Regular Meeting Agenda Owosso Downtown Historic District Commission Wednesday, February 17, 2016, 6:00 p.m.

Owosso City Council Chambers, 301 W Main St., Owosso, MI 48867

Call to order and roll call:

Review and approval of agenda: February 17, 2016

Review and approval of minutes: September 16, 2015; October 8, 2015

Communications:

- 1) Staff Memorandum
- 2) Meeting minutes of September 16, 2015 & October 8, 2015 (Resolution)

Public Comments:

Committee Reports: None

Public Hearings: None

Items of Business:

1) HDC Response to proposed House Bill 5232 and Senate Bill 720

Public Comments:

Board Comments:

Adjournment:

[The City of Owosso will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at the meeting, to individuals with disabilities at the meeting/hearing upon 72 hours notice to the City of Owosso. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids on services should contact the City of Owosso by writing or calling Amy Kirkland, City Clerk, 301 W. Main St, Owosso, MI 48867 (989) 725-0500 or on the Internet. The City of Owosso Website address is www.ci.owosso.mi.us.l]

Affirmative Resolutions

Owosso Downtown Historic District Commission

Wednesday, February 17, 2016, 6:00 p.m. Owosso City Council Chambers, 301 W Main St., Owosso, MI 48867

Resolution 161702-01 – Approval of Agenda

Motio	n:		
Supp	ort:		
	The Owosso Downto May 20, 2015 as pre	vn Historic District Commission hereby approves the agented.	jenda of
	Ayes:		
	Approved:	Denied:	
Reso	lution 161702-02 – Ap	proval of Minutes	
Motio	n: ort:		
Supp	JII		
	The Owosso Historic 2015 as presented.	District Commission hereby approves the minutes of .	lune 17,
	Ayes:		
	Approved:	Denied:	
Reso	lution 161702-03 – HI	C Response to House Bill 5232 and Senate Bill 720	
Motio	n:		
Suppo	ort:		
Motio	n Notes:		
Reso	lution 151609-06 – Ac	ournment	
Motio	n:		
Supp			
	The Owosso Downto 2015 meeting, effecti	wn Historic District Commission hereby adjourns the e atpm.	April 15,
	Ayes:		
	Nays:		
	Approved:	Denied:	

MINUTES FOR SPECIAL MEETING OWOSSO HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2015, 5:30 p.m. 218 N. PARK STREET & COUNCIL CHAMBERS

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER at 5:40 p.m. by Chairman Newman at 218 N. Park Street

PRESENT: Chairman Scott Newman, Vice-Chairman Vince Gonyou; Secretary Philip Hathaway; Commissioner Gary Wilson

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Susan Montenegro, Assistant City Manager and Director of Community Development; Josh Adams, Owosso Main Street Manager; Timothy Baise, 218 N. Park Street

Item of Business:

1. 218 N. PARK STREET – FAÇADE PAINTING FINAL APPROVAL – Mr. Timothy Baise, property owner, has taped off building to reflect proposed façade painting. The board reviewed tape lines on all sides of the building and agreed the lines reflected an agreeable compromise between the Historic District Commission and Mr. Baise. The board agreed the lines reflected the motion carried at August meeting for Historic District Commission. Mr. Josh Adams took pictures of the tape lines. Board agreed to reconvene at City of Owosso Council Chambers to make motion for final approval of façade painting. Mr. Baise excused himself from remainder of meeting, as he had an appointment.

MEETING RECONVENED AT COUNCIL CHAMBERS & CALLED TO ORDER at 5:50 p.m. by Chairman Newman.

ROLL CALL was taken by Recording Secretary Bridget Cannon.

PRESENT: Chairman Scott Newman, Vice-Chairman Vince Gonyou; Secretary Philip Hathaway; Commissioner Gary Wilson

ABSENT: Commissioner Lance Omer & Commissioner Van Epps

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Susan Montenegro, Assistant City Manager and Director of Community Development; Josh Adams, Owosso Main Street Manager; David Hoag, Community E.P.C., 114 N. Ball Street

AGENDA APPROVAL: Motion by Commissioner Hathaway and supported by Commissioner Wilson to approve the agenda for September 16, 2015 as presented. Yeas All. Motion was passed.

MINUTES APPROVAL: Motion by Commissioner Hathaway and supported by Commissioner Wilson to approve the minutes of the meeting for August 19, 2015 with the following amendment as revised by Commissioner Wilson: He feels it is not fair the property owner made the effort to do things correctly, and was not notified by the city properly that his business is in the historic district. – remit sentence Yeas all. Motion was passed.

Communications:

- 1. Staff Memorandum
- 2. Meeting minutes of August 19, 2015

Public / Commissioner Comments: None

Committee Reports: None

Public Hearings: None

Items of Business: 1) 218 N. PARK STREET – FAÇADE PAINTING FINAL APPROVAL (CONTINUED)

All board members felt the area taped off on-site was an agreeable compromise.

Motion by Commissioner Wilson and supported by Commissioner Hathaway that the Owosso Downtown Historic District Commission, finding that the proposed façade painting at 218 N. PARK STREET do not meet the Secretary of the Interior's Standards, and are inappropriate for the district, hereby directs staff to issue a Notice to Proceed for the work and approve the finalized details for the paint treatment of building as taped off, conditioned upon the following:

1. The north wall of the building shall have a horizontal line established approximately two bands below the roof line, which are evident on the existing paint lines. This horizontal line traces back to the East wall of the building.

2. The south wall shall have a step down feature along the windows to the newer brick on ground floor, and the newer brick can be painted.

3. The Park street treatments on the North and South walls shall also stair step and not be visible from Park Street.

4. The paint color should be as close as possible to the original brick color.

Yeas all. Motion was passed.

2.) 200 W. EXCHANGE STREET - FRONT ENTRY RECONSTRUCTION

Cadwallader Lord Hahn, Inc. Insurance Agency would like to replace the deteriorating concrete pad at their front entrance with a new brick entrance and stairs. Inquiry was made as to whether the new concrete pad would have the same outline as the existing concrete pad. Mr. Josh Adams stated it would have the same footprint, but would be brick. Mr. Michael Ardelean is going to be the contractor doing the brickwork. Commissioner Wilson asks to have board stipulate approval with new concrete pad having same footprint as existing pad.

Motion by Commissioner Hathaway and supported by Commissioner Gonyou that the Owosso Downtown Historic District Commission, finding that the proposed exterior improvements at 200 W EXCHANGE ST meets all the Secretary of the Interior's Standards, as well as local standards, hereby directs staff to issue a Certificate of Appropriateness for the work and building permit application as applied for and

illustrated, conditioned upon the following: New concrete pad has the same footprint as the existing pad.

Yeas all. Motion carried.

3. 114 N. BALL STREET – FRONT ENTRY REPAIR

Mr. David Hoag, Community E.P.C., stated that a driver had recently run their car in to the front of the church office. The existing fiberglass door will have to be replaced, as well as the door trim and wall below front entry window. Mr. Jeremiah Martin, Martin Construction, has been contracted to complete the repair work. Mr. Hoag stated they will be replicating the front entry exactly like it was before it was hit, like-for-like.

Motion by Commissioner Hathaway and supported by Commissioner Gonyou that the Owosso Downtown Historic District Commission, finding that the proposed door and entry repair at 114 N. BALL STREET do not meet the Secretary of the Interior's Standards, and are inappropriate for the district, hereby directs staff to issue a Notice to Proceed for the work and approve the front entry repair, based upon the following: Front entry was already approved by the board in the past, and this is an exact replica of the past approved front entry.

Yeas all. Motion carried.

Public Comments: None

Board Comments:

- Historic District Reminder letter was mailed to property owners within the district 09/04/2015 (see attached);
- Commissioner Hathaway asked that an amendment to existing authorities of administrative staff be brought before the commission, which would allow staff approval of repairs and work that had been brought before the board previously;
- Chairman Newman inquired about the current protocol for addressing deteriorating downtown business facades. Mr. Adams explained the grants were back in place and business owners would be advised of façade grant meetings in the near future.

ADJOURNMENT:

It was moved by Commissioner Wilson and supported by Commissioner Gonyou to adjourn at 6:10 p.m. until October 21, 2015.

Phil Hathaway, Secretary

bac



Joshua Adams Executive Director of Owosso Main Street/DDA City of Owosso josh.adams@ci.owosso.mi.us

301 W MAIN ST • OWOSSO, MI 48867-2958 • 989-725-0599 • FAX 989-725-0526

Date: September 1, 2015

Re: Historic District Reminder Letter

(Insert Parcel Number)

(Insert Owner Address)

Dear Property Owner,

On behalf of the Owosso Historic District Commission (HDC), we are sending this correspondence as a reminder that your property is located within the Owosso Downtown Historic District, pursuant to MCL 399.205 and Section 8-208 of the Owosso City Code. Our goal is to better inform property owners within the district about HDC, its process, and its standards.

HDC is composed of seven residents of the city of Owosso who are appointed by the mayor. These commissioners have demonstrated interest in historic preservation and are committed to the future of Owosso's Downtown Historic District, as well as the businesses that are located within these boundaries. The commission meets the third Wednesday of every month. Drop by the meeting and learn about some exciting changes coming to the Downtown Historic District!

