

Historic Preservation Design Review

April 25, 2013

HP-13-07, Hampton Park Historic District Street Sign Project (City)

I. THE REQUEST

Applicant: Heart of Sumter Neighborhood Association (John Jackson)

Status of the Applicant: Neighborhood Association

Request: Historic Street Signs for the District

Location: Hampton Park Historic District

II. BACKGROUND

The Heart of Sumter Neighborhood Association has developed a Historic Street Sign project for the Hampton Park Historic District. Therein, all street signs (green signs with street names at intersections) are proposed to be replaced with a distinctive, decorative street sign and post. The design is conceptually similar to this sample:

Sign (black background, white lettering)



Arm and Scrolls



Post

Finials



Images Courtesy of BrandonIndustries.Com

Please note that the design is conceptual; Pending City Council Final approval, the City Purchasing Department will follow its proper internal procurement procedures for final design, vendor selection, and contracting.

A total of 19 sign locations within the Historic district have been identified:



The City of Sumter has agreed to purchase and place the signs, pending submission package approval by the State Department of Transportation.

III. PROCESS

The Zoning Ordinance lays out a distinctive process for a street sign or for the review in the historic district. Specifically, the role of the Historic Preservation Design Review Committee is advisory (as opposed to final decision-maker). Thus, the HP Board makes a recommendation and forwards the request on to City Council for a final decision. Section 1.j.4. states one of the HP duties is to :

Determine an appropriate system of markers and makes recommendations for the design and implementation of specific markings of the streets and routes leading from one landmark or historic district to another.

For the record, we find no specific guidance for street signs in the *Design Review Guidelines Manual*.

IV. STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS

Staff supports all efforts to recognize and distinguish the Hampton Park Historic District as a true community asset in the City of Sumter. Decorative street signs will help better identify the district. The design proposed has been selected by the Heart of Sumter Neighborhood Association, arrived at over several months. Find attached the raw catalogue information with each selection circled by the Heart of Sumter, along with a draft budget.

V. DRAFT MOTIONS

I recommend approval of the street sign project as contained in HP 13-07.

VI. HISTORIC PRESERVATION DESIGN REVIEW – APRIL 25, 2013

The Sumter Historic Preservation Design Review Committee at its meeting on Thursday, April 25, 2013, approved this request as presented by staff.