarks Preservation Commission. All three schools are considered to be "high priority" for historic designation by Historic Tacoma, based upon architecture and/or their architects, era, and association with educational and social trends of the time. The school district has indicated that it remains neutral with regard to the nomination of these schools.

The Shaw House was nominated by its owners for its association with architect Stanley T. Shaw, a Tacoma architect who designed numerous Tacoma buildings between 1919 and 1957, and who was active in many progressive social movements.

ALTERNATIVES:

This is an information briefing only. There are no alternatives presented.

FISCAL IMPACT:

This is an information briefing only. There is no fiscal impact.

RECOMMENDATION:

This is an information briefing only. There is no recommendation.