



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT • 1140 Terex Road • Hudson, Ohio 44236 • (330) 342-1790

DATE: January 8, 2025
TO: City Council
FROM: The Architectural and Historic Board of Review
Staff Liaison Amanda Krickovich, Associate Planner
RE: Annual City Council Update

2024 in Review

- The AHBR met 22 times in 2024. Meetings are held on the second and fourth Wednesday of the month.
- The AHBR reviewed a total of 166 cases, of which 59 cases involved historic structures.
- One new board member was appointed to a full-term starting July 17, 2024 – Jamie Sredinski.
- The Board held a workshop on December 3, 2024 which included discussion of Board procedures, summary of work on 2024 goals and targeting 2025 goals.
- The Board implemented a new process of including specific code sections while making motions in order to clarify the record for decisions.

2024 Objectives

- *Continue to Review applications and implement the City's Design Standards and Secretary of Interior Standards.*
Objective Update: The AHBR met the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of every month to continue serving the public by reviewing applications.
- *Complete a training session for Board members on historic material and historic property review criteria.*
Objective Update: The AHBR discussed topics during the December workshop and targeted additional research for staff and/or the consultant architect to perform in 2025.
- *Work with city staff to commence an update on the City's Historic Landmark properties program, which allows property owners to voluntary designate their homes for landmark status and to be subject to the historic properties review criteria.*
Objective Update: This objective is listed as a core duty of the AHBR per Section 1202.04 of the Land Development Code. The Board reviewed a preliminary list of properties that could be eligible for such effort and requests to speak to Council for guidance. The Board notes a substantial update has not occurred in over 20 years. The AHBR suggests the effort start by sending a letter to owners of potential landmarks seeking their thoughts on voluntary designation.

- *Support the adoption and implementation of the Comprehensive Plan including any applicable design or historic preservation related recommendations.*
Objective Update: The AHBR was updated by staff and by the Steering Committee liaison on the Comprehensive Plan. The AHBR will continue to work with staff on any applicable design or historic preservation items that were included.
- *Consider ways to provide more outreach to residents regarding items needed from the City when doing exterior renovation projects.*
Objective Update: The AHBR directed staff to include renovation related content in social media bursts and to regularly include such content in the Hudson News. Additionally, the AHBR requested staff look into the feasibility of contacting new owners of properties within the Historic District via utility billing information.

2025 Objectives

- Continue to review applications and implement the City's Design Standards and the Secretary of Interior Standards.
- Complete the Historic Landmark Program update. Review and update the list every 5 years.
- Conduct an annual workshop and/or training session for Board members.
- Make updates to the Design Standards that are compatible with common trends and best practices regarding historic preservation.
- Explore more efficient deterrents and penalties for work conducted without a zoning certificate or certificate of appropriateness (Historic District).