

**Department Name: City-County Historic Preservation**  
**Division Name: Economic Development Division**

**Mission Statement:** "Providing historic property protection and development services to the City of Spokane and Spokane County"

**Customer:** 1.) Developers of historic buildings, 2.) owners of historic and eligible historic properties, 2.) City/County/State agencies who need information for compliance with local state and federal law.

**Product/Service provided:** 1.) Maintain certified status for city and county, 2.) provides incentives for development of historic buildings, 3.) identification of historic properties, 4.) Administration of compliance programs for local, state and federal laws.

**SWOT:**

**Strengths:** Potential for cost recovery thru desirable services; knowledge of product; strong customer service and turn around time; easily accessible information and new webpage; new permit system will provide better coordination within departments, City-County partnership provides consistency in regional service.

**Weaknesses:** Low ratio of staffing to geographic area (HPO services the entire non-incorporated county); low and outdated fee structure; lack of exposure; ordinance lacks strength.

**Opportunities:** Large number of eligible historic buildings; neighborhood interest in historic preservation; opportunities for regional service delivery; services are specialized and desirable (incentives and compliance information); NUSA 2008 Conference as a showcase for historic districts; statistics from the State Economic Impact Study; provide specialized information to agencies for tourism and economic development (CVB, DSP, GSI).

**Threats:** Misperception of historic preservation; dependence on state Certified Local Government program (changing laws, grant funding); competition for County funding; lack of local information on economic impact of historic preservation.

**Departmental Goals/Strategies:**

**Goal 1: Identify, maintain, update and protect and historic sites and structures to guide decision-making in resources planning, environmental review and resource management.**

1. Increase voluntary protection of Logan Neighborhood historic properties by creating a program of free applications and free technical assistance by May 1: By (done)
2. Enter into agreement with DOT regarding east Spokane historic property mitigation: By Sept 30.
3. Increase database of inventoried historic properties through grant-funded survey of Cannon Hill Park: By December 31.

**Goal 2: Maintain Certified Local Government Status for the City of Spokane and Spokane County in order to maintain eligibility for grant funding and the authority to administer incentives.**

1. Apply for Certified Local Government grant to bring required educational training to the Landmarks Commission by May 1: By: (application done, grant received)
2. Participate in Cost Recovery study and re-evaluate historic preservation fees: By October 31.

**Goal 3: Devise and implement strategies and incentives that improve processes and facilitate historic preservation.**

1. Streamline Landmarks Commission procedure at public hearings to facilitate increasing workload of applications: By April 30. (done)
2. Adopt strategies to expand the range of historic properties eligible for incentives. Create a new multiple property designation for downtown warehouses: By July 1. (done)
3. Explore options for additional incentives: By December 31.
4. Explore alternatives to expand preservation programs to provide regional service: By December 31.

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**Goal 4: Promote the appreciation of Spokane's diverse heritage, as expressed by its cultural resources.**

1. Enhance website with improved access: By April 30. (done)
2. Create a brochure and material for a marketing campaign for historic downtown funded: By Preserve America grant: By June 30. (done)
3. Create an identification program for marketing campaign for historic downtown funded: By Preserve America grant: By December 31.