How IT WORKS

If your property/business is located within the boundaries of the Downtown Historic District, there are special regulations that must be followed when changing the exterior of the building.

In order to ensure the district is in line with the historic preservation standards, the HDC or a staff member of the city must review and approve all work that is proposed. Work includes:

- Construction
- Addition
- Alteration
- Repair

- Moving
- Excavation
- Demolition
- Sign

NOTE: While painting does not require a building permit, painting the exterior of an <u>unpainted</u> brick building within the downtown historic district is strictly <u>PROHIBITED</u>. The painting of a building's exterior that has been painted (and paint is still present) is allowed, as long as the appropriate painting procedures are followed.

WORK DOES NOT INCLUDE

- Simple maintenance of the property
- Interior changes

HDC REVIEW PROCESS

A property owner planning an exterior project should contact the HDC staff to determine if the project requires HDC approval. If it is minor work that does not require the commission's approval, it can be approved by the staff member. However, larger projects will need to be reviewed by the commission at their regular meeting.

HDC can approve work projects, issuing a Certificate of Appropriateness (CoA), which means the project meets all standards, or issuing a notice to proceed, meaning not all standards are met but the project can proceed.

If the project is denied, the owner can submit an altered application to HDC for another review. The owner can also appeal the decision to the State Historic Preservation Board.

WHAT STANDARDS DOES HDC USE?

HDC and city staff follow the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation of Historic Buildings. These standards can be found at

<u>www.nps.gov/hps/tps/standguide/rehab/rehab_standards.htm.</u> They are also attached to this correspondence, along with a map showing the boundaries of the district.

These standards for rehabilitation were adopted by HDC in 2011 upon its formation by the city council. All local, state, and national historic districts follow these standards when evaluating and assessing changes in their historic districts.

THINGS TO THINK ABOUT.

- First, attempt to repair elements of the exterior before replacing them
- If the element must be replaced, use like materials (i.e. old wood door to new wood door not old wood door to new metal door)
- Do NOT buy new materials before obtaining a Certificate of Appropriateness from the HDC or approval from a staff member
- Owosso Main Street (OMS) is available to possibly assist with designs and incentive programs

Along with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation of Historic Buildings and the map of the district, we have included a flow chart that shows the process of approval, and a copy of our application for a Certificate of Appropriateness.

Thank you for your commitment to our downtown and efforts to preserve our beautiful, historic buildings.

If you have any questions regarding the foregoing, please telephone my office at 989.494.3344.

Sincerely,

Fortun D. Adam

Josh Adams Executive Director Owosso Main Street/DDA City of Owosso josh.adams@ci.owosso.mi.us

MINUTES FOR SPECIAL MEETING OWOSSO HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2015, 6:00 p.m. COUNCIL CHAMBERS

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER at 6:24 p.m. by Chairman Newman.

ROLL CALL was taken by Recording Secretary Bridget Cannon.

PRESENT: Chairman Scott Newman, Vice-Chairman Vince Gonyou; Secretary Philip Hathaway; Commissioner Matthew Van Epps

ABSENT: Commissioners Lance Omer and Gary Wilson

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Susan Montenegro, Assistant City Manager and Director of Community Development; Josh Adams, Owosso Main Street Manager; Steve Gill, J & S Firestone, 114 E. Exchange Street; Mark Agnew, Agnew Signs & Graphics

AGENDA APPROVAL: Motion by Commissioner VanEpps and supported by Commissioner Gonyou to approve the agenda for October 8, 2015 as presented. Yeas All. Motion was passed.

Communications:

1. Staff Memorandum

Public / Commissioner Comments: None

Committee Reports: None

Public Hearings: None

Items of Business:

1) 114 E. Exchange Street – Façade Improvements

Mr. Steve Gill, J & S Firestone, requests to replace all glass and windows in showroom & install new aluminum/steel cap above metal panels (front and side of building) to cover deteriorating painted brick and prevent water leakage.

Chairman Newman stated this is a non-contributing building within the historic district. Commissioner Hathaway affirmed this is maintenance on a non-contributing building within the district. Commissioner VanEpps inquired if this maintenance will impair the values of historical properties in the district. Chairman Newman stated the petitioner is not removing historic brick, only covering it with sheet metal.

Motion by Commissioner Hathaway and supported by Commissioner Van Epps that the Owosso Downtown Historic District Commission, finding that the proposed exterior improvements at 114 E. Exchange Street do not meet the Secretary of Interior's Standards, and are inappropriate for the district, but recognize that the following conditions prevail:

- 1. Non-contributing building within the historic district
- 2. Maintenance on non-contributing building within the district

Hereby directs staff to issue a Notice to Proceed for the work and building permit application as applied for and illustrated.

Yeas all. Motion was passed.

2. 118 S. Washington Street – Front Façade and Rear Façade Improvements

Vince Gonyou, property owner of 118 S. Washington Street, presented to the board on the proposed front façade and rear façade improvements. Petitioner wishes to replicate front façade of 112 S. Washington Street, which is currently the Nail Boutique. Bellingar Packing is the new tenants at 118 S. Washington Street, so their sign will be hanging above the entrance. The building will be covered from right below the windows down to just above the door.

Chairman Newman asked if any modifications will be done to the row of bricks above the plywood. This brick is the last evidence of early commercial façade in Owosso. Mr. Gonyou contended the brick will be covered, and not be removed or modified. The board agrees that the proposed improvements will not alter the historical brick.

Commissioner Hathaway would like to see an extension of the Bellingar Packing sign to cover above the apartment at 118 ½ S. Washington Street, or center the Bellingar Packing sign between the store front and apartment entrance.

Mark Agnew, Agnew Signs and Graphics, shows an example of the proposed sign that will hang above the front and rear entrances of Bellingar Packing. A sign permit will be applied for through the Building Department and approval must be obtained from the Building Official.

Vince Gonyou leaves council chambers for board discussion and abstains from the vote.

The Owosso Downtown Historic District Commission, finding that the proposed exterior improvements at 118 S. WASHINGTON STREET do not meet the Secretary of Interior's Standards, and are inappropriate for the district, but recognizing that the following condition(s) prevail: Practicality of restoration

Hereby directs staff to issue a Notice to Proceed for the work and approve the front and rear façade improvements.

Yeas all. Motion carried.

Board Comments: None

ADJOURNMENT:

It was moved by Commissioner Hathaway and supported by Commissioner VanEpps to adjourn at 6:50 p.m. until October 21, 2015.

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Advocacy Alert: Historic Resources in Jeopardy with HB 5232 / SB 720

Provided by: Michigan Historic Preservation Network

We need your urgent attention and immediate action. On January 26th, Rep. Chris Afendoulis, R-Grand Rapids, and Sen. Peter MacGregor, R-Rockford, introduced identical legislation into the Local Government Committees of the House and Senate. House Bill 5232 and Senate Bill 720 have serious detrimental impacts to historic resources and local historic districts through proposed amendments to Michigan's Local Historic Districts Act, PA 169 of 1970.

Speak Out!

Tell your legislators why these amendments to PA 169 of 1970 critically jeopardize adequate protection for Michigan's historic resources. The full impact of these bills is far-reaching. Here are a few key ways the proposed bills will negatively impact the existing enabling legislation.

Local Historic Districts are the ONLY way for a community to protect areas of historic significance from insensitive development, inappropriate alterations, and demolition. 78 Michigan communities have chosen to establish protective ordinances since Michigan's enabling legislation was created in 1970. Our current state law effectively protects over 20,000 historic resources within these districts. The proposed bills put these resources, and any designated in the future, at risk by crucially reducing protections and diminishing the authority of local historic district commissions.

Community landmarks would be made vulnerable when a sudden development or demolition threat appears as the bills would require majority property owner consent before the resource could even be placed under study. In the case of a single resource, that would mean the sole property owner would have to be in agreement. Under current state law, the local legislative body can appoint a study committee and then, if the local legislative body chooses, they can resolve to pass a moratorium granting the area under study 6 months of inaction from development, alteration, and demolition. This process allows for consideration of a resource that may not have been previously identified, surveyed, or designated, and can help the community save an important asset. The proposed bills would eliminate this important protective measure.

Requiring a 2/3 majority support petition of property owners before a study committee could be appointed places undue burden on communities seeking to establish local historic district ordinance and would eliminate grant funds available for preservation projects. Private property rights are not neglected in the current process for establishing a district—community meetings about the district are part of the process from the beginning of the study period, as are public hearings where property owners in a proposed district are given ample opportunity to voice their opinions. A local body typically will not vote to approve a local historic district without strong local support. Federal funding for Michigan preservation projects through the Certified Local Government program, one of the VERY few grant programs for historic buildings, would not allow communities opting for majority consent to be eligible for these critical funds.

Dismissal of approved Standards and Guidelines, used nationwide, that historic district commissioners base their reviews upon would leave the current processes open to interpretation. The bills propose the allowance of "other Standards", unspecified, to be considered when making important decisions about historic resources, introducing uncertainty into the process. We need agreed-upon, best-practice Standards to ensure that defensible decisions are made when communities determine which resources to protect, how they might include appropriate historic landmarks in districts, and in how a historic district commission reviews applications for work that will impact these assets well into the future.

