

City of Modesto Landmark Preservation Commission

Minutes

January 26, 2026

Being the hour of 1:04 pm, the meeting was called to order by Chairperson Power

I. ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners Clendenin, Farrish, Lopina, Power, Singh

Absent: Commissioner Goriel (excused)

Motion

It was moved by Commissioner Farrish and seconded by Commissioner Singh and carried unanimously (5-0) that Commissioner Goriel be excused from this meeting.

II. CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION

Chairman Power asked if any Commissioners had conflicts of interest or ex parte communications on any of the agenda items to declare.

None

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

Dean Richardson from Urban Forest Modesto had asked at the November 17, 2025, for a revised/ updated Street Tree ordinance, and since that time the Urban Forest Modesto has worked with Stanislaus County on that ordinance. He asked to rescind his request of that ordinance from Landmark Preservation Commission and the City of Modesto. He informed the Commission that his work to pursue the Street Tree Ordinance would continue with the Stanislaus County, going forward.

Separately, he mentioned Modesto's Landmark tree, popularly called the Christmas Tree. He wanted the City to consider using and lighting that tree during Christmas time and holiday season of 2026. He also provided a handout and spoke about preserving the Modesto Christmas Tree.

IV. CONSENT ITEMS

Item A Minutes of the regular meeting of December 15, 2025, and the corrected minutes of the regular meeting of November 17, 2025.

Motion (Carried)

It was moved by Commissioner Lopina seconded by Commissioner Clendenin and carried unanimously (5-0) that the minutes of the regular meeting of December 15, 2025, and the corrected minutes of the regular meeting of November 17, 2025, be approved.

V. OTHER BUSINESS

Item B Accepting the Historic Resources Survey Update by ESA
Contact: Radha Hayagreev, 209-577-5367, rhayagreev@modestogov.com
This item was moved from Consent to Other Business by Chair Power

Motion/Action (Approved)

It was moved by Commissioner Farrish, seconded by Commissioner Singh, and carried unanimously (5-0) (Clendenin, Farrish, Lopina, Power, Singh, ayes; None, noes; Goriel, absent; None, recused) that the Landmark Preservation Commission adopt **Resolution No. 2026-01 A RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT THE 2025 UPDATE OF THE 1997 DOWNTOWN HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY (HRI)**

Item C Building Permits for the Historic Sites – December 2025

Action

Staff provided a report on the building permit for Historic Sites for December. There was one building permit issued for a sign permit at 1100 14th Street (Historic Landmark #9). These signs have no impact on the historic hitching post landmark. The Commission acknowledged the update.

Item D Historic Resources Survey Discussion

- 1. Update to Modesto Art Museum Historic Resources List
- 2. Update on the GIS story maps

Action

- 1. The Commissioners were updated to the fact the pervious resource list by the Modesto Art Museum (MAM) was compared to the current Historic Resources list and any additional information provided by the MAM was updated.
- 2. This portion of the discussion was postponed to the next meeting; IT staff member David Todorut was unable to attend the meeting and provide the update to the GIS map.

Item E Mills Act Letter Review

Action

The Commission reviewed the letter with no suggested changes and approved them for it to be mailed to the Mills Act Contract addresses.

VI. PUBLIC HEARINGS

None.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

None.

VIII. COMMISSION / STAFF COMMENTS

Principal Planner Radha Hayagreev spoke on the question asked by Chair Power at the last meeting on December 15th, about the 1222 I Street building putting up a sign and doing miscellaneous work, we did not find building permits for this site. City Staff was asked to investigate the matter further.

Commissioner Clendenin asked to have next steps for the Survey information at the next meeting.

Commissioner Chair Power requested to have a Parks and/or Forestry to come to talk about the preservation efforts of any of the Landmarks that are trees, at a future meeting. He also requested, to have at a future meeting, a discussion on outreach to the properties identified in the historic landmark survey as a potential landmark.

IX. MATTERS TOO LATE FOR THE AGENDA

None.

X. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 2:18pm.

Signed copy on file in CEDD

Radha Hayagreev, Principal Planner,
Secretary