



MEMORANDUM

DATE: January 26, 2026

TO: Deschutes County Historic Landmarks Commission

FROM: Tanya Saltzman, AICP, Senior Planner
Will Groves, Planning Manager

RE: February 2, 2026 - Historic Landmarks Commission Meeting

The Historic Landmarks Commission (HLC) will conduct its regular meeting on February 2, 2026 at 5:30 p.m. at the City of Sisters City Hall, in-person, electronically, and by phone. This memorandum will serve as an outline of all agenda items. This meeting agenda contains some of the items slated for the November 3 meeting, which was canceled due to lack of a quorum.

Please note: the Deschutes County Meeting Portal is located at the following link. All meeting materials may be found there:

<https://www.deschutes.org/meetings>

Please note that live streaming for this off-site meeting will only be available via Zoom, and not directly through the meeting portal. The Zoom link for this meeting is the following:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81105254249?pwd=wXvdL5wyTnwMVdVqggfDcfbrlJBiAU.1>

- I. Call to Order**
- II. Election of Chair and Vice Chair**
- III. Public Comment**
- IV. Approval of Minutes – August 4, 2025 (provided via email on September 9, 2025) and March 4, 2024 (provided via email on January 7, 2025)**
- V. Action Items**
 - 1. HLC Membership Update**

Staff is pleased to welcome Carrie Huddleston to the Commission. Carrie is assuming the term of Lore Christopher, who resigned last year.

2. City of Sisters Presentation

Scott Woodford, City of Sisters Community Development Director, and Sarah Vowell, Associate Planner, will speak about historic preservation and planning in the City of Sisters, which is part of the Deschutes County HLC and Certified Local Government (CLG).

3. CLG Grant Discussion – Oregon Heritage Conference

As the Commission is aware, this cycle of the Certified Local Government (CLG) grant has allocated funds for seven people to attend the 2026 Oregon Heritage Conference, which is located in Woodburn. The conference will take place April 29-May 2, but the main sessions occur on April 30th and May 1.

Conference information can be found here:

<https://www.oregon.gov/oprd/oh/pages/heritageconference.aspx>

The CLG grant is intended to fund:

- Registration
- Three nights' hotel – there are two hotels with special rates associated with the conference (see website)
- Per diem for meals
- Reimbursement for mileage driven

Process:

- **Conference registration:** Staff will register commissioners for the conference
- Each commissioner should let staff know if they intend to attend by **March 13** (early bird registration ends March 20) if not at this meeting
- **Hotel:** Commissioners should register for one of the two listed hotels with special rates using their own credit card and CDD will provide reimbursement afterwards. Please use the links provided on the conference website to access the discounted rates, and make sure you have selected April 29-May 2 (it may auto-populate with a longer stay reflecting the pre-conference workshops). Please register for the hotel ASAP as they may sell out, and confirm with staff once this is complete.
- **Per diem and mileage info** will adhere to the rates for government employees. Read more here: <https://www.oregon.gov/wcb/Documents/interpreter/travelrates26a.pdf>

Further discussion regarding procedures for reimbursement and other logistics will take place via email blind copy, since there is not another HLC meeting prior to the conference.

4. Goal 5 Cultural Areas Rulemaking Update

Staff continues to provide updates on the Goal 5 Cultural Areas Rulemaking process, which has now concluded. The proposed rules were adopted on December 4, 2025.

During the previous update to the HLC, staff noted that DLCD staff identified several discrete refinements to recommend the Land Conservation and Development Commission consider, and had reopened the rulemaking process. These items pertain to 1) who can bring an application forth to amend a comprehensive plan to place a culturally significant landscape feature on a local inventory, and 2) how local governments should process this type of application (legislative or quasi-judicial). A third area of clarification pertains to Metro's urban growth boundary expansion process, which is not relevant to Deschutes County. The changes under consideration were ultimately adopted.

Concerning the first item, section (4)(c) now specifies that a local government must only accept applications from an Oregon-based government to add a landscape feature of cultural significance to a local inventory of Goal 5 significant resource sites. The rule defines Oregon-based government as local, state, or tribal government in Oregon. Federally recognized tribes based outside of Oregon and non-federally recognized (terminated) tribes in Oregon are not included in this definition. While this approach is not consistent with requests received from some tribes, these nations would still be able to request a local government to self-initiate such an amendment.

Concerning the second item, local governments may process applications to amend a comprehensive plan to place a culturally significant landscape feature on a local Goal 5 inventory either legislatively or quasi-judicially.

A two-page fact sheet created by DLCD is provided as an attachment to this memorandum.

For more information on the rulemaking process and previous meeting documentation, please visit <https://www.oregon.gov/lcd/lar/pages/rulemaking.aspx> and select the Goal 5 Cultural Areas dropdown menu.

Next steps: The effective date of the rule is January 1, 2027. DLCD will be providing local governments with guidance and resources (model language, etc.) to implement this rule over the next year and staff will provide the HLC with relevant updates.

Attachment

DLCD Goal 5 Cultural Areas Summary

5. Subcommittee Roundup

Subcommittees have the opportunity to provide updates on any activities since the last meeting. Those committees are as follows:

1. Cultural resource work – Commissioners Hudson and Stemach
2. Wildfire and preservation issues – Commissioners Ashley and Syphers
3. Camp Abbot – Commissioner Hudson
4. General public awareness issues/education/Preservation Month: Commissioners Stemach, Ashley, Syphers

VI. Staff and Commissioner Comments

VII. Adjourn