
11.4 HISTORICAL RESOURCE PROTECTION

A. **Intent.** The intent of this section shall be to:

- (1) Establish a historic preservation board;
- (2) Identify regulated historic structures;
- (3) Set forth requirements for the protection and preservation of regulated structures;
- (4) Define a process for review and appeals; and
- (5) Encourage the listing of additional properties as historic structures.

B. **Historic preservation board.**

(1) *Established; membership.*

- a. **Composition.** The Milton Historic Preservation Board is hereby established by the city council. Any restoration or alteration of regulated historic structures will be presented to the board for review and issuance of a certificate of appropriateness prior to the issuance of a development order or building permit by the development approval authority. The board shall be composed of seven members who are city residents and/or persons who own property within the city, appointed by the city council considering the following:
 - i. A demonstrated interest in historic preservation;
 - ii. A professional mix that provides for expertise in the fields of architecture, planning, engineering, law, or finance, to the extent reasonable and possible; and
 - iii. Representation of the community at-large.

The board shall be provided staff support through the Planning and Development Department for the city.

- b. **Terms; vacancies, removal.** Members shall be appointed for a term of four years, except in the case of an appointment to fill a vacancy for the four-year period in which event the appointment shall be for the unexpired term only. Any member of the board may be removed from office by the city council in a regular meeting.
- c. **Officers.** The board shall elect from among its members a chairman and vice-chairman.

(2) *Duties and procedures.*

- a. **Purpose.** The board shall have as its purpose the preservation and protection of buildings of historic significance. It shall be the board's duty to act upon plans for the alteration, renovation, or restoration of regulated historic structures to ensure conformance with the U.S. Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation. During the review process, the board shall also consider conformance to the development guidelines established for the city historic district.
- b. **Plan submission procedure.**
 - i. **Required.** Every application for development approval to alter, renovate, or restore a regulated historic building located in the historic district or buildings listed on the National Register which are located outside the historic district, shall be required to submit plans for the proposed work in sufficient detail to allow for review by the board.
 - ii. **Plans defined; certificate of appropriateness.** Plans for renovations to nonregulated historic properties may, at the owner's election, be submitted for review by the historic preservation board in order to obtain a certificate of appropriateness. As used herein, the

term "plans" means drawings or sketches with sufficient elevations to show the architectural design of the building (both before and after the proposed work is done in the case of altering or renovating a building or structure), including proposed materials, textures and colors, and the site plan or site layout, site improvements of features such as walls, walks, terraces, landscaping, that meet the requirements of subsection 11.4(D), accessory buildings, signs, lights and other appurtenances.

- iii. Board meeting; notice. Such plans shall be submitted to the Planning and Development Department, who will forward such plans to the historic preservation board. Upon submittal of an application for development approval to the Planning and Development Department, the applicant for any proposed development found to be under the jurisdiction of the historic preservation board, shall be notified of the time, date and place of the board's meeting. The applicant or authorized agent is encouraged to appear at the meeting at which the request is being considered by the board to review the alteration, renovation or restoration of the regulated historic structure which is under consideration.
 - c. Review and decision. The board shall promptly review such plans and make a determination as to conformance with the Secretary of the U. S. Department of Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation.
 - d. Notification; building permit. If the board finds the plans in conformance with the requirements of this section, a certificate of appropriateness will be issued. If the board does not find the plans in conformance, the applicant may resubmit plans to the board with the necessary changes, as specified by the board in its finding of nonconformance.
 - e. Voting. Decisions may be rendered when a quorum is present, by a simple majority of the board members present and voting.
- C. **Standards for rehabilitation of historic structures.** The Secretary of Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation and Guidelines for Rehabilitating Regulated Historic Buildings and the City of Milton's Pattern Book are hereby adopted as review guidelines for the rehabilitation of regulated historic structures located within the city historic district, and those listed at the National Register, but located outside the historic district.
- D. **Supplementary design review regulations.**
- (1) In the historic district, where a characteristic development pattern and distinctive architectural style have already been established, new development shall be planned to reinforce this special character. The early 1900's architectural style is the established theme for the historic district. In issuing land use certificates, the downtown redevelopment board shall review development plans, including exterior facades and sign construction and renovation, for conformance with the guidelines established in this section.
 - (2) The adoption of guidelines herein are intended to provide flexibility in the development of property within the district in a manner which balances the interest of the property owner with the public's need for assurance that development will be orderly and aesthetically compatible with neighboring structures and historic resources.
 - (3) Each development proposal within the historic district will be reviewed by the Community Redevelopment Agency and/or the Historic Preservation Board based upon the following guidelines:
 - a. Site planning. The historic character of the district shall be reflected as closely as possible in the site planning of new development. Site planning should also respect the precedents set by other buildings on a block. For example, the placement of new buildings on a lot should correspond to the setbacks, orientation, and spacing of adjacent buildings to ensure maximum consistency and compatibility of the overall streetscape.

