



**TOWN OF LOS GATOS
PLANNING COMMISSION
REPORT**

MEETING DATE: 08/26/2026

ITEM NO: 8

DATE: August 21, 2026
TO: Planning Commission
FROM: Joel Paulson, Community Development Director
SUBJECT: Discuss the Town Council's Direction on the Workplan for the Historic Preservation Committee and the Evaluation Process Used to Determine the Significance of Pre-1941 Residences. The Planning Commission's Discussion is Not Considered a Project Under the Adopted Guidelines for the Implementation of the California Environmental Quality Act.

BACKGROUND:

On February 25, 2026, the Chair requested that an item be added to a Planning Commission agenda for a discussion of the Town Council's direction on the workplan for the Historic Preservation Committee (HPC) and the evaluation process used to determine the historic significance of pre-1941 residences.

On December 2, 2025, the Town Council discussed a letter from the HPC regarding future historic preservation workplan items (Exhibit 1, Attachment 1). The Council directed staff to evaluate the level of effort and the feasibility of the following items:

- Preserving smaller homes;
- Reviewing the boundaries of the historic districts;
- Refreshing the Bloomfield survey;
- Considering replacement structure historically relevant;
- Adopting pre-1941 to 70-year rolling; and
- Updating and clarifying definitions and required findings for determining [historic] status.

The Council asked that staff return with this information after the objective standards update is substantially completed (Exhibit 2). The objective standards update project is in progress. Staff has not begun to evaluate the Town Council's requests regarding historic preservation.

PREPARED BY: Sean Mullin, AICP
Planning Manager

Reviewed by: Community Development Director and Town Attorney

PAGE 2 OF 2

SUBJECT: Discussion of Council Direction on HPC Workplan

DATE: August 21, 2026

On June 10, 2026, the Planning Commission received the staff report, heard public comment, and voted to continue the matter to a date certain of August 26, 2026.

Staff looks forward to the Commission's discussion on this topic.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Staff conducted outreach to a group of local architects and designers to make them aware of the Commission's discussion. Public comments received by 3:00 p.m., Friday, August 21, 2026 are included as Exhibit 3.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW:

The discussion of the Town's Council's direction on the workplan for the HPC and the evaluation process to determine significance of pre-1941 residences is not considered a project under the adopted Guidelines for the Implementation of the California Environmental Quality Act.

EXHIBITS:

1. Town Council Staff Report with Attachment, December 2, 2025
2. Town Council Meeting Minutes, December 2, 2025
3. Public comments received by 3:00 p.m., Friday, August 21, 2026