These bills aim to eliminate local historic districts in Michigan systematically and over time by requiring a local legislative body vote to reinstate each district, even those long-standing, every 10 years. This would inflict unnecessary costs on a community in the voting process and in staff dedication to the effort. Moreover, in communities with several historic districts, the ballot process would be confusing and unwieldy for the voters. No other state laws have such a requirement and the enabling legislation for local historic districts should not be made the exception.

Not only would the bills create a sunset clause on local historic districts, they would dispose of the current process for dissolving historic districts. The proposed bill amendments would allow local legislative bodies to eliminate local historic districts simply if they chose to do so—without guidelines or justification, and without community input. And while the bills would require majority support in the form of petitioning property owners in a proposed district, and also requiring the voters in a local unit to vote in support of establishing a district, no such petition or vote would be necessary to dissolve a district. This is contradictory and makes it easy to do away with local historic districts and exceedingly difficult to establish local historic districts.

Appeals would be heard at the local level where political and development pressures could affect the outcome rather than at a neutral, state board of appeals. Appeals from aggrieved property owners are currently heard by the State Historic Preservation Review Board, whose members are appointed by the Governor of Michigan. This board offers impartial review under a body of experts using nationally recognized preservation Standards. Development interests and personal/political stances within a given community are therefore aptly distant from the board of review in their decision-making process. Local review of appeals would not ensure the use of preservation Standards in their review of cases. Furthermore, 90% of work applications that come before a historic district commission are granted approval and the number of appeals filed each year is steadily decreasing—only 1 or 2 appeals have been reviewed by the State Review Board in recent years, proof that the current system meets the needs of local communities

HOUSE BILL No. 5232

A bill to amend 1970 PA 169, entitled

"Local historic districts act,"

by amending sections 1a, 3, 5, 9, and 14 (MCL 399.201a, 399.203, 399.205, 399.209, and 399.214), sections 1a and 5 as amended by 2004 PA 67, sections 3 and 9 as amended by 2001 PA 67, and section 14 as added by 1992 PA 96.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

Sec. 1a. As used in this act:

(a) "Alteration" means work that changes the detail of a resource but does not change its basic size or shape.

(B) "AUTHORITY" MEANS THE MICHIGAN STATE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY CREATED BY SECTION 21 OF THE STATE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY ACT OF 1966, 1966 PA 346, MCL 125.1421.

(C) (b) "Certificate of appropriateness" means the written

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January 26, 2016, Introduced by Reps. Afendoulis, Chatfield, Theis, Lucido, Poleski, Lyons, Cox, Sheppard, Hughes, Hooker, Smiley, Price, LaFontaine, Callton, Yonker, Garcia, Victory, Cole, Johnson, Kivela, Jenkins, Bumstead, Kelly and Glenn and referred to the Committee on Local Government.

approval of a permit application for work that is appropriate and
 that does not adversely affect a resource.

3 (D) (c) "Commission" means a historic district commission
4 created by the legislative body of a local unit under section 4.

5 (E) (d) "Committee" means a historic district study committee
6 appointed by the legislative body of a local unit under section 3
7 or 14.

8 (F) (e) "Demolition" means the razing or destruction, whether
9 entirely or in part, of a resource and includes, but is not limited
10 to, demolition by neglect.

(G) (f) "Demolition by neglect" means neglect in maintaining, repairing, or securing a resource that results in deterioration of an exterior feature of the resource or the loss of structural integrity of the resource.

15 (H) (g) "Denial" means the written rejection of a permit 16 application for work that is inappropriate and that adversely 17 affects a resource.

18 (h) "Department" means the department of history, arts, and 19 libraries.

20 (i) "Fire alarm system" means a system designed to detect and
21 annunciate the presence of fire or by-products of fire. Fire alarm
22 system includes smoke alarms.

(j) "Historic district" means an area, or group of areas not necessarily having contiguous boundaries, that contains 1 resource or a group of resources that are related by history, architecture, archaeology, engineering, or culture.

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(k) "Historic preservation" means the identification,

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evaluation, establishment, and protection of resources significant
 in history, architecture, archaeology, engineering, or culture.

3 (l) "Historic resource" means a publicly or privately owned
4 building, structure, site, object, feature, or open space that is
5 significant in the history, architecture, archaeology, engineering,
6 or culture of this state or a community within this state, or of
7 the United States.

8 (m) "Local unit" means a county, city, village, or township.
9 (n) "Notice to proceed" means the written permission to issue
10 a permit for work that is inappropriate and that adversely affects
11 a resource, pursuant to a finding under section 5(6).

12 (o) "Open space" means undeveloped land, a naturally
13 landscaped area, or a formal or man-made landscaped area that
14 provides a connective link or a buffer between other resources.

(p) "Ordinary maintenance" means keeping a resource unimpaired and in good condition through ongoing minor intervention, undertaken from time to time, in its exterior condition. Ordinary maintenance does not change the external appearance of the resource except through the elimination of the usual and expected effects of weathering. Ordinary maintenance does not constitute work for purposes of this act.

(q) "Proposed historic district" means an area, or group of areas not necessarily having contiguous boundaries, that has delineated boundaries and that is under review by a committee or a standing committee SUBJECT TO THE REVIEW PROCESS SET FORTH IN SECTION 3(1)(A) TO (D)(*iii*) OR 14(1) for the purpose of making a recommendation as to DECIDING whether it should be established as a

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1 historic district or added to an established historic district.

2 (r) "Repair" means to restore a decayed or damaged resource to
3 a good or sound condition by any process. A repair that changes the
4 external appearance of a resource constitutes work for purposes of
5 this act.

6 (s) "Resource" means 1 or more publicly or privately owned
7 historic or nonhistoric buildings, structures, sites, objects,
8 features, or open spaces located within a historic district.

9 (t) "Smoke alarm" means a single-station or multiple-station 10 alarm responsive to smoke and not connected to a system. As used in 11 this subdivision, "single-station alarm" means an assembly 12 incorporating a detector, the control equipment, and the alarm 13 sounding device into a single unit, operated from a power supply 14 either in the unit or obtained at the point of installation. "Multiple-station alarm" means 2 or more single-station alarms that 15 are capable of interconnection such that actuation of 1 alarm 16 17 causes all integrated separate audible alarms to operate.

(u) "Standing committee" means a permanent body established by the legislative body of a local unit under section 14 to conduct the activities of a historic district study committee on a continuing basis.

(v) "Work" means construction, addition, alteration, repair,
moving, excavation, or demolition.

Sec. 3. (1) A local unit may, by ordinance, establish 1 or
more historic districts. The historic districts, WHICH shall be
administered by a commission established pursuant to UNDER section
. Before establishing a historic district, SUBJECT TO ALL OF THE

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1 FOLLOWING:

(A) THE LOCAL UNIT SHALL OBTAIN PRELIMINARY APPROVAL OF A
PROPOSED HISTORIC DISTRICT FROM AT LEAST 2/3 OF THE PROPERTY OWNERS
WITHIN THE PROPOSED HISTORIC DISTRICT, AS LISTED ON THE TAX ROLLS
OF THE LOCAL UNIT, PURSUANT TO A WRITTEN PETITION THAT INCLUDES A
PRECISE DESCRIPTION OF THE BOUNDARIES OF THE PROPOSED HISTORIC
DISTRICT.

(B) FOR PURPOSES OF FURTHER CONSIDERING 1 OR MORE PROPOSED 8 HISTORIC DISTRICTS APPROVED UNDER SUBDIVISION (A), the legislative 9 10 body of the local unit shall appoint a historic district study 11 committee. The committee shall contain a majority of persons who 12 have a clearly demonstrated interest in or knowledge of historic 13 preservation, and shall contain representation from 1 or more CONSIST OF 4 TO 7 INDIVIDUALS, 1 OF WHOM IS AN ELECTED MEMBER OF 14 THE LEGISLATIVE BODY OF THE LOCAL UNIT, 1 OF WHOM IS A 15 **REPRESENTATIVE OF A** duly organized local historic preservation 16 organizations. ORGANIZATION, AND AT LEAST 1 OF WHOM IS ENGAGED IN 17 THE BUSINESS OF RESIDENTIAL OR COMMERCIAL CONSTRUCTION. The 18 19 committee shall do all of the following:

(i) (a) Conduct a photographic inventory of resources within
 each proposed historic district. following procedures established
 or approved by the department.

23 (ii) (b) Conduct basic research of each proposed historic
24 district and the historic resources located within that district.

(iii) (c) Determine the total number of historic and
nonhistoric resources within a proposed historic district and the
percentage of historic resources of that total. In evaluating the

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significance of historic resources, the committee shall be guided
 by the selection criteria for evaluation issued by the United
 States secretary of the interior SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR for
 inclusion of resources in the national register of historic places,
 as set forth in 36 C.F.R. CFR part 60. , and criteria established
 or approved by the department, if any.

7 (*iv*) (*d*) Prepare a preliminary historic district study
8 committee report that addresses at a minimum all of the following:

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(A) (i)—The charge of the committee.

