

2. Public hearing on programmatic agreements with the Michigan State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO)



Item Number: 2



CITY OF GRAND RAPIDS AGENDA ACTION REQUEST

DATE: April 15, 2025

TO: Mark Washington, City Manager

COMMITTEE: City Commission Meeting
LIAISON: N/A

FROM: Connie M. Bohatch, Senior Managing Director of Community Services
Community Development

SUBJECT: **Public hearing on programmatic agreements with the Michigan State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO)**

The City Commission scheduled a public hearing for Tuesday, April 15, 2025, at 2:00 p.m. in the City Commission Chambers to obtain input on the effect of activities funded through certain federal programs on the character of historic properties.

Programmatic Agreements. The City has two programmatic agreements with the Michigan State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) to facilitate compliance with the City's Section 106 responsibilities for various programs and activities funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) requires federal agencies to consider the effect of their undertakings on historic properties. HUD has delegated responsibility to local agencies to act on its behalf as the responsible federal agency in the Section 106 process. The NHPA allows the execution of programmatic agreements to comply with Section 106 requirements through an alternate process. The stipulations outlined in the City's agreements with the SHPO allow greater local control and significantly reduce the review time of individual projects.

Public Comment Period and Public Hearing. This hearing offers citizens the opportunity to comment on the effect of the following activities on the character of historic properties:

1. Non-lead hazard reduction activities implemented with funds from the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME), and Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG) programs; and
2. Lead hazard reduction activities implemented with funds from the Lead Hazard Control and Lead Hazard Reduction Demonstration programs, and emergency lead hazard reduction activities funded with CDBG and HOME funds.

The programmatic agreements cover activities planned for the program year July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026, which are identified in the draft FY 2026 Housing and Community Development Annual Action Plan. The programmatic agreements and draft Annual Action Plan were made available for public review and comment on March 25, 2025. Opportunity for comment will continue through April 24, 2025. Written comments should be directed to the Community Development Department at communitydev@grcity.us or mailed to 300 Monroe Avenue, NW, City Hall Suite 460, Grand Rapids, MI 49503.

Performance of program activities for the period July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024, is published in the FY 2024 Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER). The CAPER, programmatic agreements, and draft Annual Action Plan may be viewed in the Community Development Department or online at www.grcd.info.

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