



Historic Preservation Update

Planning and Development Services

City Council Study Session

May 5, 2026

Item 3

Overview

- Landmarks Preservation Commission Year In Review
- Historic Preservation Program Achievements 2025-26
- Upcoming Program Goals and Initiatives



Stadium High School, undergoing exterior cleaning and maintenance



Historic Preservation Awards Ceremony,
2025

Program Areas

The Historic Preservation Program:

Identifies and enhances historic resources.

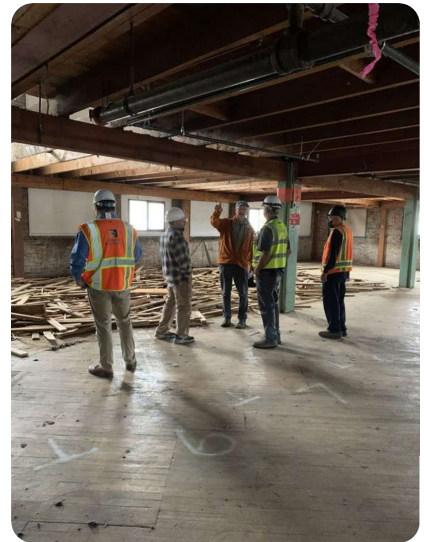
Protects historic properties and sites.

Educates through public outreach and programming.



Landmarks Preservation Commission Year In Review

- 28 Historic design reviews
- 18 commission meetings
- 4 new landmark designations
- \$12,842,797 in tax incentives granted
- 3 site visits



Site visit to Williamette
Casket Factory renovation
project



Landmarks Preservation Commission Year In Review

Historic Designations 2025

- Wapato Park
- Shurz House (411 South M Street)
- Mottet and Wheelock Libraries

Pending nominations

- North Union Avenue Greenway
- Swanson House (2119 South M Street)



Top: Swanson Residence, Bottom: North Union Avenue Greenway



Noteworthy Projects

- Oakland School Renovation – completed
- Old City Hall Renovation – underway
- Central Administration Building, Tacoma School District
- Stadium High School exterior envelope
- Hilltop Plaque Project

Photos, Top: Oakland School under construction; Bottom: Community Kick Off Hilltop Pavers & Plaque Project.
Photo credit: City of Tacoma.



Historic Preservation

New Code/Policy Objectives 2025

- Policy alignment with other priority policy areas: housing; diversity, equity, and inclusion; sustainability
- Improved integration of historic preservation policies with other areas of comp plan (urban form, development, etc.)
- Improved local historic district nomination process
- Improved treatment of Tribal concerns in development review
- Prioritized Black History and other underrepresented communities
- Broaden access to financial incentives



Landmarks Preservation
Commission site visit, Ft. Nisqually
Clerks House project



Morning Globe Building, Old
City Hall Historic District

Historic Preservation 2025-2026

Outcomes

Comprehensive Plan and Code package adopted 2025

- Increased access to the nomination process
 - New nomination criteria
 - Revisions to nomination review process
- Improved access and equity in the delivery of services and historic preservation outcomes
 - New Community Heritage Register
 - New design review exemptions
 - New cultural resource review requirements
 - Expanded access to historic preservation incentives





Historic Preservation Update

Planning and Development Services

City Council Study Session

May 5, 2026

Item 3