



CITY OF
TUMWATER

**HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
MEETING AGENDA**

**Online via Zoom and In Person at
Tumwater Fire Department
Headquarters, Training Room, 311 Israel
Rd. SW, Tumwater, WA 98501**

**Thursday, January 15, 2026
6:30 PM**

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Changes to Agenda
4. Approval of Minutes
 - a. Historic Preservation Commission Meeting - 11/20/2025
5. 2026 Election of Officers
6. Public Comment
7. Special Item - Meeker Oak Tree Discussion: Kelly Adams, Assistant City Administrator
8. Department of Transportation Signage
9. Transportation Interpretive Projects
10. Next Meeting Date - 02/19/2026
11. Adjourn

Meeting Information

The public are welcome to attend in person, by telephone or online via Zoom.

Watch Online

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89198212073?pwd=pazadq7L1y7Wo2mCgbu0KMkax8Smha.1>

Listen by Telephone

Call (253) 215-8782, listen for the prompts and enter the Webinar ID 891 9821 2073 and Passcode 867998.

Public Comment

The public may submit comments by sending an email to sklein@ci.tumwater.wa.us, no later than 4:00 p.m. the day of the meeting. Comments are submitted directly to the Commission members and will not be read individually into the record of the meeting.

Post Meeting

Video of this meeting will be recorded and posted on our City Meeting page: <https://tumwater-wa.municodemeetings.com>.

Accommodations

The City of Tumwater takes pride in ensuring that people with disabilities are able to take part in, and benefit from, the range of public programs, services, and activities offered by the City. To request an accommodation or alternate format of communication, please contact the City's ADA Coordinator directly, call (360) 754-4129 or email ADACoordinator@ci.tumwater.wa.us. For vision or hearing impaired services, please contact the Washington State Relay Services at 7-1-1 or 1-(800)-833-6384.

MEETING MINUTES

TUMWATER HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
November 20, 2025



CONVENE: 6:30 p.m.

PRESENT: Chair Dave Shipley and Commissioners Don Trosper, Marnie Slakey, and Dave Nicandri

Not Excused: Commissioners Alex Rossiter and Rob Paylor

Staff: Parks and Recreation Director Chuck Denney

Others: Darlene Kemery

CHANGES TO THE AGENDA: No changes to the Agenda.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: **Commissioner Trosper moved, seconded by Commissioner Slakey, to approve the minutes of October 16, 2025, as published. A voice vote approved the motion unanimously.**

PUBLIC COMMENT: TRANSPORTATION INTERPRETIVE PROJECTS: Public comment was given by resident Johansen. Commissioner Nicandri provided a presentation on the updated historical interpretive sign project. Initial presentations have been given to the commission, the City Council, and recently as a history talk at the Schmidt House. Community interest is high and crowds were turned away at the Schmidt House due to facility capacity.

Commissioner Nicandri discussed historic trails/roadways leading through Tumwater and provided information on potential sign types and location along the routes. These signs depict the routes of the Cowlitz Trail, Washington Highway 1/Pacific Coast Highway, and Highway 99 from south Tumwater to Brewery Park.

Discussion included the importance of the historic Washington Department of Transportation (DOT) building and its future removal as that site is redeveloped.

MOTION:

Commissioner Nicandri moved, seconded by Commissioner Trosper, for staff to contact DOT and their Historic Preservation Official as well as the Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation to determine the designation of the headquarters building and its possible listing on the Historical Register. Staff will also determine what steps are to be taken for historical designation if the building is removed and how the iconic building sign can be preserved. A voice vote approved the motion unanimously.

**NEXT MEETING
DATE:**

The next meeting is scheduled on Thursday, January 15, 2026.

ADJOURNMENT:

With there being no further business, Chair Shipley adjourned the meeting at 7:43 p.m.

Prepared by Chuck Denney, Parks and Recreation Director

TO: Historic Preservation Commission
FROM: Chuck Denney, Parks and Recreation Director
DATE: January 15, 2026
SUBJECT: Department of Transportation Signage

1) Recommended Action:

Information/discussion item regarding the preservation of signage and plaques from the former Department of Transportation (DOT) Headquarters building on Capitol Boulevard.

2) Background:

At the November 20, 2025 Commission Meeting, Commissioner Nicandri provided a presentation to the Historical Commission on Tumwater's historical pathways, roads, streets and highways. A portion of this presentation focused on the DOT site, buildings and existing signage – particularly the prominent building name sign facing Capitol Boulevard. The building is scheduled to be removed and DOT project staff do not think the sign can be successfully removed and preserved. Additionally, there may be historic medallions on one or more of the buildings that can be preserved.

3) Alternatives:

Discussion Item – Discussion may include options for sign removal, preservation and/or documentation. Historical medallions could be preserved and displayed elsewhere if they still exist on the site.

4) Attachments:

None

TO: Historic Preservation Commission
FROM: Chuck Denney, Parks and Recreation Director
DATE: January 15, 2026
SUBJECT: Transportation Interpretive Projects

1) Recommended Action:

Information/discussion item regarding projects for future implementation on Highway 99/Capitol Boulevard and Trosper Road.

2) Background:

Commissioner Nicandri has provided a presentation to the Historical Commission on Tumwater's historical pathways, roads, streets and highways at the last three commission meetings. Through his research, Commissioner Nicandri outlined the various designations of what is now Hwy 99/Capitol Boulevard and the opportunity to provide educational signage on the history of this transportation corridor. Additionally, discussion included a possible project to significantly recognize the 47th parallel at Trosper Road with a monument in the Capitol/Trosper roundabout.

3) Alternatives:

Discussion Item – Discussion may include opportunities for historical interpretation/education, art, public process, design and tourism. Additional items may include costs, funding, transportation/utility impacts, permitting/regulations and timing. Staff will be attending from the City's Transportation and Engineering Department as well as the City's Community Development Department.

4) Attachments:

None