

# Historic Preservation Ordinance



Quality of Life Committee  
September 2, 2015

## Historic Preservation in Houston

Last changed in 2010

- Removed the 90-day waiver
- Changed the way districts are created
- Added Shall Approve criteria

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## Historic Preservation in Houston

Since 2010

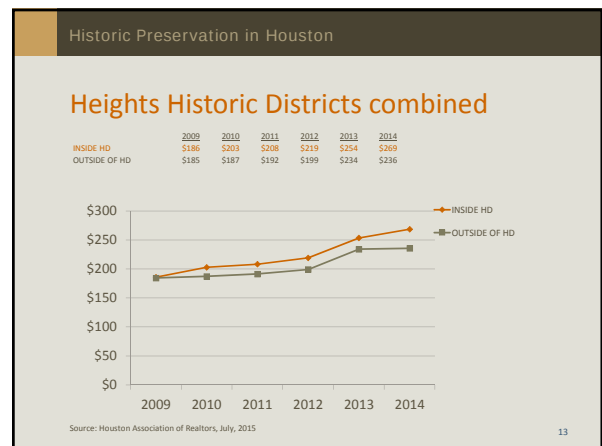
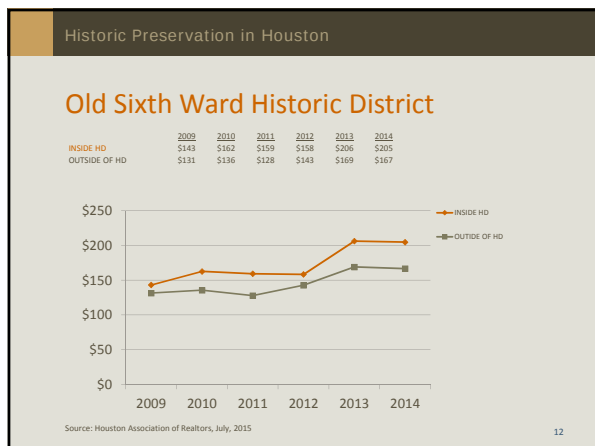
- More than 1,600 applications for Certificates of Appropriateness
- Greater than 90% approval rate
- Three new historic districts
- 50 new Landmarks
- 9 new Protected Landmarks

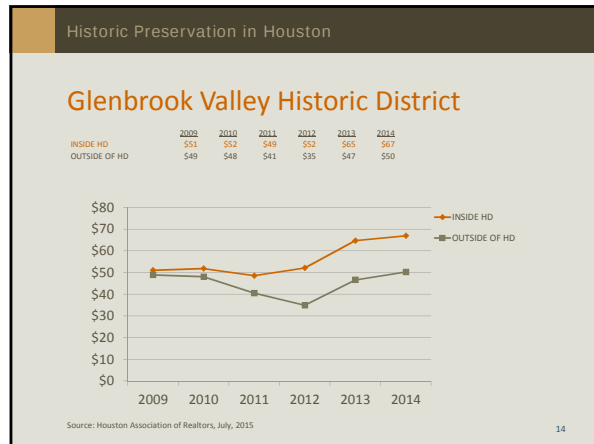
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## Historic Preservation in Houston

Historic Preservation ordinance covers approximately 0.4% of property in Houston city limits.

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### 2014 Review Committee

The Mayor's instructions:

*"to correct and clarify...create greater consistency"*

and

*"streamlined approval...improved guidance...more efficient/user-friendly process"*

and

*"do not weaken the protections...refinements to, not an overhaul of"*

### 2014 Review Committee

Committee appointed by the Mayor

#### HAHC members

- Rob Hellyer
- Douglas Elliott
- Anna Mod

#### Planning Commission members

- Sonny Garza
- Truman Edminster

### The Committee process

Committee meetings were transparent and inclusive:

- Held in the evening in the Annex chambers
- Recorded, streamed, rebroadcast
- Notes and handouts distributed by email to interested parties
- CitizensNet distribution to 7,000
- Public comment at every meeting

### Public Comment Period

|                                     |                 |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Redline released to the public      | June 26         |
| HAHC public hearing                 | July 22         |
| Presentation to Planning Commission | July 23         |
| Accept public comment               | Through July 27 |
| HAHC work session                   | August 5        |
| Final changes to HAHC for approval  | August 27       |
| Council Committee: Quality of Life  | September 2     |

### Key changes to Code

Proposal includes:

- Create Design Guidelines Process
- Increase Administrative Approvals
- Clarify Terminology
- Clarify Exemptions
- Clarify Definition Of Exterior Structural Elements

Key changes to Code

Proposal includes:

- 6. Improve Enforcement
- 7. Increase The Technical Expertise On The Commission
- 8. Designate A Historic Preservation Officer
- 9. Historic District Creation
- 10. Limit The Public's Access To The Location Of Archaeological Sites

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Key changes to Code

Proposal includes:

- 11. District Boundaries and Structure Classification
- 12. Provide Additional Notification to the Community
- 13. Change Criteria Designating Protected Landmarks
- 14. Materials Required for Applications

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Key changes to Code

Proposal includes:

- 15. Criteria for Alterations and Additions
- 16. Criteria for Mandatory Approvals
- 17. Criteria for alterations to Non-Contributing Structures
- 18. Criteria for New Construction
- 19. Criteria for Relocation

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Key changes to Code

Proposal includes:

- 20. Criteria for Demolition
- 21. Criteria for Excavation of Archaeological Sites
- 22. The Appeals Process
- 23. Historic Tax Incentives

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Public Comments

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 PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

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