

**CITY OF UNALASKA
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
2024 ANNUAL REPORT**



This annual report is designed to serve multiple functions: to summarize the historic preservation activities of the Unalaska Historic Preservation Commission; to serve as a resource document; to note future historic preservation related activities; and to meet the requirements of § 2.60.090, Unalaska Code of Ordinances.

The following residents of Unalaska served on the City of Unalaska's Historic Preservation Commission in 2024:

Chair, Travis Swangel
Vice Chair, Ian Bagley
Vicki Williams
Virginia Hatfield
Rainier Marquez
City Manager: William Homka
Planning Director: Cameron Dean

The Historic Preservation Commission is supported by the City of Unalaska's Planning Department, which consists of:

Cameron Dean, Planning Director
Thomas Roufos, Associate Planner (Transferred to Fire Department, October 2024)
Elaine Blankenship, Administrative Assistant
Jackie Adams, Grants Management Coordinator

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
RESOLUTION 2025-01

In accordance with § 2.60.090 of the Unalaska Code of Ordinances, the City of Unalaska's Historic Preservation Commission officially adopts the following annual report, filing the same with the Unalaska City Council.

CITY OF UNALASKA
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

BY: 

Acting ~~Travis Swangel~~ *Cam Bagley*
Commission Chair



Cameron Dean
Secretary of the Commission

DATE OF ADOPTION: 1/23/25

INTRODUCTION

City Council approved Ordinance 2014-05 in 2014 which amended various sections of Title 2 of the Unalaska Code of Ordinances, including sections related to Historic Preservation. The Planning Department and Parks, Culture, and Recreation Department consulted with the City Attorney regarding the selection process of Historic Preservation Commissioners. Approved changes created a new UCO 2.76.015, stating that the Historic Preservation Commission membership is the Planning Commission membership, including the Planning Commission's *ex officio* members (*i.e.*, the City Manager and the Director of Planning). While remaining non-voting for Planning Commission decisions, the City Manager and Director of Planning would be full members of the HPC.

Unalaska Code of Ordinances §2.76.040 identifies the duties and responsibilities of the HPC. This is based on the requirements of local governments participating in the Alaska Certified Local Government Historic Preservation Program. The duties and responsibilities are listed below.

- To survey and inventory community historic resources including historic, architectural, and archaeological resources within the community;
- To review nominations to the National Register of Historic Places and consulting with federal and State authorities in section 106 reviews under the National Historic Preservation Act;
- To act in an advisory role to other officials, and to City Departments regarding the identification and protection of local historic and archaeological resources and historic preservation planning;
- To enforce state historic preservation laws. The Historic Preservation Commission shall support the enforcement of the Alaska Historic Preservation Act;
- To review, and where it is deemed appropriate, recommend nominations to or deletions from the Unalaska Register of Historic Places to the Unalaska City Council twice yearly.

§ 2.60.090 of the Unalaska Code of Ordinances requires each board and committee to submit an annual report which summarizes the activities which have occurred during the previous year. The Annual Report is a mechanism for monitoring those activities and for presenting to the City Council the goals and objectives for historic preservation in the coming year.

SUMMARY OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION ACTIONS FOR 2023

I. General Statistics (January 1, 2024 – December 31, 2024)

The Historic Preservation Commission, with support from the Planning Department, took the following actions.

HPC Summary of Activities	2022	2023	2024
Ordinance Changes	-	-	-
General Resolutions	1/1	1/1	1/1
Survey/Inventory of Historic Properties	-	-	-
Preservation Planning Activities	-	-	-
National Register Participation	-	-	-
Historic Property Protection	-	-	-
Public Education Projects	-	-	-
Historic Preservation Grants	-	-	-
TOTAL MEETINGS	3	5	3

II. Historic Preservation Commission Recommendations to Council

There were no recommendations to Council.

III. Historic Preservation Commission Actions

<i>January 18, 2024: Resolution 2024-01</i>	The Historic Preservation Commission approved Resolution 2024-01 , approving the 2023 Annual Report.
<i>June 20, 2024: Driftwood Bay Radio Relay Site Five Year Review. Robert Johnston, USAF Civil Engineer Center Remedial Project Manager.</i>	The Historic Preservation Commission heard an update about the remediation project. Inspections are performed annually.
<i>June 20, 2024: Finding of Effect Letter Regarding USACE FUDS cleanup at Latrine 1 site on Hill 400. Kelly Eldridge, USACE.</i>	Discussion of cleanup efforts and the Section 106 process. Commissioners and members of the public expressed concern about historic structures preventing the land from being used.
<i>June 20, 2024: Consultation on Tom Madsen Airport Unalaska Taxiway and Apron Rehabilitation Project. Alaska DOT&PF.</i>	Discussion of proposed upgrades at the Unalaska Airport and potential historic resource impacts.

IV. Historic Preservation Goals for 2025

- Improve public engagement with historic preservation, including website improvements, celebrating Preservation Month in May, and improving kiosks/signage/wayfinding.
- Suggest list of sites to City Council for the Unalaska Register of Historic Places and explore ideas for a Historic Preservation Ordinance Amendment.
- Continue working toward addressing the action items identified in the 2011 Comprehensive Plan as they relate to Historic Preservation.
- Consider creation of Historic Preservation regulations and protections.

- Continue to monitor the Unalaska Brownfields Grant project
- Work with the Tri-Lateral Group to assist and advise on repatriation efforts