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(C) (iii) The historic district or districts studied.

(D) (*iv*)—The boundaries for each proposed historic district in
writing and on maps.

(B) (ii) The composition of the committee membership.

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(E) (v)—The history of each proposed historic district.

15 (F) (vi)—The significance of each district as a whole, as well 16 as a sufficient number of its individual resources to fully 17 represent the variety of resources found within the district, 18 relative to the evaluation criteria.

19 (v) (e) Transmit copies of the preliminary report for review
20 and recommendations to the local planning body, to the department,
21 AUTHORITY, AND to the Michigan historical commission. , and to the
22 state historic preservation review board.

23 (vi) (f) Make copies of the preliminary report available to 24 the public pursuant to subsection (4).(2).

(C) (2) Not less than 60 calendar days after the transmittal
of the preliminary report, the committee shall hold a public
hearing in compliance with the open meetings act, 1976 PA 267, MCL

1 15.261 to 15.275. Public notice of the time, date, and place of the hearing shall be given in the manner required by the open meetings act, 1976 PA 267, MCL 15.261 to 15.275. Written notice shall be mailed by first-class mail not less than AT LEAST 14 calendar days before the hearing to the owners of properties within the proposed historic district, as listed on the tax rolls of the local unit.

7 (D) (3) After ALL OF THE FOLLOWING MUST OCCUR WITHIN 1 YEAR
8 AFTER the date of the public hearing, the committee and the
9 legislative body of the local unit shall have not more than 1 year,
10 unless otherwise SOME OTHER TIME FRAME IS authorized by the
11 legislative body of the local unit: , to take the following
12 actions:

(i) (a) The committee shall prepare and submit a final report with its recommendations and the recommendations, if any, of the local planning body to the legislative body of the local unit. If the recommendation is to establish a historic district or districts, the final report shall MAY include a draft of a proposed ordinance or ordinances.

19 (*ii*) (*b*) After receiving a final report that recommends the 20 establishment of a historic district or districts, the legislative 21 body of the local unit, at its discretion, may introduce and pass 22 or reject an A CONDITIONALLY EFFECTIVE ordinance or ordinances THAT 23 WILL ESTABLISH A HISTORIC DISTRICT OR DISTRICTS ONLY IF APPROVED 24 UNDER SUBPARAGRAPH (*iii*).

25 (*iii*) A CONDITIONALLY EFFECTIVE ORDINANCE OR ORDINANCES PASSED 26 UNDER SUBPARAGRAPH (*ii*) ESTABLISHES A HISTORIC DISTRICT OR 27 DISTRICTS ONLY IF A MAJORITY OF THE ELECTORS IN THE LOCAL UNIT

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1 VOTING AT AN ELECTION APPROVE THAT ESTABLISHMENT OF THE HISTORIC 2 DISTRICT OR DISTRICTS. THIS VOTE SHALL BE TAKEN AT THE NEXT REGULAR 3 ELECTION HELD IN THE LOCAL UNIT THAT OCCURS AT LEAST 70 DAYS AFTER 4 THE PASSAGE OF THE CONDITIONALLY EFFECTIVE ORDINANCE OR ORDINANCES 5 DESCRIBED IN SUBPARAGRAPH (ii).

6 (*iv*) If the local unit passes ACTIONS TAKEN UNDER SUBPARAGRAPHS (ii) AND (iii) RESULT IN THE PASSAGE OF an ordinance 7 or ordinances establishing 1 or more historic districts, the local 8 9 unit shall file a copy of that ordinance or those ordinances, 10 including a legal description of the property or properties located 11 within the historic district or districts, with the register of 12 deeds. A local unit shall not pass an ordinance establishing a 13 contiguous historic district less than 60 days after a majority of 14 the property owners within the proposed historic district, as 15 listed on the tax rolls of the local unit, have approved the establishment of the historic district pursuant to a written 16 17 petition.

(2) (4) A writing prepared, owned, used, in the possession of,
or retained by a committee in the performance of an official
function shall be made available to the public in compliance with
the freedom of information act, 1976 PA 442, MCL 15.231 to 15.246.
Sec. 5. (1) A permit shall be obtained before any work

affecting the exterior appearance of a resource is performed within a historic district or, if required under subsection (4), work affecting the interior arrangements of a resource is performed within a historic district. The person, individual, partnership, firm, corporation, organization, institution, or agency of

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1 government proposing to do that work shall file an application for 2 a permit with the inspector of buildings, the commission, or other duly delegated authority. If the inspector of buildings or other 3 4 authority receives the application, the application shall be 5 immediately referred together with all required supporting 6 materials that make the application complete to the commission. A permit shall not be issued and proposed work shall not proceed 7 until the commission has acted on the application by issuing a 8 9 certificate of appropriateness or a notice to proceed as prescribed in this act. A commission shall not issue a certificate of 10 11 appropriateness unless the applicant certifies in the application 12 that the property where work will be undertaken has, or will have 13 before the proposed project completion date, a fire alarm system or 14 a smoke alarm complying with the requirements of the Stille-DeRossett-Hale single state construction code act, 1972 PA 230, MCL 15 16 125.1501 to 125.1531. A local unit may charge a reasonable fee to 17 process a permit application.

(2) An applicant aggrieved by a decision of a commission 18 19 concerning a permit application may file an appeal with the state 20 historic preservation review board within the department. 21 LEGISLATIVE BODY OF THE LOCAL UNIT. The appeal shall be filed 22 within 60 days after the decision is furnished to the applicant. 23 The appellant may submit all or part of the appellant's evidence and arguments in written form. The review board LEGISLATIVE BODY OF 24 25 THE LOCAL UNIT shall consider an appeal at its first regularly 26 scheduled meeting after receiving the appeal, but may not charge a 27 fee for considering an appeal. The review board LEGISLATIVE BODY OF

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THE LOCAL UNIT may affirm, modify, or set aside a commission's 1 2 decision and may order a commission to issue a certificate of 3 appropriateness or a notice to proceed. A permit applicant 4 aggrieved by the decision of the state historic preservation review 5 board LEGISLATIVE BODY OF THE LOCAL UNIT may appeal the decision to 6 the circuit court having jurisdiction over the historic district 7 commission whose decision was appealed to the state historic preservation review board.LEGISLATIVE BODY OF THE LOCAL UNIT. 8

9 (3) In reviewing plans, the commission shall follow CONSULT 10 the United States secretary SECRETARY of the interior's INTERIOR'S 11 standards for rehabilitation and guidelines for rehabilitating 12 historic buildings, as set forth in 36 C.F.R. CFR part 67, UNLESS THE COMMISSION FINDS THAT A DIFFERENT STANDARD IS IN THE BEST 13 14 INTEREST OF THE COMMUNITY. Design review standards and guidelines that address special design characteristics of historic districts 15 administered by the commission may be followed if they are 16 17 equivalent in guidance to the secretary of interior's standards and quidelines and are established or approved by the department. THE 18 19 COMMISSION FINDS THAT THEY ARE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE 20 **COMMUNITY.** The commission shall also consider all of the following: 21 (a) The historic or architectural value and significance of 22 the resource and its relationship to the historic value of the 23 surrounding area.

(b) The relationship of any architectural features of the
resource to the rest of the resource and to the surrounding area.
(c) The general compatibility of the design, arrangement,
texture, and materials proposed to be used.

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(d) Other factors THAT THE COMMISSION FINDS RELEVANT, such as
 aesthetic value , that the commission finds relevant.AND THE
 REASONABLENESS OF THE ADDITIONAL COSTS REQUIRED TO COMPLETE A
 HISTORICALLY ACCURATE REHABILITATION.

(e) Whether the applicant has certified in the application
that the property where work will be undertaken has, or will have
before the proposed project completion date, a fire alarm system or
a smoke alarm complying with the requirements of the StilleDeRossett-Hale single state construction code act, 1972 PA 230, MCL
125.1501 to 125.1531.

11 (4) The commission shall review and act upon only exterior features of a resource and, except for noting compliance with the 12 13 requirement to install a fire alarm system or a smoke alarm, shall 14 not review and act upon interior arrangements unless specifically 15 authorized to do so by the local legislative body or unless 16 interior work will cause visible change to the exterior of the 17 resource. The commission shall not disapprove an application due to 18 considerations not prescribed in subsection (3).

19 (5) If an application is for work that will adversely affect 20 the exterior of a resource the commission considers valuable to the 21 local unit, state, or nation, and the commission determines that 22 the alteration or loss of that resource will adversely affect the 23 public purpose of the local unit, state, or nation, the commission 24 shall attempt to establish with the owner of the resource an 25 economically feasible plan for preservation of the resource.

26 (6) Work within a historic district shall be permitted through27 the issuance of a notice to proceed by the commission if any of the

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following conditions prevail and if the proposed work can be
 demonstrated by a finding of the commission to be necessary to
 substantially improve or correct any of the following conditions:

4 (a) The resource constitutes a hazard to the safety of the5 public or to the structure's occupants.

