

JOLIET HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
2026
DRAFT GOALS AND PRIORITY ACTIONS

Educate the Public about Historic Resources	Stewardship of Designated Historic Properties	Promote Historic Resources
<p>Utilize Historic Preservation Month (May) as an opportunity to promote Joliet’s unique historic resources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • create a programmatic calendar for Historic Preservation Month • utilize social media platforms for disseminating content to the public • co-sponsor one educational program 	<p>Update the Certificate of Appropriateness Application form and website to ensure a clear, transparent, prompt and predictable permitting process</p>	<p>Encourage use of the Residential and Commercial Design Guidelines Manuals</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with City Center Partnership to encourage use of Commercial Design Guidelines Manual
<p>Partner with the JAHM and comparable organizations to co-sponsor one educational program utilizing research from HPC / City sponsored projects.</p>	<p>Review data input process and efficiency of the City’s building permit software program</p>	<p>Ensure that the City’s historic resources are considered during the City’s Comprehensive Plan process</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review and comment on draft comprehensive plan
<p>Hold two technical workshops. Potential topics include: painting / siding, windows, real estate, insurance, financial incentives, etc.</p> <p><i>SHPO volunteered to deliver presentations on financial incentives: Property Tax Assessment Freeze Program and Tax Credits.</i></p>	<p>Promote applicable workshop opportunities to property owners.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update email database of historic property owners so that staff can forward free workshop opportunities 	<p>Review and update the City’s preservation webpage to ensure alignment with ongoing and recently completed projects.</p>

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<p>Deliver a presentation at the Joliet Landlord Training should this event be held.</p>	<p>Address shortage of available and knowledgeable historic preservation-minded contractors.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prepare inventory of local contractors. 2. Convene meeting with local contractors 3. Understand training gaps at local and regional programs 4. Work with LI to address issue at the regional and state level. 	<p>Monitor the successful completion of ongoing projects:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Joliet Area African American Historic Context Study</i> 2. <i>Route 66 Centennial</i> 3. <i>I-80 Des Plaines River Bridge Community Plan</i> 4. <i>Joliet Comprehensive Plan</i>
	<p>Establish a building permit fee waiver program and explore waiver of other development fees</p>	<p>Sponsor the Annual Historic Preservation Awards Program</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Call for nominations – March 1st
	<p>Continue Holiday Card project as a method of communicating updates and recognizing property owner contribution's to preserving Joliet's heritage</p>	<p>Survey properties on the endangered property list and regularly update and review the list of endangered historic properties</p>
	<p>Meet with the residents of Upper Bluff Local Historic District</p>	<p>Nominate or encourage nomination of at least one property as a landmark</p>
	<p>Review applicability of Existing Building Code and building inspection process for designated and undesignated historic buildings.</p>	

Explore possible funding sources such as CLG, NPS, and C.D.B.G funds for identified historic preservation projects.

(Approved on _____, 2025)