

Update to Chapter 18 – Historic Preservation

Public Workshop

Tuesday, March 8, 2016

Tonight's Agenda

5:30 PM – Introductions & Presentation

5:50 – 6:50 PM – Workshop Activity

6:50 – 7:00 PM – Next Steps & Adjourn



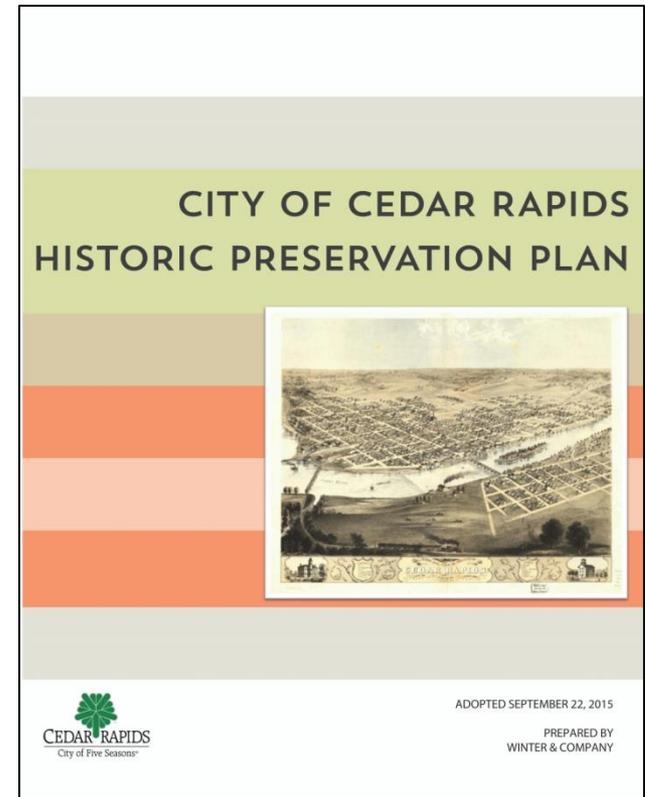
Presentation Outline

- Background
- Chapter 18 Overview
- Issues Being Explored
- Break-Out Sessions



Background

- City's first Historic Preservation Plan adopted September 2015:
 - Component of EnvisionCR, the City's comprehensive plan
 - Guiding policy document for preservation
 - Identifies initiatives to pursue to implement the Plan's vision



What is Preservation?

- Keeping resources intact for the benefit of future generations
- Maintaining key character-defining features of a property
- Keeping historic structure in active use
- Accommodating change that is appropriate



What are the Benefits of Preservation?

- **Livability and quality of life**
 - Traditional neighborhood design that encourages walking
 - Architecture creates a unique sense of identity
- **Economic benefits**
 - Preservation can add value to properties and neighborhoods
 - Workforce is attracted and retained in communities with a unique sense of identity
- **Environmental benefits**
 - Stewardship of existing building stock reduces environmental impacts



Historic Resources

- The City's Cultural Resources:
 - 9 National Historic Districts
 - 40 National Historic Landmarks
 - 2 Local Historic Districts
 - 1 Local Historic Landmark
- Buildings and districts are a visual history of more than a century of development, representing more than ten significant architectural styles



Why Update Chapter 18?

