

09-30-2020 Town Council Meeting Responses to Council Questions

ITEM #8: Update on Historic District Design Guidelines

Council Question:

Were there any additional costs associated with the extension of the completion deadline to Feb. 15, 2021? If so, how much?

Staff Response:

There is no increase to the \$25,000 project cost due to the extended deadline.

Council Question:

How has attendance by members of the public been at the virtual design guidelines committee meetings?

Staff Response:

We have had about 3-5 members of the public attend each meeting, depending on the topics scheduled. Community members have shared input via email and staff has heard that community members find the recorded videos of the meetings helpful in following along with the project.

Council Question:

Does Council review and/or approve the changes?

Staff Response:

No, the Design Guidelines are adopted by the Historic District Commission (HDC). There is no required Town Council review or approval of the Design Guidelines, though the Council may share input with staff and the HDC Design Guidelines committee.

Council Question:

Do the guidelines impact use of solar panels and other green building materials/approaches and/or ADUs?

Staff Response:

Yes, there will be design guidelines related to sustainable features such as solar panels as well as a direction on the use of alternative, contemporary materials. Per the contract with the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), the revised Design Guidelines do need to comply with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards. Staff has discussed these items with the HDC Design Guidelines Committee and will also be asking the larger HDC for feedback on these items at the October 13th HDC meeting. Based on the feedback received, the Design Guidelines will allow

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solar panels and other green buildings materials so long as the HDC finds that they do not detract from the historic character of the historic district. The HDC does not have the ability to regulate uses; however, there will be a section in the new Design Guidelines to address accessory buildings such as detached Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs).