



## Loveland Historic Preservation Design Review Committee

### Key Facts & Information

Updated: 2/24/19

Early in 2018, Loveland City Council decided to pursue historic preservation for the city with the creation of the Historic Preservation Design Review Committee (HPDRC). The impetus for creating the HPDRC was two-fold:

- The 2017 fire in historic Loveland brought fresh appreciation for the precious few historic structures that remain in the city and an awareness of how little historic architecture has been preserved through the decades.
- Concern for the quality and integrity of future building in Loveland, particularly in and around the Historic District. As Loveland's momentum continues to build as a destination for dining, entertainment and recreation, it is anticipated that development of both residential and commercial structures will follow. An opportunity exists to improve the guidelines as a means to ensure future new construction and renovation supports, rather than detracts from, the historic charm of this area. Better understanding the inventory and profile of existing historic assets will facilitate guidelines for future building, restoration and renovation.

#### **What is a Certified Local Government (CLG)?**

The Certified Local Government (CLG) Program is a nationwide initiative providing technical assistance and small grants to local governments seeking to preserve the important and significant aspects of their heritage. The CLG program fosters a unifying link between local, state and federal preservation organizations, creating a productive network and genuine partnership.

Recognizing the essential importance of preservation at the local level, the federal government amended the National Historic Preservation Act in 1980 to include the Certified Local Government (CLG) program. This program gives national recognition to local preservation commissions and empowers communities in their preservation efforts. The amended act enables each state historic preservation office to administer the CLG program and reserve 10% of federal allocations for grants available to participating local governments. Grants fund a variety of preservation activities, including architectural and archaeological surveys, National Register nominations, educational brochures, walking tours, **guidelines for design review** and feasibility studies of historic structures.

The CLG program assists in encouraging historic preservation by making it a part of local government, facilitating professional expertise, a comprehensive outlook and the potential for local communities, like Loveland, to receive grant dollars for qualifying projects. CLGs are the only eligible applicants for this pool of grant funding, and it is a major incentive for the CLG Program. In turn, the local government contributes to these preservation efforts with the time, energy and knowledge of its own residents and leadership. To this end, CLG status requires the creation of a local commission/board to guide historic preservation design guidelines and district boundaries that are consistent with its status as a preservation-minded municipality.

#### **Why did Loveland seek CLG designation?**

Becoming a Certified Local Government (CLG) puts in place a valuable partnership between the State Historic Preservation Office and the Loveland community, and entitles Loveland to apply for Certified Local Government matching grants. As mentioned above, a portion of the historic preservation funds that Ohio receives from the federal government each year is set aside for these grants, available only to CLG communities. The State Historic Preservation Office encourages communities to apply for certification and grants. As a Certified Local Government, Loveland can now apply for funding to be used for development of architectural design review guidelines for the Historic District.

**Other CLG Communities**

More than 40 communities in the State of Ohio have been awarded CLG certification, including nearby communities like the City of Cincinnati, Glendale, Mariemont, Montgomery, New Richmond and Oxford, Ohio. The City of Cincinnati has approximately 25 separate Historic Preservation Design Review Districts, including Over-the-Rhine, Main Street, Northside, Columbia Tusculum, Hyde Park Observatory, Betts Longworth and College Hill.

**What does the process of historic preservation look like and where is Loveland in the process?**

The Loveland Historic Preservation Design Review Committee was created in spring 2018. Since that time, the five-member committee has been working with City Manager Dave Kennedy to understand the scope and process, and put in place a plan for initiation of historic preservation guidelines in Loveland. The table below displays progress to date as well as the intended sequence of future key milestones in the historic preservation process:

<b><u>Activity</u></b>	<b><u>Status/Completion Date</u></b>
• Creation of HPDR Committee	March 2018
• Loveland approved for designation as a Certified Local Government (CLG)	Completed
• Adoption of standard Historic Preservation Regulations	Completed
• Research and vetting of consultants to prepare historic preservation design guidelines	Completed
• Preparation of CLG funding grant request to State Historic Preservation Office	Completed
• Committee selection of preferred consultant for historic preservation guidelines	1/17/19
• Notification regarding grant funding from State Historic Preservation Office	Estimated mid-March 2019
• Creation of preliminary Historic Design Review Guidelines and Boundaries	Est. April – June 2019
• Public meeting to solicit input on preliminary guidelines and boundaries for Historic Preservation District	TBD
• Final proposal for guidelines and boundaries	TBD
• Define historic preservation review/approval process	TBD
• Public hearing to share proposed historic preservation guidelines and boundaries	TBD
• Presentation of historic preservation boundaries and guidelines to Loveland City Council	TBD
• Loveland City Council public hearing to review historic preservation design guidelines and boundaries	TBD
• Loveland City Council adoption of historic preservation boundaries and design guidelines	TBD

**What is the role of Loveland’s Historic Preservation Design Review Committee?**

Initially, the Historic Preservation Design Review Committee is charged with:

1. Determining the scope and process for initiating historic preservation in Loveland
2. Recommending the consultant to develop historic preservation design guidelines
3. Recommend to city council approval of historic preservation design guidelines
4. Establishment of boundaries for the historic preservation design review district
5. Determining the application and approval process for property owners in the HPDR district

Moving forward, this committee will be responsible for reviewing applications for renovation or new construction to ensure they meet the design guidelines adopted for the Historic Preservation District.

■ ■ ■