I. What is the Historic Resources Commission?

In August of 1998, the Santa Ana City Council approved an ordinance, which created the Historic Resources Commission (HRC). The HRC was established to recognize and preserve historic structures important to the protection of the rich historic heritage of the City of Santa Ana. This nine-member board will advise and make recommendations regarding historic properties; recommend to the City Council policies and regulations related to the protection, reuse, and rehabilitation of historic structures; and foster public awareness of historic and architectural resources throughout the City.

II. When does a property require HRC review?

In addition to the creation of the HRC, the City Council also created a list of historically significant properties called the Santa Ana Register of Historical Properties commonly referred to as the local Register. Any property on the local Register proposing an exterior alteration (painting excluded), relocation, or demolition of the historic structure must first have that request reviewed by the HRC. The attached application must be completed and submitted to the Planning Division to schedule the required HRC public hearing. At the public hearing, the HRC will evaluate the merits of the proposal, consider public input, and provide appropriate comments for the project prior to taking action on the proposal.

III. How long does the process take?

The HRC meets the first Thursday of each month. A minor exterior alteration generally may be scheduled for the next month’s meeting provided sufficient time exists for the proper noticing of the public hearing and the processing of the appropriate environmental review. Demolitions and more complex modifications often require more extensive environmental analysis and may take considerably longer to review and schedule for hearing.

For additional information, please contact the Planning Division at (714) 647-5804.