

2030 Sacramento General Plan DRAFT POLICIES

HISTORIC and ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES ELEMENT (HAR)

The City of Sacramento recognizes the importance of its history and value of its historic and archaeological resources as contributors to the sense of place for visitors and residents, as well as the quality of life. Historic and archaeological resources in the form of sites and buildings provide the story that uniquely differentiates Sacramento from all other cities. These acknowledge the earliest days of pre-historic and historic-settlement along the Sacramento and American Rivers, development as a key center of the western expansion of the United States and Gold Rush, and establishment as the seat of power for California's governance. Preservation of sites and buildings serve as important physical and visual reminders to generations of visitors and residents. A distinctly identifiable place and history are considered as important indicators of livability by national organizations, which also are important factors in attracting new businesses that sustain the economy. Preservation and adaptive re-use of historic buildings also contributes to a sustainable environment by reducing the need for new construction materials.

Historical and Archeological Resource (HAR.1) policies provide for the compilation of a comprehensive data base that establishes criteria and documents the resources of importance and value in Sacramento. Strategies are provided for the recognition of historic and archaeological resources and the preservation or adaptive-reuse of historic buildings in accordance with state policy and regulations. Programs for the education of residents and visitors about Sacramento's history and historical and archeological resources are encouraged to expand.

HISTORIC and ARCHEOLOGICAL RESOURCES (HAR.1)

Goal

HAR.1-1 Maintain City Preservation Program. Maintain a comprehensive, citywide preservation program to recognize Sacramento's important history and historic and archaeological resource value.

Policies

HAR.1-1.1 Certified Local Government Elements. The City shall establish and support Certified Local Government (CLG) elements as the key components of the City's preservation program, while maintaining the City's status as a CLG to make full use of its authority to designate local landmarks, historic districts, and contributing buildings, as well as to designate additional sites that may not meet the established criteria. *[1998 GP Policy A.4 and C.2 with modifications per City Department; Preservation Department, August 2007]*

HAR.1-1.2 Best Practices. The City shall develop and implement best practices in the City's preservation program that will ensure it will be a model for other cities.

HAR.1-1.3 Integration with Other Policies. The City shall ensure that the City's preservation program is integrated and collaborates with the City's Sustainability, Economic Development, Urban Design and Livability Policies.

HAR.1-1.4 Integration. The City shall fully integrate archaeological resource elements into the City's preservation program.

HAR.1-1.5 Preservation Office, Commission, and Program. The City shall maintain a Preservation Office, Commission, and program to administer the City's governmental preservation functions and programs, carrying out an Implementation Plan, and report annually on its status to the City Council. *[1998 GP Policy A.3, GPAC]*

[Note to City: this policy was combined with H.1-1.1]

- HAR.1-2.8 National and California Register.** The City shall pursue national and California register eligibility and listing for qualified resources including historic districts and individual resources. *[New – EIP/PBS&J]*
- HAR.1-2.9 Historic and Archaeological Resource Property Maintenance.** The City shall encourage maintenance and upkeep of historic resources and archaeological sites to avoid the need for major rehabilitation and to reduce the risks of demolition, loss through fire or neglect, or impacts from natural disasters. The City shall set the example by maintaining all publicly owned resources in a manner that is consistent with the *U.S. Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties*. *[1998 GP Policies A.5, A.8 and B.7 with modifications per City Department]*
- HAR.1-2.10 Early Intervention.** The City shall consider historic and archaeological resources early in the development review process, perform early consultation with homeowners, land developers, and the building industry, and maintain historic resources through code enforcement and other efforts. *[1998 GP Policy B.7 modified per City Department]*
- HAR.1-2.11 Compatibility of New Development.** The City shall review new development, alterations, rehabilitation/remodels in design review areas, historic districts, and other areas of historic resources for compatibility with the surrounding historic context. The City shall pay special attention to the scale, massing, and relationship of new development to surrounding historic resources. *[1998 GP Policy B.2 with modifications per City Department]*
- HAR.1-2.12 Preservation of Contributing Elements.** The City shall promote preserving, rehabilitating, restoring, and/or reconstructing, as appropriate, buildings and other contributing elements (e.g. landscaping, street lamps, signs) to the area as defined by the historic context. *[1998 GP Policy B.6 with modifications per City Department]*
- HAR.1-2.13 Adaptive Reuse.** The City shall encourage the adaptive reuse of historic resources where appropriate (i.e. when the original use of the resource is no longer feasible). The City shall encourage the use of appropriate, historic landscaping. *[1998 GP Policy F.4 with modifications per City Department]*
- HAR.1-2.14 Demolition.** The City shall regard demolition of historic resources as a last resort, to be permitted only after the City determines that rehabilitation of the resource is not feasible and/or that demolition is necessary to protect health, safety, and welfare or the benefits of the new project outweigh the loss of the historic resource. *[1998 GP Policy B.8 with modifications per City Department, DHM Report]*
- HAR.1-2.15 Discovery of Archaeological Resources.** The City shall require that upon discovery of archaeological resources during excavation or construction, all construction activities affecting the site shall cease and the contractor shall

contact the City Preservation Office or Environmental Coordinator. *[1998 GP Policy E.3 with modifications]*

HAR.1-2.16 Use of Incentives. The City shall pursue and support the use of appropriate federal, state, local, and private grants, loans, easements, tax credits, and relief to promote the preservation of historic and archaeological resources. *[1998 GP Policies F.1, F. 2, F.3, with modifications per City Department]*

HAR.1-2.17 Assistance Programs. The City shall seek to develop or support financial, technical, and legal assistance programs to facilitate the development process, loan packaging, rehabilitation, management, and maintenance of resources. *[1998 GP Policy F.2 with modifications per City Department]*

Goal

HAR.1-3 Public Awareness and Appreciation. Foster public awareness and appreciation of Sacramento’s historic and archaeological resources.

Policies

HAR.1-3.1 Educate. The City shall identify and develop opportunities to educate and provide information to the public on the City’s historic and archaeological resources and its preservation programs.

HAR.1-3.2 Heritage Tourism. The City shall promote and develop Heritage Tourism opportunities and programming in collaboration with other departments, agencies, organizations, property owners and business interests.

HAR.1-3.3 Public Participation. The City shall provide opportunities for public participation and input into the City’s preservation program.

HAR.1-3.4 Coordination with Other Entities. The City shall coordinate with and support public, quasi-public, and private entities in their preservation programs and efforts. *[1998 GP Policies E.3, A.9, D.3, and A.10 with modifications per City Department]*

HAR.1-3.5 Information Flow. The City shall act as a conduit for information on historic and archaeological resources, and foster an awareness of the importance of the preservation of these resources, and provide this information to public and private schools. *[1998 GP Policies D.4, D.5, and D.7 with modifications per City Department]*