6 (b) The resource is a deterrent to a major improvement program
7 that will be of substantial benefit to the community and the
8 applicant proposing the work has obtained all necessary planning
9 and zoning approvals, financing, and environmental clearances.

(c) Retaining the resource will cause undue financial hardship to the owner when a governmental action, an act of God, or other events beyond the owner's control created the hardship, and all feasible alternatives to eliminate the financial hardship, which may include offering the resource for sale at its fair market value or moving the resource to a vacant site within the historic district, have been attempted and exhausted by the owner.

17 (d) Retaining the resource is not in the interest of the18 majority of the community.

19 (7) The business that the commission may perform shall be 20 conducted at a public meeting of the commission held in compliance 21 with the open meetings act, 1976 PA 267, MCL 15.261 to 15.275. 22 Public notice of the time, date, and place of the meeting shall be 23 given in the manner required by the open meetings act, 1976 PA 267, 24 MCL 15.261 to 15.275. A meeting agenda shall be part of the notice and shall include a listing of each permit application to be 25 26 reviewed or considered by the commission.

27

(8) The commission shall keep a record of its resolutions,

proceedings, and actions. A writing prepared, owned, used, in the possession of, or retained by the commission in the performance of an official function shall be made available to the public in compliance with the freedom of information act, 1976 PA 442, MCL 15.231 to 15.246.

6 (9) The commission shall adopt its own rules of procedure and
7 shall adopt design review standards and guidelines for resource
8 treatment to carry out its duties under this act.

9 (10) The commission may delegate the issuance of certificates 10 of appropriateness for specified minor classes of work to its 11 staff, to the inspector of buildings, or to another delegated 12 authority. The commission shall provide to the delegated authority specific written standards for issuing certificates of 13 14 appropriateness under this subsection. On at least a quarterly basis, the commission shall review the certificates of 15 appropriateness, if any, issued for work by its staff, the 16 17 inspector, or another authority to determine whether or not the 18 delegated responsibilities should be continued.

19 (11) Upon a finding by a commission that a historic resource 20 within a historic district or a proposed historic district subject 21 to its review and approval is threatened with demolition by 22 neglect, the commission may do either of the following WITH THE 23 APPROVAL OF THE LEGISLATIVE BODY OF THE LOCAL UNIT:

24 (a) Require the owner of the resource to repair all conditions25 contributing to demolition by neglect.

26 (b) If the owner does not make repairs within a reasonable27 time, the commission or its agents may enter the property and make

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such repairs as are necessary to prevent demolition by neglect. The
 costs of the work shall be charged to the owner, and may be levied
 by the local unit as a special assessment against the property. The
 commission or its agents may enter the property for purposes of
 this section upon obtaining an order from the circuit court.

6 (12) When work has been done upon a resource without a permit, 7 and the commission finds that the work does not qualify for a certificate of appropriateness, the commission may require an owner 8 to restore the resource to the condition the resource was in before 9 10 the inappropriate work or to modify the work so that it qualifies 11 for a certificate of appropriateness. If the owner does not comply 12 with the restoration or modification requirement within a 13 reasonable time, the commission may seek an order from the circuit 14 court to require the owner to restore the resource to its former condition or to modify the work so that it qualifies for a 15 16 certificate of appropriateness. If the owner does not comply or 17 cannot comply with the order of the court, the commission or its 18 agents may enter the property and conduct work necessary to restore 19 the resource to its former condition or modify the work so that it 20 qualifies for a certificate of appropriateness in accordance with 21 the court's order. The costs of the work shall be charged to the 22 owner, and may be levied by the local unit as a special assessment 23 against the property. When acting pursuant to an order of the 24 circuit court, a commission or its agents may enter a property for purposes of this section. 25

26 Sec. 9. (1) The commission shall file certificates of27 appropriateness, notices to proceed, and denials of applications

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for permits with the inspector of buildings or other delegated 1 2 authority. A permit shall not be issued until the commission has acted as prescribed by this act. If a permit application is denied, 3 4 the decision shall be binding on the inspector or other authority. 5 A denial shall be accompanied with a written explanation by the commission of the reasons for denial and, if appropriate, a notice 6 that an application may be resubmitted for commission review when 7 suggested changes have been made. The denial shall also include 8 9 notification of the applicant's rights of appeal to the state historic preservation review board LEGISLATIVE BODY OF THE LOCAL 10 11 UNIT and to the circuit court. The failure of the commission to act 12 within 60 calendar days after the date a complete application is filed with the commission, unless an extension is agreed upon in 13 14 writing by the applicant and the commission, shall be considered to 15 constitute approval.

16 (2) Local public officials and employees shall provide 17 information and records to committees, commissions, and standing 18 committees, and shall meet with those bodies upon request to assist 19 with their activities.

(3) The department AUTHORITY shall cooperate with and assist
local units, committees, commissions, and standing committees in
carrying out the purposes of this act and may establish or approve
standards, guidelines, and procedures that encourage uniform
administration of this act in this state but that are not legally
binding on any individual or other legal entity.

26 Sec. 14. (1) A-EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED IN THIS
27 SUBSECTION, A local unit may at any time establish by ordinance

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additional historic districts, including proposed districts 1 2 previously considered and rejected, may modify boundaries of an existing historic district, or may eliminate an existing historic 3 4 district. Before establishing, modifying, or eliminating a historic district, a historic district study committee appointed by the 5 legislative body of the local unit WHEN CONSIDERING THE 6 ESTABLISHMENT OF AN ADDITIONAL HISTORIC DISTRICT OR THE 7 MODIFICATION OF THE BOUNDARIES OF AN EXISTING ONE, THE LOCAL UNIT 8 SHALL FIRST OBTAIN THE PETITION DESCRIBED IN SECTION 3(1)(A) BEFORE 9 THE LEGISLATIVE BODY OF THE LOCAL UNIT MAY APPOINT A HISTORIC 10 DISTRICT STUDY COMMITTEE OR AUTHORIZE THE SERVICES OF A RETAINED 11 12 INITIAL COMMITTEE, A STANDING COMMITTEE, OR A COMMITTEE ESTABLISHED TO CONSIDER ONLY SPECIFIC PROPOSED DISTRICTS AND THEN BE DISSOLVED. 13 IF A COMMITTEE IS APPOINTED OR ITS SERVICES ARE AUTHORIZED BY THE 14 LEGISLATIVE BODY OF THE LOCAL UNIT, FURTHER CONSIDERATION OF THE 15 ESTABLISHMENT OF AN ADDITIONAL HISTORIC DISTRICT OR MODIFICATION OF 16 THE BOUNDARIES OF AN EXISTING ONE SHALL FOLLOW THE PROCEDURES SET 17 FORTH IN SECTION 3(1)(B) TO (D) AND THE COMMITTEE SHALL ALSO 18 19 CONSIDER ANY PREVIOUSLY WRITTEN COMMITTEE REPORTS PERTINENT TO THE 20 PROPOSED ACTION. WHEN CONSIDERING THE ELIMINATION OF A HISTORIC DISTRICT, THE LEGISLATIVE BODY OF THE LOCAL UNIT MAY APPOINT A 21 HISTORIC DISTRICT STUDY COMMITTEE AND MAY DO SO WITHOUT THE 22 23 PETITION DESCRIBED IN SECTION 3(1)(A) FIRST BEING OBTAINED; THAT 24 COMMITTEE shall , except as provided in subsection (2), comply with 25 the procedures set forth in section 3-3(1)(B) TO (D) and shall 26 consider any previously written committee reports pertinent to the 27 proposed action; AND ANY ORDINANCE THAT THE LEGISLATIVE BODY OF THE

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LOCAL UNIT PASSES FOR PURPOSES OF ELIMINATING THE HISTORIC DISTRICT 1 IS EFFECTIVE WITHOUT THE ELECTORS' APPROVAL DESCRIBED IN SECTION 2 3(1)(D)(ii) TO (iii) SUBSEQUENTLY BEING OBTAINED. To conduct these 3 4 THE activities DESCRIBED IN THIS SUBSECTION, local units may, SUBJECT TO THE PETITION PROCEDURE REFERENCED IN THIS SUBSECTION, 5 retain the initial committee, establish a standing committee, or 6 7 establish a committee to consider only specific proposed districts and then be dissolved. 8

9 (2) If considering elimination of a historic district, a
10 committee shall follow the procedures set forth in section 3 for
11 issuing a preliminary report, holding a public hearing, and issuing
12 a final report but with the intent of showing 1 or more of the
13 following:

14 (i) The historic district has lost those physical

15 characteristics that enabled establishment of the district.

16 (*ii*) The historic district was not significant in the way

17 previously defined.

18 (iii) The historic district was established pursuant to 19 defective procedures.

20 (2) (3) Upon receipt of substantial evidence showing the 21 presence of historic, architectural, archaeological, engineering, 22 or cultural significance of a proposed historic district, the 23 legislative body of a local unit may, at its discretion, adopt a 24 resolution requiring that all applications for permits within the proposed historic district be referred to the commission as 25 26 prescribed in sections 5 and 9. The commission shall review permit 27 applications with the same powers that would apply if the proposed

historic district was an established historic district. The review may continue in the proposed historic district for not more than 1 year, or until such time as the local unit approves or rejects the establishment of the historic district by ordinance, IS APPROVED OR REJECTED PURSUANT TO THE PROCEDURES SET FORTH IN SECTION 3 OR 14, whichever occurs first.

