



# CITY OF ST. HELENS PLANNING DEPARTMENT

# MEMORANDUM

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**TO:** Planning Commission acting as the Historic Landmarks Commission  
**FROM:** Jennifer Dimsho, AICP, Associate Planner  
**RE:** 2023-2024 Certified Local Government Historic Preservation Grant Program  
**DATE:** January 3, 2023

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Since becoming a Certified Local Government (CLG) in 2009, the City has gone through six (6) CLG grant cycles. Four cycles (2011-2012, 2013-2014, 2015-2016, and 2019-2020) were used for the **St. Helens' Historic Preservation Rehabilitation Grant Program**. See link below for more information about past recipients. The 2017-2018 cycle was used for City Hall exterior restoration. The 2021-2022 cycle was used on the Bennett Building (Utility Billing/Court) storefront and transom windows.

For the upcoming 2023-2024 cycle, the City would like to do another round of solicitation of property owners to fund historic preservation/rehabilitation work. Eligible property owners include those with primary or secondary significance within our St. Helens Downtown Historic District as listed on the National Register of Historic Places. A map is attached.

The CLG grant application deadline is February 24, 2023. The City will receive and pass through to an eligible property owner one competitive grant of between \$13,500 and \$15,000 with a required 1:1 match. This means the total project/owner expense will be between \$27,000 and \$30,000. **Does this HLC have any questions about the eligible property owners or the funding available?**

Selecting the project will be based on selection criteria used by the Planning Commission acting as the Historic Landmarks Commission (HLC) to score applications. The selection criteria used from previous cycles is attached to this memo. **Does the HLC have any questions, comments, or suggested changes to the scoring criteria?**

Letters notifying eligible property owners of the grant program are anticipated to go out in April 2023, with the application for property owners to apply from April - June 2023. The HLC is anticipated to make their recommendation for award using the scoring criteria during the July 2023 meeting. The project selected will need to be completed by August 31, 2024.

Here is a link to the City's Historic Preservation Rehabilitation Grant homepage:

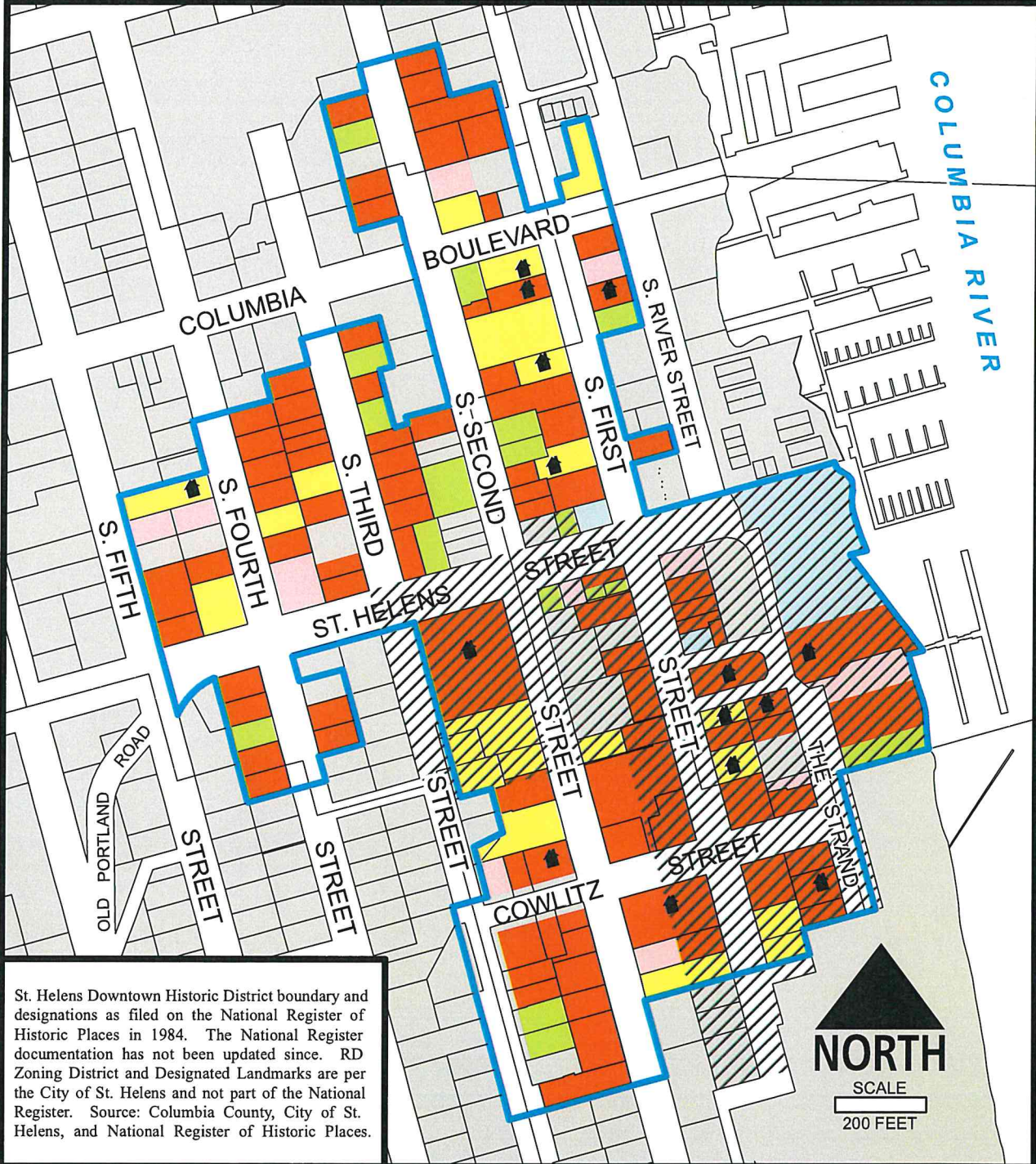
<https://www.sthelensoregon.gov/planning/page/historic-preservation-rehabilitation-grant>



