

Staff Responses to Council Questions
December 15, 2015

7. Active Agenda

A. Ordinance: Amendments to the Historic Preservation Code

If a building permit was issued for a house included in a proposed traditional district prior to the filing of the application for the District, but work has not yet started, would the owner be permitted to complete the work while the district hearing is pending?

Yes, the owner would be able to complete the work with a valid building permit.

Has the criteria for approving/creating a district changed from the current Ordinance to proposed Ordinance B? If so, please explain.

Yes, the criteria have changed. The existing criteria is listed here:

Section 12.600. Historic District Criteria.

The following criteria shall be utilized by the Board in determining the designation of historic districts:

- a. The proposed historic district contains two or more contiguous properties along with such other buildings, places or areas within its definable geographic boundaries which, while not of such historic significance to be designated as landmarks, nevertheless contribute to the overall visual characteristics of the landmark or landmarks located in such district;
- b. A significant concentration of structures meeting any of the criteria for landmark designation;
- c. The proposed district establishes a sense of time and place unique to the Village of Downers Grove, and/or;
- d. The proposed district exemplifies or reflects the cultural, social, economic, political or architectural history of the nation, the state, or the community;
- e. An area nominated for designation as an historic district shall be identifiable by clear and distinct boundaries.

The proposed criteria is listed here:

Section 12.402. Historic District Criteria.

The following criteria shall be utilized by the Board in determining the designation of historic districts:

- A. No less than fifty-one percent (51%) of properties within the proposed historic district must be over fifty (50) years old; and
- B. That one or more of the following conditions exists:
 - 1. The proposed historic district has a sense of cohesiveness expressed through a similarity or evolution of architectural style, time period, method of construction, or use of indigenous materials that reflect a significant aspect of the architectural heritage of the Village;
 - 2. Some architectural or land use characteristics are prevalent within the proposed historic district in a manner which distinguishes it from the rest of the Village and which is relevant to the historical development of the Village;
 - 3. The proposed historic district establishes a sense of time and place unique to the Village; or
 - 4. The proposed historic district is listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

ATTACHMENTS

rEmarks are attached.



rRemarks Data for December 15, 2015 Village Council Meeting

Agenda Section	Agenda Item	Comment	Commenter
Public Comment	COMMENTS OF A GENERAL NATURE	<p>I was curious how to go about getting a stop sign or two in a certain area. I work at the Binny's in Downers Grove off Butterfield & I-355. Every single day that I have to be there, whether I'm just getting there, going to lunch, or leaving for the day, I get into a near accident. Sometimes multiple times a day.</p> <p>It is a busy shopping center that also functions as an entrance to a condo complex. The people pulling out of the condos are the only ones that have a stop sign. There are 4 other drives that do not. People constantly fly out of the Home Depot (which is next door to Binny's) parking lot as people are trying to enter the shopping center from Butterfield, & as people are leaving Binny's. People speed into the parking lot & make very sharp turns almost hitting cars from all directions.</p> <p>Even the people that pull out of the condos that do have a stop sign, cut people off & just pull out in front of cars, because with no other stop signs, it seems like they have no sense of order or direction so everyone just wings it.</p> <p>Literally every day that I come here I get into a near accident AT LEAST once. My coworkers, & the workers next door also agree.</p> <p>So for safety & sanities sake, how would we or could we go about possibly putting up 2 or 3 more stop signs by the exits, & having the people entering the parking lot off Butterfield have the right of way?</p>	Ashley Conley