



Community Development Department

Emily Arteche, Director
38624 SE River St. | P.O. Box 987
Snoqualmie, Washington 98065
(425) 888-5337 | earteche@snoqualmiewa.gov

MEMORANDUM

To: Planning Commission
From: Mona Davis, Sr Planner
Date: February 3, 2025
Subject: SMC 17.35 Historic Overlay – Color Palettes

INTRODUCTION:

Snoqualmie Municipal Code (SMC) Chapter 17.35 requires historical design review on some applications, which is designated to the Planning Commission as the Historical Design Review Board. A Type 1 permit is required to change the exterior paint color using approved colors in the color palette; however, a variance is required if businesses opt to utilize a different color that's not on the approved exterior color palette (see attached).

BACKGROUND:

Pursuant to SMC Chapter 17.35.150(C), the Board may consider variances from the strict application of the standards if the applicant demonstrates the need for such a variance. Businesses have expressed frustration with the limited scope of color palettes available to them and the additional time and expense of processing a variance application.

ANALYSIS:

The Commission should consider expanding the color palette options for local businesses in the Historic Downtown to provide for more flexibility and options to the business owners.

NEXT STEPS:

Staff will prepare additional materials for review and discussion at a future regular meeting, which will include an opportunity to solicit public comments.

Attachment: Existing Snoqualmie Façade – Exterior Color Palette