# ST. HELENS DOWNTOWN HISTORIC DISTRICT

- Primary Significant
- Secondary Significant
- Historic, Non-contributing
- Compatible, Non-contributing
- Non-compatible, Non-contributing
- Vacant or outside Historic District
- Historic District Boundary
- Riverfront District (RD) Zoning District Plaza Subdistrict
- Designated Landmark

Feb 2019 / jag



St. Helens Downtown Historic District boundary and designations as filed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1984. The National Register documentation has not been updated since. RD Zoning District and Designated Landmarks are per the City of St. Helens and not part of the National Register. Source: Columbia County, City of St. Helens, and National Register of Historic Places.





## Historic Preservation Rehabilitation Grant GRANT SELECTION CRITERIA

Grants received by the grant application deadline will be reviewed by the City of St. Helens Historic Landmarks Commission (HLC) based on the criteria below. This is a point based system. Past grant awards do not void eligibility or have an impact on priority for future grant cycles.

Please note that the Oregon State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) will review the applications to ensure they are eligible from a historic preservation perspective.

A complete and eligible grant application will be scored (up to 30 points) to compare it with other projects submitted as follows:

Grant Selection Criteria	Points Possible	Points Awarded
Projects that restore integrity to the architectural style by removing incompatible features, alterations or additions and/or restoring missing or altered historic features on the <b>front façade</b>	<b>5</b>	
Projects that restore missing or altered historic features on the <b>side façades</b>	<b>3</b>	
Projects that repair or replace deteriorated historic features visible from the street or maintenance projects that <b>preserve the integrity, safety, and stability of portions of the building</b>	<b>3</b>	
Priority will also be given to a project that has a particularly <b>positive influence on other threatened or poorly maintained historic properties</b> in the neighborhood	<b>1</b>	
<b>Visual impact</b>	<b>3</b>	
<b>Project need.</b> Will the building sustain damage if project is not done?	<b>3</b>	
The building is “ <b>primary significant</b> ” or “ <b>secondary significant</b> ” according to the St. Helens Downtown Historic District National Register of Historic Places inventory.	<b>3</b> IF PRIMARY <b>2</b> IF SECONDARY	
Projects that encourage development and investment, and will <b>have a positive economic impact</b>	<b>3</b>	
Applicant has provided proof of the <b>financial resources</b> to match the grant	<b>3</b>	
Applicant has provided sufficient evidence to indicate that the <b>project can be completed within the timeframe</b> allowed by the grant contract	<b>3</b>	
<b>Total Points</b>	<b>30</b>	