7 (3) (4) If the legislative body of a local unit determines that pending work will cause irreparable harm to resources located 8 within an established historic district or a proposed historic 9 10 district, the legislative body may by resolution declare an 11 emergency moratorium of all such work for a period not to exceed 6 12 months. The legislative body may extend the emergency moratorium 13 for an additional period not to exceed 6 months upon finding that 14 the threat of irreparable harm to resources is still present. Any pending permit application concerning a resource subject to an 15 16 emergency moratorium may be summarily denied.

(4) A HISTORIC DISTRICT IN EXISTENCE ON THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF 17 THE AMENDATORY ACT THAT ADDED THIS SUBSECTION SHALL DISSOLVE 10 18 19 YEARS AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THE AMENDATORY ACT THAT ADDED THIS SUBSECTION UNLESS THE QUESTION OF ITS RENEWAL IS SUBMITTED TO 20 THE ELECTORS IN THE LOCAL UNIT AT THE REGULAR ELECTION IMMEDIATELY 21 PRECEDING THE DATE THAT THE HISTORIC DISTRICT WOULD OTHERWISE 22 23 DISSOLVE AND A MAJORITY OF THOSE ELECTORS VOTING AT THE ELECTION APPROVE THE RENEWAL OF THE HISTORIC DISTRICT. A HISTORIC DISTRICT 24 ESTABLISHED UNDER THIS ACT OR RENEWED UNDER THIS SUBSECTION AFTER 25 THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THE AMENDATORY ACT THAT ADDED THIS SUBSECTION 26 27 SHALL DISSOLVE 10 YEARS AFTER THE DATE OF THAT ESTABLISHMENT OR

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RENEWAL UNLESS THE QUESTION OF ITS RENEWAL IS SUBMITTED TO THE
 ELECTORS IN THE LOCAL UNIT AT THE REGULAR ELECTION IMMEDIATELY
 PRECEDING THE DATE THAT THE HISTORIC DISTRICT WOULD OTHERWISE
 DISSOLVE AND A MAJORITY OF THOSE ELECTORS VOTING AT THE ELECTION
 APPROVE THE RENEWAL OF THE HISTORIC DISTRICT. A RENEWAL APPROVED
 UNDER THIS SUBSECTION IS EFFECTIVE ON THE DATE THAT THE HISTORIC
 DISTRICT WOULD HAVE OTHERWISE DISSOLVED.

SENATE BILL No. 720

January 26, 2016, Introduced by Senators MACGREGOR, SCHUITMAKER and ZORN and referred to the Committee on Local Government.

A bill to amend 1970 PA 169, entitled

"Local historic districts act,"

by amending sections 1a, 3, 5, 9, and 14 (MCL 399.201a, 399.203, 399.205, 399.209, and 399.214), sections 1a and 5 as amended by 2004 PA 67, sections 3 and 9 as amended by 2001 PA 67, and section 14 as added by 1992 PA 96.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

SENATE BILL No. 720 1

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Sec. 1a. As used in this act:

2 (a) "Alteration" means work that changes the detail of a 3 resource but does not change its basic size or shape.

(B) "AUTHORITY" MEANS THE MICHIGAN STATE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY CREATED BY SECTION 21 OF THE STATE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY ACT OF 1966, 1966 PA 346, MCL 125.1421.

(C) (b) "Certificate of appropriateness" means the written

approval of a permit application for work that is appropriate and
 that does not adversely affect a resource.

3 (D) (c) "Commission" means a historic district commission
4 created by the legislative body of a local unit under section 4.

5 (E) (d) "Committee" means a historic district study committee
6 appointed by the legislative body of a local unit under section 3
7 or 14.

8 (F) (e) "Demolition" means the razing or destruction, whether
9 entirely or in part, of a resource and includes, but is not limited
10 to, demolition by neglect.

(G) (f) "Demolition by neglect" means neglect in maintaining, repairing, or securing a resource that results in deterioration of an exterior feature of the resource or the loss of structural integrity of the resource.

15 (H) (g) "Denial" means the written rejection of a permit 16 application for work that is inappropriate and that adversely 17 affects a resource.

18 (h) "Department" means the department of history, arts, and 19 libraries.

20 (i) "Fire alarm system" means a system designed to detect and
21 annunciate the presence of fire or by-products of fire. Fire alarm
22 system includes smoke alarms.

(j) "Historic district" means an area, or group of areas not necessarily having contiguous boundaries, that contains 1 resource or a group of resources that are related by history, architecture, archaeology, engineering, or culture.

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(k) "Historic preservation" means the identification,

evaluation, establishment, and protection of resources significant
 in history, architecture, archaeology, engineering, or culture.

3 (l) "Historic resource" means a publicly or privately owned
4 building, structure, site, object, feature, or open space that is
5 significant in the history, architecture, archaeology, engineering,
6 or culture of this state or a community within this state, or of
7 the United States.

8 (m) "Local unit" means a county, city, village, or township.
9 (n) "Notice to proceed" means the written permission to issue
10 a permit for work that is inappropriate and that adversely affects
11 a resource, pursuant to a finding under section 5(6).

12 (o) "Open space" means undeveloped land, a naturally
13 landscaped area, or a formal or man-made landscaped area that
14 provides a connective link or a buffer between other resources.

(p) "Ordinary maintenance" means keeping a resource unimpaired and in good condition through ongoing minor intervention, undertaken from time to time, in its exterior condition. Ordinary maintenance does not change the external appearance of the resource except through the elimination of the usual and expected effects of weathering. Ordinary maintenance does not constitute work for purposes of this act.

(q) "Proposed historic district" means an area, or group of areas not necessarily having contiguous boundaries, that has delineated boundaries and that is under review by a committee or a standing committee SUBJECT TO THE REVIEW PROCESS SET FORTH IN SECTION 3(1)(A) TO (D)(*iii*) OR 14(1) for the purpose of making a recommendation as to DECIDING whether it should be established as a

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1 historic district or added to an established historic district.

2 (r) "Repair" means to restore a decayed or damaged resource to
3 a good or sound condition by any process. A repair that changes the
4 external appearance of a resource constitutes work for purposes of
5 this act.

6 (s) "Resource" means 1 or more publicly or privately owned
7 historic or nonhistoric buildings, structures, sites, objects,
8 features, or open spaces located within a historic district.

9 (t) "Smoke alarm" means a single-station or multiple-station 10 alarm responsive to smoke and not connected to a system. As used in 11 this subdivision, "single-station alarm" means an assembly incorporating a detector, the control equipment, and the alarm 12 13 sounding device into a single unit, operated from a power supply 14 either in the unit or obtained at the point of installation. "Multiple-station alarm" means 2 or more single-station alarms that 15 are capable of interconnection such that actuation of 1 alarm 16 17 causes all integrated separate audible alarms to operate.

(u) "Standing committee" means a permanent body established by the legislative body of a local unit under section 14 to conduct the activities of a historic district study committee on a continuing basis.

(v) "Work" means construction, addition, alteration, repair,
moving, excavation, or demolition.

Sec. 3. (1) A local unit may, by ordinance, establish 1 or more historic districts. The historic districts, WHICH shall be administered by a commission established pursuant to UNDER section 4, Before establishing a historic district, SUBJECT TO ALL OF THE

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1 FOLLOWING:

(A) THE LOCAL UNIT SHALL OBTAIN PRELIMINARY APPROVAL OF A
PROPOSED HISTORIC DISTRICT FROM AT LEAST 2/3 OF THE PROPERTY OWNERS
WITHIN THE PROPOSED HISTORIC DISTRICT, AS LISTED ON THE TAX ROLLS
OF THE LOCAL UNIT, PURSUANT TO A WRITTEN PETITION THAT INCLUDES A
PRECISE DESCRIPTION OF THE BOUNDARIES OF THE PROPOSED HISTORIC
DISTRICT.

8 (B) FOR PURPOSES OF FURTHER CONSIDERING 1 OR MORE PROPOSED HISTORIC DISTRICTS APPROVED UNDER SUBDIVISION (A), the legislative 9 10 body of the local unit shall appoint a historic district study 11 committee. The committee shall contain a majority of persons who 12 have a clearly demonstrated interest in or knowledge of historic 13 preservation, and shall contain representation from 1 or more CONSIST OF 4 TO 7 INDIVIDUALS, 1 OF WHOM IS AN ELECTED MEMBER OF 14 THE LEGISLATIVE BODY OF THE LOCAL UNIT, 1 OF WHOM IS A 15 **REPRESENTATIVE OF A** duly organized local historic preservation 16 organizations. ORGANIZATION, AND AT LEAST 1 OF WHOM IS ENGAGED IN 17 THE BUSINESS OF RESIDENTIAL OR COMMERCIAL CONSTRUCTION. The 18 19 committee shall do all of the following:

(i) (a) Conduct a photographic inventory of resources within
 each proposed historic district. following procedures established
 or approved by the department.

