

Historic Preservation Incentives -2023

1. Reduced or Waived Building Permit Fees

The City has the ability to reduce or waive permit fees. The City may reduce the building permit by 1/3 or 33% for both the plan review fee and the main building permit fees. The reduction or loss of building fees as permitted by law are relatively insignificant to the overall new construction taking place in the city. This incentive would only apply to designated properties or those in a historic district.

2. Undergrounding of Electric Services

Electric Utility currently charges customers up to \$3,000 to run the electricity from the street into the house. This program would waive the cost of that connection. This incentive could be applied to individually designated resources or districts.

3. Rehabilitation Grants

The concept of the rehabilitation grant program is based on the housing rehabilitation and business facade programs currently operating within the City' s CRA district. The program would provide a 50% match to a property owner for exterior improvements. The maximum city matching grant it is \$18,000 per property. A resource receiving this incentive would be require to list their property on the City's Register of Historic Places and, if appropriate apply for the National Register of Historic Places.

4. Streetlights for Districts

Currently the City charges the homeowners in a neighborhood to install period street lighting. As part of the district incentives, the City would fund and install the streetlights for the entire district if the district desires or needs street lighting. This has the potential to be a significant incentive to a district based on the district boundaries and would be negotiated prior to the creation and approval of a new district. Existing districts would not qualify.

5. Preparation of National Register Applications

As a means to encourage that the most historically significant properties receive national recognition, city staff will prepare and submit applications for National Register of Historic Places designation at no expense to the property owner should a property owner desire to seek this national recognition. The property must also be designated on the City' s Register as well.