

Central City 2035:

Historic Resources Framework

Draft Goal:

Enhance the Central City's urban fabric and civic identity by preserving and rehabilitating its historically, culturally and architecturally significant buildings and places, while encouraging contextually-sensitive infill development and the creation of a new architectural legacy for future generations.

Draft Objectives:

- Identify, protect, improve and promote the Central City's historically and architecturally important buildings, structures, districts, landscapes and sites.
- Strengthen the vitality of historic districts by incorporating infill development that responds to the surrounding historic context and preserves the integrity of the district, while reflecting contemporary design values and practices.
- Create legible transitions between historic districts and surrounding neighborhoods.
- Foster inclusive historic preservation and public history activities that embrace Portland's diverse communities, cultures and history.
- Increase the long-term viability of historic structures and improve public safety through seismic retrofits and structural upgrades.
- Promote historic preservation as a sustainable development strategy through adaptive reuse of historic buildings, energy upgrades and the reuse of historic materials.
- Preserve and celebrate publicly-owned historic structures as our common civic heritage.
- Use a broad set of historic preservation tools and incentives, including regulatory, financial, educational and promotional elements.

Equity Statement:

The CC2035 plan effort seeks to develop policies and identify actions that increase participation of all communities, residents, businesses and property owners in historic preservation and public history activities and to strengthen peoples' engagement with their own cultural heritage while increasing their understanding of the heritage of others.

NOTE: This statement may be modified once the Portland Plan's directives regarding equity have been reviewed and finalized following public review.

Potential Actions:

- Develop sustainable public funding strategies and financial tools that support preservation and rehabilitation of the Central City's historic buildings and structures.
- Review and amend where appropriate preservation zoning tools, including height and FAR allowances, bonus and transfer provisions, preservation zoning incentives, and historic design review provisions.
- Update the Historic Resources Inventory in the Central City, including its post-war and Modern-era resources, and identify potential new historic landmarks and historic districts.
- Explore the creation of new tools to recognize, commemorate and promote collections of thematically related historic and cultural resources, outside of the formal National Register historic district process.