



Community and Economic Development Department
Planning and Neighborhood Engagement Divisions

City of Arts & Innovation

January 31, 2018

Mayor and City Council Members
City of Riverside
3900 Main Street
Riverside, CA 92522

Honorable Mayor and Council Members:

On behalf of the members of the Cultural Heritage Board, and as the Chair of the Board, I am pleased to report to you the activities of the Board and the tasks which lie ahead of us for the upcoming year.

The Board has reviewed numerous cases since our last appearance before the council in October of 2016, during the course of its public meeting process. The highlights of these cases, as well as ongoing projects with Historic Preservation Staff, include the following:

1. We have conducted Inter-Agency review and approval for key projects, such as the Citywide Street Light Program and the Mission Booster Station.
2. We reviewed and approved key downtown development projects that will provide housing and change the vertical landscape of downtown, including: The Stalder, Main and 9th, and the Mission Heritage Plaza which includes the Civil Rights Museum.
3. We approved through the Certificate of Appropriateness process improvements to significant City Landmarks, such as: the Mission Inn storefront improvements (Casey's Cupcakes), fencing at the Santa Fe Depot, new garage construction at 4811 Brockton, required review of the William Childs House for significant landscape construction including decking and outdoor patios, construction of an outbuilding at Benedict Castle to support the mission of Teen Challenge, and rehabilitation plans for the Olivewood victorians known as the McIntyre and Sweat Houses.
4. We participated in tours of significant historic buildings in Riverside like Benedict Castle and Camp Anza, winner of a Governor's Award and California Preservation Foundation Award.
5. We saw the newly created Point of Cultural Interest receive City Council approval, including a ribbon cutting/unveiling and installation of the sign, for the Pachappa Camp/Dosan's Republic (Riverside's Koreatown).

6. We approved through Certificates of Appropriateness a number of tough cases, including: Several cases regarding unpermitted work in the Wood Streets, and several cases for substantial and challenging expansions to existing structures or districts, including:
 - o Front addition at 4258 Larchwood Place with compatible design expanding a "temporary" house in the wood streets
 - o Two-story garage addition at 2523 Adams Street
 - o Two-story new in-fill house proposed at 3541 5th Street.
7. We held a public training workshop on the Secretary of Interior Standards for Rehabilitation, the national guiding principles for compatibility of new work and additions to historic buildings.
8. We supported and participated in the work of the Historic Preservation Fund Committee (HPFC) including the final report on the expenditure of \$595,898.41 funds by October 17, 2016. Three HPFC projects won an award from the Old Riverside Foundation.
9. We supported the second annual Doors Open Event that included 20 buildings in downtown and this year included sites elsewhere in the City.
10. We supported Cultural Heritage staff in their participation in architecture courses at California Baptist University both as jury members and teachers.
11. We supported the National Register nomination of the Community Settlement Association for its significant contributions to California and Riverside's 20th Century Latino historic context, the first National Register nomination at the City in over 12 years and funded by the State Historic Preservation Office.
12. We supported the Cultural Heritage Board staff in grant efforts as follows which will take place during the next two years: review of the Chinese American Context Final Draft and recommendation to City Council, application and receipt of the National Park Service Civil Rights Context Grant, and Certified Local Government Grant for Citywide Latino Context.
13. We elected Steve Lech as the Chair and James Cuevas as the Vice Chair in March of 2017, elected Chuck Tobin as the CHB representative to the HP Fund, and said thank you and good bye to long term outgoing members Michelle Gilleece and John Field.
14. We supported the City's ongoing Mills Act program which included six Mills Acts awarded within the period (one in 2016, five in 2017) bringing the total to 62.

The Board extends its thanks, as always, to the City Planning Staff and especially the Historic Preservation Staff who continue to carefully prepare the case reports and present them to the Board with an extremely high level of expertise and professionalism. Staff's observations are informed and fair, which in turn assists the Board in making informed and fair decisions.

We look forward to the coming years when through several contextual surveys (Latino, Civil Rights and the African American experience in Riverside) we will continue to add to the work on Japanese American and Chinese American contexts so that Riverside will better represent the diverse history of its population, architecture and story.

To close, on behalf of the Board, I would like to thank the City Council for their continued support in promoting historic preservation citywide. With your partnership, we can continue to protect and enhance the unique history and character of Riverside.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Steve Lech', with a stylized, cursive script.

Steve Lech
Chairperson, Cultural Heritage Board