

Historic Resource Commission Goals

At Jan 11, 2021 HRC meeting Commissioner Swift asked how the Commission could follow a goal's progress? Knew when a goal had been completed?

Very good questions and worth addressing! So, I assigned myself the Action Item to try and create a format that would help the Commission follow the progress and completion of each identified goal.

Objective: Track identified goals to 1) know when a new goal is added and when, 2) follow progress through staff actions, Commissioner consensus, and Board vote, and 3) acknowledge when a goal is accomplished.

Action Item: Create a format that will be easy to use, track a goal from initiation through all actions taken by either Commission or staff, and the final decision that it has been completed or is a long-term goal.

Process:

1. I am willing to work on this AI by myself along with Senior Planner Annie Murphy with a report given at each meeting for discussion and consensus by the Board for next step OR
2. Creation of a sub-committee to continue work on this AI with input from Senior Planner Annie Murphy
3. Expectation is that this AI will continue across more than one Board meeting to achieve a finalized format and reporting process to be following at each meeting OR
4. The Commission reaches a consensus to continue in the manner that HRC goals are followed and accomplishments are reported now and that this AI is closed with no more work done on it

Goal:

1. Reach a consensus by the HRC Board on whether to continue this AI or stop work on it.
2. If consensus is to move forward, next steps would be on identifying what our current goals are, agree on a format to use for tracking their progress, and how to acknowledge their completion.

How Are HRC Goals Tracked?

Process:

1. Went back through HRC meeting minutes as far as I had copies (Oct 2, 2017) using a spreadsheet format.
2. Identified each goal from HRC minutes and created a separate sheet for each goal.
3. Went through all meeting minutes from Oct 2, 2017 through to Jan 11, 2021 and notated each goal's motion made, action taken and if completed with date.
4. If goal was left open or on-going without any reporting, action, or motion, it was NOT noted on goal's progress. *it would become too unwieldy to list every meeting's goals review.
5. Sent spreadsheet to Staff Analysis Annie Murphy for corroboration of motions, actions requested, staff reports and accompanying dates, and any omissions.
6. This is a work-in-progress and strictly a starting point. This is a Commission's document to massage into a working document that works best for them.

Next Step:

1. Decide whether to continue with this AI or not. As sub-committee or have Chair continue with Staff Analysis
2. As an agenda item for future meetings address the following questions:
 - a. Determine how to define what actions are true goals for the Commission a
 - b. Determine what type of goals each is (realistic, current, long-term, aspirational, etc.)
 - c. Decide what information should be tracked
3. Expect other questions to be added in determining when, how, type, action of goals should be considered for adding to list.
4. Will goal reviewing and reporting at quarterly meetings change?
5. How to handle completed goals

Open for Commission comments

Example of format

Goal #3: Demolition & Partial Demolition			
<u>Date</u>	<u>Goal</u>	<u>Action Taken</u>	<u>Status</u>
<u>10/2/2017</u>	3. Discuss demolition & partial demolition, including review code requirements, HRC authority scope, & best way to interact w/public regarding such projects.	Apr 10, 2017: Commissioner Merriam reported on Demolition by Neglect ordinances & consider formation of subcommittee.	
		Discuss demolition by neglect, including evaluating incentive-based approaches	On-going
		Feb 9, 2018: Review of SCZ Co Code regulations & procedures regarding demolition & partial demolition	Apr 2nd mtg - Request report on feasibility to update application requirement for demolition of historic resource.
		Apr 8, 2018: SCZ Co Planning Dept provided review of SCZ Co Code for historic resource demolition & partial demolitions & how best to describe projects involving demolition to public.	Changes requested by Commission with report due back. Staff Comment 3/30: Changes recommended by Commission on 4/2/18 to be included in Sustainability update

		Jul 2, 2018: Report back to Commission for SCZ Co Code #16.42.060 (A) & #16.42.060 (B)	Motion: Create subcommittee Merriam & Jenkins to evaluate possible guidelines for demolition applications necessary to finding that preservation of historic resource is NOT feasible because it would create exceptional hardship. Report @ Oct 1, 2018 mtg. Jan 6, 2020: Application submittal requirements for demolition updated. Goal: Completed
		Oct 1, 2018: Copy of Ordinance prepared by Co Counsel with minor revisions to SCCC Chapt 2.38 to clarify code provisions & update code citations & statutory references.	Sept 25, 2018: Approved in Concept by Bd of Supervisors.
		Jul 1, 2019: Review potential approaches for addressing demolition by neglect	Discuss @ Oct meeting
		Jan 6, 2020 mtg: Discuss potential approaches toward evaluating incentive-based approaches	Staff evaluating amending code to allow additional economically viable uses to facilitate maintenance or rehabilitation of a designated historic structure.

		Oct 14, 2020: staff drafting amendment language to SCZ CO Code. HRC will review once draft completed	
		Jan 11, 2021: Amendment to SCZ CO Code proposed to be included in Sustainability Update.	Staff will provide draft language for HRC review

Historic Resources Commission Goals for 2020

Status Updated December 30, 2020

1. Support staff efforts to work with an intern or extern to update the Santa Cruz Inventory of Historic Resources, including identify buildings whose condition may have changed since the last inventory update and to correct information in the Inventory, and to make the Inventory available online and accessible to the public.
Status: Securing intern delayed due to COVID, and direction from Board of Supervisors to work remotely whenever feasible. Will secure intern when workplace pandemic restrictions have been lifted.
2. Continue to work on the HRC Watch List of properties that are not designated as historic but warrant further historic evaluation under CEQA when discretionary applications are submitted.
Attachment: Watch List
3. Support staff efforts and work with staff to amend the County Code to include an incentive-based approach for maintaining and rehabilitating historic resources and preventing demolition by neglect. The amendments would allow additional uses to be considered beyond those otherwise allowed in the zone district, where such use would provide an economically viable use for the parcel that would allow for the maintenance or rehabilitation of a designated historic structure. Revisit additional tools to prevent demolition by neglect such as an ordinance that includes maintenance requirements for designated historic resources at a future date when there is support for moving forward with this approach.
Status: Amendment to the Santa Cruz County Code proposed to be included in the Sustainability Update. Staff will provide draft language for the Commission to review.
4. Revisit idea of implementing a Mills Act program in the future when there is support for such a program, considering previous research provided by Commissioner Merriam, and evaluating feasibility of the County implementing a Mills Act program, the benefits that would be provided in preserving historic resources, and costs to the county and staff time required to develop and implement a program.
Status: County budget cuts and constraints due to the pandemic do not support the implementation of the Mills Act at this time.
5. Expand public outreach and education efforts regarding historic preservation and the work of the Historic Resources Commission in the Community, including the creation of new brochures and information on the Planning Department website. Include information regarding the 2020 state tax credit for properties on the National or State Register of Historic Places. Consider participating in public outreach events such as the Environmental Town Hall in the San Lorenzo Valley.
Status: Brochures available on the Planning Department website. Information on the California Historic Tax Credit pending release of information from the Office of Historic Preservation, and the release of funding from the State of California.
6. Consider training opportunities for the Commission for 2020, and provide input to staff regarding training topics or attending particular trainings.
Status: Three Webinars made available to the Commission in December for the 2020 calendar year.

