

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-43

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CITY MANAGER TO SUBMIT THE
FOREST GROVE DOWNTOWN HISTORIC DISTRICT NOMINATION
TO THE STATE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON HISTORIC PRESERVATION**

WHEREAS, the 1994 Original Town Context Statement included a recommendation to create a downtown historic district; and

WHEREAS, the Historic Landmarks Board adopted the *2017-2026 Preservation Plan* which was accepted by the City Council on January 23, 2017; and

WHEREAS, the *Preservation Plan* identified a downtown district nomination as the next project to be initiated following completion of the Original Town plat re-survey and context statement update; and

WHEREAS, the Original Town Context Statement was updated in 2018, and again included a recommendation to create a downtown historic district; and

WHEREAS, the *Forest Grove Downtown Historic District* nomination document is now complete; and

WHEREAS, the nomination must be reviewed and approved by the State Advisory Committee on Historic Preservation (SACHP) before it is forwarded to the National Park Service.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY OF FOREST GROVE AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The City Council hereby authorizes the City Manager to submit the proposed *Forest Grove Downtown Historic District* nomination to the State Advisory Committee on Historic Preservation.

Section 2. The City Council further requests that the SACHP forward the nomination to the National Park Service with a positive recommendation.

Section 3. This resolution is effective immediately upon its enactment by the City Council.

PRESENTED AND PASSED this 11th day of May, 2020.



Anna D. Ruggles, City Recorder

APPROVED by the Mayor this 11th day of May, 2020.



Peter B. Truax, Mayor



A place where families and businesses thrive.

<i>CITY RECORDER USE ONLY:</i>	
AGENDA ITEM #:	<u>7.</u>
MEETING DATE:	<u>05/11/2020</u>
FINAL ACTION:	<u>RESO 2020-43</u>

CITY COUNCIL STAFF REPORT

TO: *City Council*

FROM: *Jesse VanderZanden, City Manager*

MEETING DATE: *May 11, 2020*

PROJECT TEAM: *James Reitz, AICP, Senior Planner
Bryan Pohl, Community Development Director*

SUBJECT TITLE: *Downtown Historic District Nomination*

ACTION REQUESTED:

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Ordinance	Order	X Resolution	X Motion		Informational

X all that apply

ISSUE STATEMENT: The Historic Landmarks Board (HLB) is pursuing the establishment of a fourth National Register Historic District. The three districts created to date (Clark, Walker-Naylor and Painter’s Woods) are all residential in nature; the current proposal is to nominate a downtown district. The purpose of this memo is to provide a status report on the effort and request Council action on the next step of the process.

BACKGROUND: Consideration of a downtown district was anticipated by the HLB’s 2017-2026 Preservation Plan, which was accepted by the City Council on January 23, 2017.

The first step in developing a potential district is conducting background research. The downtown is part of the Original Town which was recorded in 1872. The City completed an updated historic survey of the Original Town, along with an updated context statement, in 2018. The consultant hired to prepare the update was also directed to recommend a boundary for a potential downtown district. The recommended area included 33 structures.

The HLB hosted an open house for property owners within the proposed district area on November 8, 2018. All property owners in the district area were invited, and about 10 attended. At the open house, the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) National Register coordinator gave a presentation on the benefits and responsibilities associated with being in a district. All who attended the meeting expressed support of the nomination.

At the January 14, 2019 City Council meeting, the Council was asked to adopt a resolution in support of submitting a grant request to the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). The Council adopted the resolution, the SHPO grant request was approved, and those funds were used to hire Painter Preservation to prepare the nomination and take it through the adoption process.

At that same meeting, the Council requested that staff investigate whether the district could be expanded to include additional buildings on the north side of 21st Avenue between Main Street and College Way. Staff, the consultant and SHPO staff devised a way to do so, expanding the boundary to include those additional buildings. A district should have at least 50% + 1 “historic contributing” and “historic significant” structures. Of the 39 buildings within the expanded boundary, 29 (or about 74%) would be classified as contributing or significant (for comparison, in the Walker-Naylor district only about 59% of the buildings are contributing, and none are classified as significant).

While the nomination process has continued, staff has mailed periodic updates to the property owners. To date staff has received only positive comments about the nomination.

Painter Preservation has now completed the nomination document (it may be viewed in its entirety on the HLB webpage). Before proceeding any further, the Council is being asked to adopt a resolution in support of the nomination’s submittal. If the Council approves, the nomination will be submitted to the State Advisory Committee on Historic Preservation (SACHP) at their June 19 meeting (the SACHP will not consider the nomination without a resolution of the Council’s support). The SACHP decides whether or not to move forward on the nomination.