23 (ii) (b) Conduct basic research of each proposed historic
24 district and the historic resources located within that district.

(iii) (c) Determine the total number of historic and
nonhistoric resources within a proposed historic district and the
percentage of historic resources of that total. In evaluating the

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significance of historic resources, the committee shall be guided
 by the selection criteria for evaluation issued by the United
 States secretary of the interior SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR for
 inclusion of resources in the national register of historic places,
 as set forth in 36 C.F.R. CFR part 60. , and criteria established
 or approved by the department, if any.

7 (*iv*) (*d*) Prepare a preliminary historic district study
8 committee report that addresses at a minimum all of the following:

9

(A) (*i*) The charge of the committee.

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(C) (iii) The historic district or districts studied.

(D) (*iv*)—The boundaries for each proposed historic district in
writing and on maps.

(B) (ii) The composition of the committee membership.

14

(E) (v) The history of each proposed historic district.

15 (F) (vi)—The significance of each district as a whole, as well 16 as a sufficient number of its individual resources to fully 17 represent the variety of resources found within the district, 18 relative to the evaluation criteria.

19 (v) (e) Transmit copies of the preliminary report for review
20 and recommendations to the local planning body, to the department,
21 AUTHORITY, AND to the Michigan historical commission. , and to the
22 state historic preservation review board.

23 (vi) (f) Make copies of the preliminary report available to 24 the public pursuant to subsection (4).(2).

(C) (2) Not less than 60 calendar days after the transmittal
of the preliminary report, the committee shall hold a public
hearing in compliance with the open meetings act, 1976 PA 267, MCL

1 15.261 to 15.275. Public notice of the time, date, and place of the hearing shall be given in the manner required by the open meetings act, 1976 PA 267, MCL 15.261 to 15.275. Written notice shall be mailed by first-class mail not less than AT LEAST 14 calendar days before the hearing to the owners of properties within the proposed historic district, as listed on the tax rolls of the local unit.

7 (D) (3) After ALL OF THE FOLLOWING MUST OCCUR WITHIN 1 YEAR
8 AFTER the date of the public hearing, the committee and the
9 legislative body of the local unit shall have not more than 1 year,
10 unless otherwise SOME OTHER TIME FRAME IS authorized by the
11 legislative body of the local unit: , to take the following
12 actions:

(i) (a) The committee shall prepare and submit a final report with its recommendations and the recommendations, if any, of the local planning body to the legislative body of the local unit. If the recommendation is to establish a historic district or districts, the final report shall MAY include a draft of a proposed ordinance or ordinances.

19 (*ii*) (*b*) After receiving a final report that recommends the 20 establishment of a historic district or districts, the legislative 21 body of the local unit, at its discretion, may introduce and pass 22 or reject an A CONDITIONALLY EFFECTIVE ordinance or ordinances THAT 23 WILL ESTABLISH A HISTORIC DISTRICT OR DISTRICTS ONLY IF APPROVED 24 UNDER SUBPARAGRAPH (*iii*).

25 (*iii*) A CONDITIONALLY EFFECTIVE ORDINANCE OR ORDINANCES PASSED 26 UNDER SUBPARAGRAPH (*ii*) ESTABLISHES A HISTORIC DISTRICT OR 27 DISTRICTS ONLY IF A MAJORITY OF THE ELECTORS IN THE LOCAL UNIT

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THE LOCAL UNIT may affirm, modify, or set aside a commission's 1 2 decision and may order a commission to issue a certificate of 3 appropriateness or a notice to proceed. A permit applicant 4 aggrieved by the decision of the state historic preservation review board LEGISLATIVE BODY OF THE LOCAL UNIT may appeal the decision to 5 the circuit court having jurisdiction over the historic district 6 commission whose decision was appealed to the state historic 7 preservation review board.LEGISLATIVE BODY OF THE LOCAL UNIT. 8

9 (3) In reviewing plans, the commission shall follow CONSULT 10 the United States secretary SECRETARY of the interior's INTERIOR'S 11 standards for rehabilitation and guidelines for rehabilitating 12 historic buildings, as set forth in 36 C.F.R. CFR part 67, UNLESS THE COMMISSION FINDS THAT A DIFFERENT STANDARD IS IN THE BEST 13 14 INTEREST OF THE COMMUNITY. Design review standards and guidelines that address special design characteristics of historic districts 15 administered by the commission may be followed if they are 16 17 equivalent in guidance to the secretary of interior's standards and quidelines and are established or approved by the department. THE 18 19 COMMISSION FINDS THAT THEY ARE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE 20 **COMMUNITY.** The commission shall also consider all of the following: 21 (a) The historic or architectural value and significance of 22 the resource and its relationship to the historic value of the 23 surrounding area.

(b) The relationship of any architectural features of the
resource to the rest of the resource and to the surrounding area.
(c) The general compatibility of the design, arrangement,
texture, and materials proposed to be used.

03575'15 *

JHM

(d) Other factors THAT THE COMMISSION FINDS RELEVANT, such as
 aesthetic value , that the commission finds relevant.AND THE
 REASONABLENESS OF THE ADDITIONAL COSTS REQUIRED TO COMPLETE A
 HISTORICALLY ACCURATE REHABILITATION.

(e) Whether the applicant has certified in the application
that the property where work will be undertaken has, or will have
before the proposed project completion date, a fire alarm system or
a smoke alarm complying with the requirements of the StilleDeRossett-Hale single state construction code act, 1972 PA 230, MCL
125.1501 to 125.1531.

11 (4) The commission shall review and act upon only exterior features of a resource and, except for noting compliance with the 12 13 requirement to install a fire alarm system or a smoke alarm, shall 14 not review and act upon interior arrangements unless specifically 15 authorized to do so by the local legislative body or unless 16 interior work will cause visible change to the exterior of the 17 resource. The commission shall not disapprove an application due to 18 considerations not prescribed in subsection (3).

(5) If an application is for work that will adversely affect the exterior of a resource the commission considers valuable to the local unit, state, or nation, and the commission determines that the alteration or loss of that resource will adversely affect the public purpose of the local unit, state, or nation, the commission shall attempt to establish with the owner of the resource an economically feasible plan for preservation of the resource.

26 (6) Work within a historic district shall be permitted through27 the issuance of a notice to proceed by the commission if any of the

JHM

following conditions prevail and if the proposed work can be
 demonstrated by a finding of the commission to be necessary to
 substantially improve or correct any of the following conditions:

4 (a) The resource constitutes a hazard to the safety of the5 public or to the structure's occupants.

6 (b) The resource is a deterrent to a major improvement program
7 that will be of substantial benefit to the community and the
8 applicant proposing the work has obtained all necessary planning
9 and zoning approvals, financing, and environmental clearances.

(c) Retaining the resource will cause undue financial hardship to the owner when a governmental action, an act of God, or other events beyond the owner's control created the hardship, and all feasible alternatives to eliminate the financial hardship, which may include offering the resource for sale at its fair market value or moving the resource to a vacant site within the historic district, have been attempted and exhausted by the owner.

17 (d) Retaining the resource is not in the interest of the18 majority of the community.

19 (7) The business that the commission may perform shall be 20 conducted at a public meeting of the commission held in compliance with the open meetings act, 1976 PA 267, MCL 15.261 to 15.275. 21 Public notice of the time, date, and place of the meeting shall be 22 23 given in the manner required by the open meetings act, 1976 PA 267, 24 MCL 15.261 to 15.275. A meeting agenda shall be part of the notice and shall include a listing of each permit application to be 25 26 reviewed or considered by the commission.

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(8) The commission shall keep a record of its resolutions,

proceedings, and actions. A writing prepared, owned, used, in the possession of, or retained by the commission in the performance of an official function shall be made available to the public in compliance with the freedom of information act, 1976 PA 442, MCL 15.231 to 15.246.

6 (9) The commission shall adopt its own rules of procedure and
7 shall adopt design review standards and guidelines for resource
8 treatment to carry out its duties under this act.

9 (10) The commission may delegate the issuance of certificates of appropriateness for specified minor classes of work to its 10 11 staff, to the inspector of buildings, or to another delegated 12 authority. The commission shall provide to the delegated authority specific written standards for issuing certificates of 13 14 appropriateness under this subsection. On at least a quarterly basis, the commission shall review the certificates of 15 16 appropriateness, if any, issued for work by its staff, the 17 inspector, or another authority to determine whether or not the delegated responsibilities should be continued. 18

19 (11) Upon a finding by a commission that a historic resource 20 within a historic district or a proposed historic district subject 21 to its review and approval is threatened with demolition by 22 neglect, the commission may do either of the following WITH THE 23 APPROVAL OF THE LEGISLATIVE BODY OF THE LOCAL UNIT:

24 (a) Require the owner of the resource to repair all conditions25 contributing to demolition by neglect.

26 (b) If the owner does not make repairs within a reasonable27 time, the commission or its agents may enter the property and make

03575'15 *

such repairs as are necessary to prevent demolition by neglect. The
 costs of the work shall be charged to the owner, and may be levied
 by the local unit as a special assessment against the property. The
 commission or its agents may enter the property for purposes of
 this section upon obtaining an order from the circuit court.