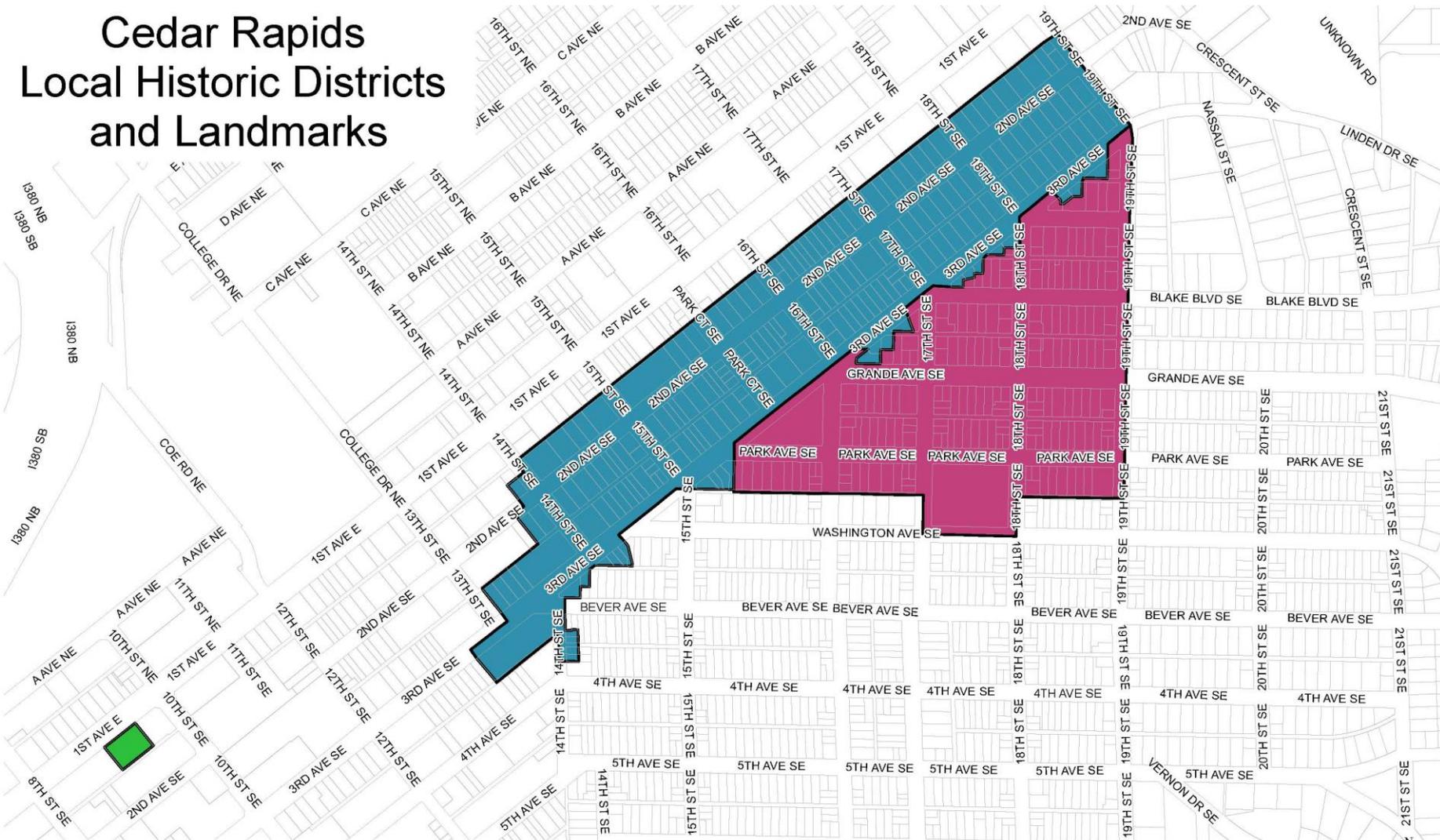
- Implements the Historic Preservation Plan
- Ensure consistency and clarity in the process, and explore ways to streamline the process
- Incorporate best practices in historic preservation
- Address concerns raised by HPC, property owners, and other stakeholders
- Help to maintain the historic resources that make Cedar Rapids unique



Chapter 18 Overview

- Historic Review Process:
 - Applicable to properties in the City’s two local historic districts, and local landmarks
 - Properties required to go through historic review process for any exterior modifications that require a building permit

Cedar Rapids Local Historic Districts and Landmarks



-  2nd and 3rd Avenue Historic District
-  Redmond Park-Grande Avenue Historic District
-  Ausadie Building



Historic Review Stats

2015	No.	%
Applications Received	63	100%
HPC Approval	20	32%
Administrative Approval	43	68%

2014	No.	%
Applications Received	36	100%
HPC Approval	11	31%
Administrative Approval	25	69%

Recent Accomplishments

- HPC liaison provided assistance to property owners to:
 - Modernize an accessory structure; saving it from demolition and preserving historic features
 - Identify options to expand an accessory structure while maintaining the existing roof pitch and cedar shake siding
 - Continually offer cost-saving ideas, such as restoration of wood windows and doors, as opposed to replacement



Chapter 18 Overview

- Demolition Review Process:
 - Applicable to primary buildings 50 years and older city-wide
 - Properties required to go through demolition review process
 - Currently no administrative review process for demolitions

Demolition Review Stats

2015	No.	%
Applications Reviewed	44	100%
Applications Approved	39	88.6%
Applications Placed on Hold	5	11.4%
Holds Released Early	3	

2014	No.	%
Applications Reviewed	34	100%
Applications Approved	28	82.4%
Applications Placed on Hold	6	17.6%
Holds Released Early	3	

Recent Accomplishments

- Relocation of a historically significant home in Wellington Heights



Issues Being Explored

- Historic Review Process:
 - Requiring historic review for all exterior modifications, not just those that require a building permit
 - Expanding administrative permitting

Issues Being Explored

- Demolition Review Process:
 - Allowing for the administrative review of primary structures 50 years and older
 - Adding a review process for accessory structures
 - Adding a review process for partial demolitions

Anticipated Project Timeline

Date	Action
September 2015	Adoption of the City's Historic Preservation Plan
Oct 2015– April 2016	Best Practice Research Stakeholder Engagement Sessions
March 2016	Public Workshop
April / May 2016	Draft Ordinance
May 2016	Public Open House
June 2015	Draft Ordinance to SHPO for Review
July- October 2016	City Adoption Process
Begin December 2016	Post-adoption Implementation Trainings with City Departments

Why are we here tonight?

- **We need your input!**
 - City staff will facilitate break-out sessions
 - Each group needs to identify a note taker and a reporter
 - Ask questions and provide your thoughts and ideas
 - Input provided in the break-out sessions will be used to inform the draft ordinance

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