If it does decide the district nomination meets all the review criteria, notices of the prospective nomination are sent to property owners within the proposed district. To form a district, a kind of vote is conducted: If a property owner wishes to vote “no” then he/she must sign their vote in the presence of a notary, and mail that back to SHPO. If more than 50% of the owners vote no, then the district application fails. If less than a 50% remonstrance is received, then the district nomination can proceed. (Forest Grove has had a highly successful nomination process to date: only one remonstrance was received during the nomination processes for all three of the city’s current districts.)

Once the SACHP approves, a nomination is submitted to the National Park Service in Washington, D.C. It too must approve a nomination before a district is officially formed.

FISCAL IMPACT: Adoption of the resolution would have no fiscal impact on the City.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends adoption of the attached resolution.

ALTERNATIVES: The Council may:

1. Approve submitting the nomination; or
2. Not approve submittal of the nomination, in which case, no further action would be taken; or
3. Continue the matter for further deliberation.

ATTACHMENTS: Map of Proposed Downtown Historic District & Resolution

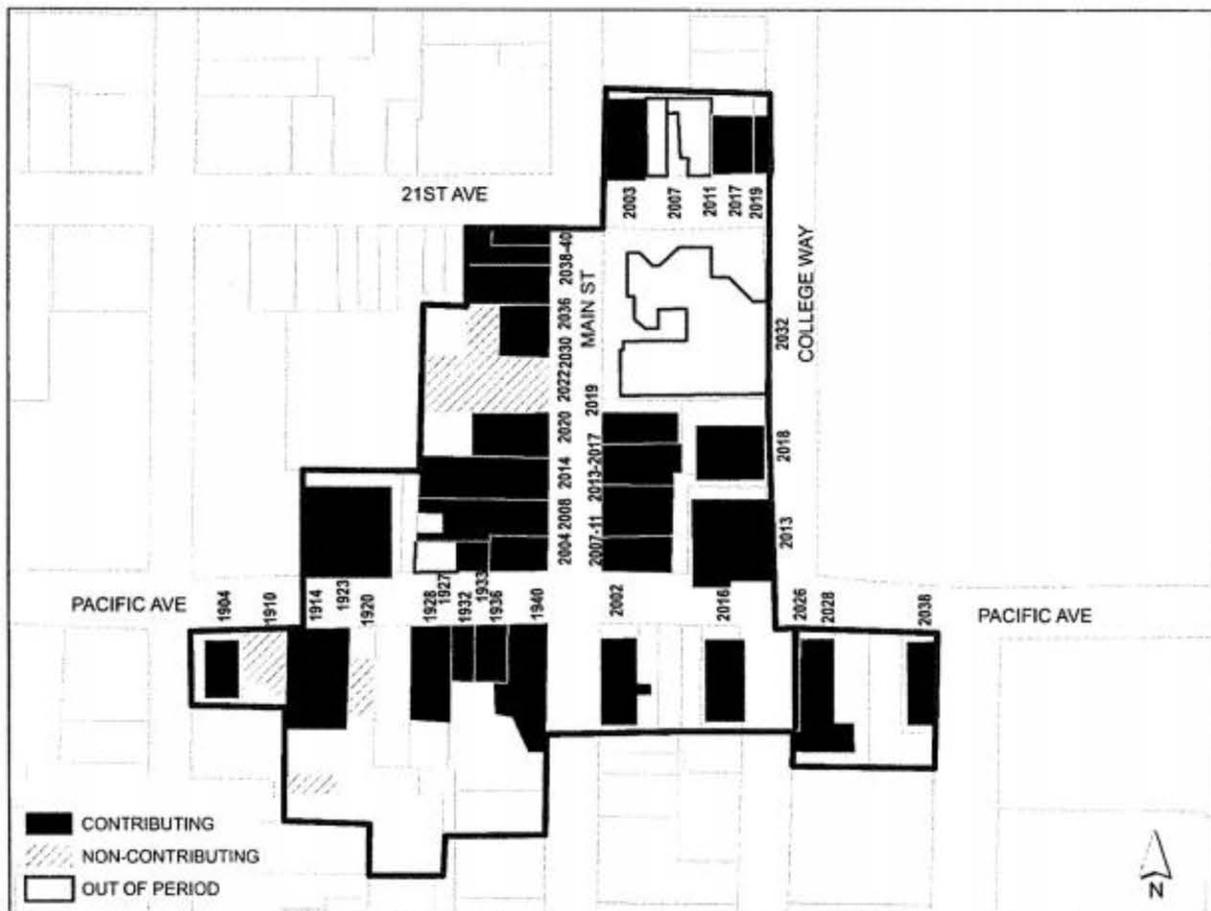
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Forest Grove Downtown Historic District
Name of Property Washington Co., OR
County and State N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

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Figure 4: Contributing and Non-contributing Map



Source: City of Forest Grove

- A building is **contributing** if it adds to the historical integrity or architectural qualities that make a historic district significant.
- An **out-of-period** building is one that was erected before or after the historic district's Period of Significance. The Forest Grove Downtown District's Period of Significance is 1890-1940.