6 (12) When work has been done upon a resource without a permit, and the commission finds that the work does not qualify for a 7 certificate of appropriateness, the commission may require an owner 8 to restore the resource to the condition the resource was in before 9 10 the inappropriate work or to modify the work so that it qualifies 11 for a certificate of appropriateness. If the owner does not comply 12 with the restoration or modification requirement within a 13 reasonable time, the commission may seek an order from the circuit 14 court to require the owner to restore the resource to its former condition or to modify the work so that it qualifies for a 15 certificate of appropriateness. If the owner does not comply or 16 17 cannot comply with the order of the court, the commission or its 18 agents may enter the property and conduct work necessary to restore 19 the resource to its former condition or modify the work so that it 20 qualifies for a certificate of appropriateness in accordance with 21 the court's order. The costs of the work shall be charged to the owner, and may be levied by the local unit as a special assessment 22 23 against the property. When acting pursuant to an order of the 24 circuit court, a commission or its agents may enter a property for purposes of this section. 25

26 Sec. 9. (1) The commission shall file certificates of27 appropriateness, notices to proceed, and denials of applications

JHM

for permits with the inspector of buildings or other delegated 1 2 authority. A permit shall not be issued until the commission has acted as prescribed by this act. If a permit application is denied, 3 4 the decision shall be binding on the inspector or other authority. 5 A denial shall be accompanied with a written explanation by the commission of the reasons for denial and, if appropriate, a notice 6 that an application may be resubmitted for commission review when 7 suggested changes have been made. The denial shall also include 8 9 notification of the applicant's rights of appeal to the state historic preservation review board LEGISLATIVE BODY OF THE LOCAL 10 11 UNIT and to the circuit court. The failure of the commission to act within 60 calendar days after the date a complete application is 12 filed with the commission, unless an extension is agreed upon in 13 14 writing by the applicant and the commission, shall be considered to 15 constitute approval.

16 (2) Local public officials and employees shall provide 17 information and records to committees, commissions, and standing 18 committees, and shall meet with those bodies upon request to assist 19 with their activities.

(3) The department AUTHORITY shall cooperate with and assist
local units, committees, commissions, and standing committees in
carrying out the purposes of this act and may establish or approve
standards, guidelines, and procedures that encourage uniform
administration of this act in this state but that are not legally
binding on any individual or other legal entity.

26 Sec. 14. (1) A-EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED IN THIS
27 SUBSECTION, A local unit may at any time establish by ordinance

JHM

additional historic districts, including proposed districts 1 2 previously considered and rejected, may modify boundaries of an existing historic district, or may eliminate an existing historic 3 4 district. Before establishing, modifying, or eliminating a historic 5 district, a historic district study committee appointed by the legislative body of the local unit WHEN CONSIDERING THE 6 ESTABLISHMENT OF AN ADDITIONAL HISTORIC DISTRICT OR THE 7 MODIFICATION OF THE BOUNDARIES OF AN EXISTING ONE, THE LOCAL UNIT 8 SHALL FIRST OBTAIN THE PETITION DESCRIBED IN SECTION 3(1)(A) BEFORE 9 THE LEGISLATIVE BODY OF THE LOCAL UNIT MAY APPOINT A HISTORIC 10 DISTRICT STUDY COMMITTEE OR AUTHORIZE THE SERVICES OF A RETAINED 11 12 INITIAL COMMITTEE, A STANDING COMMITTEE, OR A COMMITTEE ESTABLISHED TO CONSIDER ONLY SPECIFIC PROPOSED DISTRICTS AND THEN BE DISSOLVED. 13 IF A COMMITTEE IS APPOINTED OR ITS SERVICES ARE AUTHORIZED BY THE 14 LEGISLATIVE BODY OF THE LOCAL UNIT, FURTHER CONSIDERATION OF THE 15 ESTABLISHMENT OF AN ADDITIONAL HISTORIC DISTRICT OR MODIFICATION OF 16 THE BOUNDARIES OF AN EXISTING ONE SHALL FOLLOW THE PROCEDURES SET 17 FORTH IN SECTION 3(1)(B) TO (D) AND THE COMMITTEE SHALL ALSO 18 19 CONSIDER ANY PREVIOUSLY WRITTEN COMMITTEE REPORTS PERTINENT TO THE 20 PROPOSED ACTION. WHEN CONSIDERING THE ELIMINATION OF A HISTORIC DISTRICT, THE LEGISLATIVE BODY OF THE LOCAL UNIT MAY APPOINT A 21 HISTORIC DISTRICT STUDY COMMITTEE AND MAY DO SO WITHOUT THE 22 23 PETITION DESCRIBED IN SECTION 3(1)(A) FIRST BEING OBTAINED; THAT 24 COMMITTEE shall , except as provided in subsection (2), comply with 25 the procedures set forth in section 3-3(1)(B) TO (D) and shall 26 consider any previously written committee reports pertinent to the 27 proposed action; AND ANY ORDINANCE THAT THE LEGISLATIVE BODY OF THE

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LOCAL UNIT PASSES FOR PURPOSES OF ELIMINATING THE HISTORIC DISTRICT 1 IS EFFECTIVE WITHOUT THE ELECTORS' APPROVAL DESCRIBED IN SECTION 2 3(1)(D)(ii) TO (iii) SUBSEQUENTLY BEING OBTAINED. To conduct these 3 4 THE activities DESCRIBED IN THIS SUBSECTION, local units may, SUBJECT TO THE PETITION PROCEDURE REFERENCED IN THIS SUBSECTION, 5 retain the initial committee, establish a standing committee, or 6 7 establish a committee to consider only specific proposed districts and then be dissolved. 8

9 (2) If considering elimination of a historic district, a
10 committee shall follow the procedures set forth in section 3 for
11 issuing a preliminary report, holding a public hearing, and issuing
12 a final report but with the intent of showing 1 or more of the
13 following:

14 (i) The historic district has lost those physical

15 characteristics that enabled establishment of the district.

16 (*ii*) The historic district was not significant in the way

17 previously defined.

18 (iii) The historic district was established pursuant to 19 defective procedures.

20 (2) (3) Upon receipt of substantial evidence showing the 21 presence of historic, architectural, archaeological, engineering, 22 or cultural significance of a proposed historic district, the 23 legislative body of a local unit may, at its discretion, adopt a 24 resolution requiring that all applications for permits within the proposed historic district be referred to the commission as 25 26 prescribed in sections 5 and 9. The commission shall review permit 27 applications with the same powers that would apply if the proposed

historic district was an established historic district. The review may continue in the proposed historic district for not more than 1 year, or until such time as the local unit approves or rejects the establishment of the historic district by ordinance, IS APPROVED OR REJECTED PURSUANT TO THE PROCEDURES SET FORTH IN SECTION 3 OR 14, whichever occurs first.

7 (3) (4) If the legislative body of a local unit determines that pending work will cause irreparable harm to resources located 8 within an established historic district or a proposed historic 9 10 district, the legislative body may by resolution declare an 11 emergency moratorium of all such work for a period not to exceed 6 12 months. The legislative body may extend the emergency moratorium 13 for an additional period not to exceed 6 months upon finding that 14 the threat of irreparable harm to resources is still present. Any pending permit application concerning a resource subject to an 15 16 emergency moratorium may be summarily denied.

(4) A HISTORIC DISTRICT IN EXISTENCE ON THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF 17 THE AMENDATORY ACT THAT ADDED THIS SUBSECTION SHALL DISSOLVE 10 18 19 YEARS AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THE AMENDATORY ACT THAT ADDED THIS SUBSECTION UNLESS THE QUESTION OF ITS RENEWAL IS SUBMITTED TO 20 THE ELECTORS IN THE LOCAL UNIT AT THE REGULAR ELECTION IMMEDIATELY 21 22 PRECEDING THE DATE THAT THE HISTORIC DISTRICT WOULD OTHERWISE 23 DISSOLVE AND A MAJORITY OF THOSE ELECTORS VOTING AT THE ELECTION APPROVE THE RENEWAL OF THE HISTORIC DISTRICT. A HISTORIC DISTRICT 24 25 ESTABLISHED UNDER THIS ACT OR RENEWED UNDER THIS SUBSECTION AFTER 26 THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THE AMENDATORY ACT THAT ADDED THIS SUBSECTION 27 SHALL DISSOLVE 10 YEARS AFTER THE DATE OF THAT ESTABLISHMENT OR

03575'15 *

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RENEWAL UNLESS THE QUESTION OF ITS RENEWAL IS SUBMITTED TO THE
 ELECTORS IN THE LOCAL UNIT AT THE REGULAR ELECTION IMMEDIATELY
 PRECEDING THE DATE THAT THE HISTORIC DISTRICT WOULD OTHERWISE
 DISSOLVE AND A MAJORITY OF THOSE ELECTORS VOTING AT THE ELECTION
 APPROVE THE RENEWAL OF THE HISTORIC DISTRICT. A RENEWAL APPROVED
 UNDER THIS SUBSECTION IS EFFECTIVE ON THE DATE THAT THE HISTORIC
 DISTRICT WOULD HAVE OTHERWISE DISSOLVED.