2018 WORK PLAN

GOAL 1: Improvements to Existing Codes and Processes

The Historic Landmarks Commission and staff continue to work to ensure that the Historic Preservation Code reflects the policies within the Comprehensive Plan as well as City Council’s goals. Minor Updates and improvements to SRC Chapter 230 as part of the UDC update will be completed in the spring of 2018.

The Historic Landmarks Commission will coordinate with the Planning Commission (PC) to receive training on land use and ethics from the City Attorney in 2018.

GOAL 2: Public Outreach and Education

The HLC plans to work with a new Heritage Neighborhood in the fall/winter of 2018.

The HLC will continue its development of their social media and multi-media educational outreach program in order to share the wealth of information about Salem’s historic resources.

As well, the HLC plans to offer both a window workshop and a seismic upgrade workshop for residential historic property owners in Salem.

In addition to celebrating Historic Preservation Month each May, the HLC will add a number of new historic and heritage commemorations to their calendar.
in order to educate and further honor the diverse heritage within our community.

2018 Historic & Heritage Commemorations

- African American Historic Month - February
- Historic Preservation Month – May
- Asian Pacific Heritage Month - May
- Archaeology Month – October
- Hispanic Heritage Month - September
- Native American Heritage Month – November

In order to improve public outreach and education to the Native American Community in 2018, the HLC will work with the Legislative Commission on Indian Services (LCIS) to identify the tribes with deep historic and cultural ties to the City of Salem. As a result, the HLC will provide recommendations to the Salem City Council to improve and strengthen communication and cooperation between the tribes and the city on matters of mutual interest.

GOAL 3: Economic & Recognition Incentives

The HLC will offer two cycles of the Residential Toolbox grant in 2018, including grants for seismic upgrades of historic residential properties. Information about the program and how to submit an application can be found at this link:

http://www.cityofsalem.net/Pages/apply-for-a-residential-toolbox-grant.aspx
Awards recognizing both exceptional individuals and projects in historic preservation will be given out in May 2018, during Historic Preservation Month. We will also host our 4th annual “This Place Matters” historic photo contest in the spring of 2018, with the winners announced at the May HLC meeting.

Calling All Photographers!! (Amateur or Professional)

The Salem Historic Landmark Commission (HLC) announces the 4th annual “This Place Matters” Historic Photo Contest. Every person in Salem has a place that is important to them, places they care about, a place that matters! We want to see and celebrate the places that matter to you, so the HLC is looking for photos highlighting Salem’s Historic buildings, neighborhoods and historic places. All photos will be on exhibit at the Capitol during Historic Preservation Month May 2018. There will be prizes awarded for the winning entry in each category.

3 Categories:
- Best Historic Building Photo
- Best Historic Neighborhood Photo
- Best Historic Place Photo

Photo submission rules: One entry per category and the wording THIS PLACE MATTERS included in the picture.

Submissions due by March 31, 2018 to Kimball Fitzgerald at kfitzgerald@salemplanning.net or Sally Studnar at sstudnar@salem.net

GOAL 4: Survey and Designate Resources

We will complete a necessary update of the survey information and historic context for Salem’s Downtown Historic District, updating eligibility information and historic data regarding historic resources downtown.
We will work with the Oregon State Archaeologist to transfer existing information about Salem’s archaeological resources and incorporate this protected data into our internal GIS, in order to improve our ability to protect these valuable resources and help property owners and developers better plan their projects in order to avoid impacting known archaeological sites within Salem.

GOAL 5: Promote Heritage Tourism and Local History

The HLC will continue to provide a liaison to the Salem Heritage and Culture Forum, a group that is working to promote Salem’s heritage and local history.

For more information about the Forum, visit their website: [https://salemcultureandheritageforum.org/](https://salemcultureandheritageforum.org/)
The Salem Landmarks Commission will work with the Friends of the Pioneer Cemetery, Willamette University and the Chinese American Community to interpret and share the history of the Chinese community in Salem through development of a plan to restore and interpret the Chinese Shrine at the Salem Pioneer Cemetery.

New Direction to Interpret Diverse Histories:

The National Historic Preservation Act, which is the basis of our protections for historic resources was originally adopted in 1966. We celebrated 50 years last year, and in honor of this anniversary, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) developed their priorities and recommendations for the future. One of the priorities identified by the ACHP in 2016 is to encourage the identification and interpretation of historic places associated with underrepresented communities. In particular the ACHP stated that a more expansive approach to understanding and interpreting historic significance of diverse communities is needed. The National Park Service has further demonstrated their commitment to this policy through their Underrepresented Communities Grant which supports the survey and designation of historic properties that are associated with communities currently underrepresented in the National Register of Historic Places.
The State Historic Preservation Office has recently completed their State Historic Preservation Plan (the Plan). The Plan establishes policy 6.1 to work with the State Advisory Committee on Historic Preservation (SACHP) and seek the input of youth, the public, traditional preservation partners, and the larger heritage community. They will develop priorities for state-level survey and designation projects to create a more thematically representative state inventory and National Register of Historic Places list.

The Plan also establishes policy 6.3 which prioritizes working with appropriate partners to identify archaeological sites that are thematically representative of the state’s diverse population.

It is clear that it is a priority at the National, State and local level, for diverse communities to be more effectively engaged and supported in preserving their own heritage and telling their part of the American story. Our local community has learned valuable lessons from our history, and yet we have a lot more work to do in order to heal the past.

Unlike the leaders of previous the century, our local leaders in Salem today have committed to a policy of inclusiveness (i.e. Salem City Council’s Resolution to become an Inclusive City in February of 2017). Inclusivity and interpretation of the history of underrepresented communities is an important goal of the Salem Historic Landmarks Commission. Through our Chinese Shrine Project, we hope to begin work toward accomplishing this important goal within Salem’s community.