TO: Architectural Review and Historic Preservation Board

FROM: Bob Summerville, Senior Planner (879-6807)

RE: Overview of the City of Chico Historic Preservation Program

SUMMARY

To maintain familiarity with the City of Chico’s local laws and policies governing historic preservation, Planning Staff will provide an overview of the City of Chico Historic Preservation program, focusing on Chapter 19.37 (Historic Preservation) of the Chico Municipal Code, the Cultural Resources/Historic Preservation Element of the General Plan, and the Board’s role in Chico’s designation as a Certified Local Government (CLG).

Attached with this memo is a copy of Chapter 19.37 (Historic Preservation) of the Chico Municipal Code. Staff will provide an overview of the ordinance focusing on the Board’s responsibilities, processes, and authority. The presentation will be interactive between staff and the Board, and questions can be asked at any time. You should also review your copy of the Cultural Resources/Historic Preservation Element and bring it with you to the meeting for reference.

OVERVIEW

Staff will review those responsibilities implemented administratively by staff and the decision processes of the Board. Some of the primary characteristics of the historic preservation ordinance are as follows:

- Protective measures of historic resources listed on the City of Chico Historic Resources Inventory, including a public review process to add historic resources to the Inventory;
- Protective measures of historic resources located in a Landmark overlay zoning district, including a public review process to add historic resources to the Inventory;
- A discretionary review process for demolition or other building permits that may impact either historic resources on the City's Inventory or resources that are eligible to be listed on the Inventory. The review process for modifications to a listed historic resource is known as “Certificate of Appropriateness” (COA) or for a proposed demolition is known as a “Certificate of Demolition” (COD);
- Development incentives to owners of designated historic property, or to encourage owners of eligible properties to participate in the historic preservation process;
- Exempt activities such as ordinary maintenance and repair;
- A waiver process for circumstances of economic hardship;
- A public process for the establishment of landmark overlay zoning districts;
- Requirements for the maintenance of designated historic properties.

DISTRIBUTION
ARHPB (5)
CDD Wolfe
Senior Planner Summerville

ATTACHMENTS
A. Chapter 19.37 (Historic Preservation) of the Chico Municipal Code