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- b. Architecture. The early 1900's architectural theme is hereby established for the city historic district. The scale, height, massing, materials, textures, and colors of new buildings shall be compatible with those of existing structures to which such new construction or renovation is visually related. Architectural details which are similar to the details of adjacent existing buildings will have a unifying effect and are encouraged.
 - c. Landscaping. Landscaping and tree protection within the district shall be regulated in accordance with Article 12. New landscaping should be consistent with the existing landscape character of the district. Courtyard and sidewalk paving material shall be consistent with the neighboring areas. The use of brick as a paving material is encouraged. Walls and fences shall be consistent with the approved fencing materials. Where common or centralized solid waste containers are proposed, such facilities shall be screened with vegetation, fencing or other appropriate materials.
 - d. Fences. Subsection 9.3(N) controls.
 - e. Signs. Signs in the historic district shall be regulated in accordance with Article 16 and with the following specific requirements, or as otherwise approved by the development approval authority.
 - i. On residential structures, one non-illuminated name plate designating the name of the occupant of the property and other historical information of significance is allowed. The name plate should not be larger than 100 square inches and may be attached to the building or be freestanding.
 - ii. Sign patterns and colors have been established for use in the historic district. Sign patterns shall be colonial design, semi-custom sign patterns, or the equivalent. Sign colors include those specified in subsection D(4) for structures.
 - iii. Portable signs mounted on a trailer-type vehicle, and specifically designed to be temporary in nature are prohibited in the historic district.
 - iv. Within the historic district, signs projecting into or overhanging the public right-of-way are permitted subject to approval by the development approval authority, and are subject to removal on 30 days' notice if the city requires the space for any public purpose. Such signs shall be consistent with other sign criteria for the district and must be of a character and size consistent with the historic theme. Approval shall also be required for the hanging mount.
 - v. If the sign is to project over the state department of transportation's right-of-way (Caroline Street), approval would also be required of that agency prior to city approval.
 - vi. All other criteria will be regulated in accordance with Article 16.
 - (4) Exterior structure colors. Historic period colors have been established for buildings in the historic district. These colors include, but are not limited to, Heritage Colors (authentic exterior colors for American buildings (1820-1920 by Sherwin Williams), or equivalent historic period colors by other paint brands.

E. Incentives for preservation.

- (1) Substantial rehabilitation (50 percent or greater of appraised value) of structures in flood zones is normally restricted; however, if a property is listed as significant on the Florida Master Site File, National Register, or by local designation, the restriction does not apply.

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- (2) Owners of historic structures may petition the board of adjustment for a special exception for use, regardless of the zoning district. This allows buildings in residential districts to convert to office uses if the board of adjustment determines that the use is not injurious to the character of the neighborhood.
 - (3) For designated properties, variances to parking requirements, lot size or other zoning requirements may be requested from the board of adjustment without proving a hardship. It must be shown that the granting of the variance will not injure the public health and safety of the area. Filing these types of petitions usually carries a fee, but this is waived for regulated historic structures.
- F. **Appeals.** Decisions of the historic preservation board may be appealed to the city council, sitting as the community redevelopment agency as provided for in Article 3.
- (Ord. No. 1455-17 , § 1, 8-8-2017)