



DEVELOPMENT SERVICES
DEPARTMENT

City of
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**Development Services Department
Planning Division**

DATE: APRIL 7, 2022
TO: HISTORIC & SCENIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
THROUGH: BRIAN DESATNIK, DEVELOPMENT SERVICES DIRECTOR
FROM: BRIAN FOOTE, CITY PLANNER/PLANNING MANAGER
SUBJECT: CERTIFIED LOCAL GOVERNMENT

This memorandum provides a brief summary of what it means to be a CLG, the certification process, the benefits, and the requirements to be a CLG.

HISTORY

As an outcome from the February 28, 2012, Joint Meeting of the Historic & Scenic Preservation Commission, Planning Commission, and City Council (with input from the Redlands Conservancy and the Redlands Historical Society), momentum began building for the City of Redlands to become a Certified Local Government (CLG). Subsequently, the Historic & Scenic Preservation Commission made a recommendation to the City Council, and the City Council approved the Application and Certification Agreement to become a CLG on December 15, 2015. The City of Redlands became an official CLG on April 11, 2016.

The 1980 amendments to the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, provided for the establishment of a Certified Local Government (CLG) program to encourage the direct participation of local governments in the identification, evaluation, registration, and preservation of historic properties within their jurisdictions and promote the integration of local preservation interest and concerns into local planning and decision-making processes. The CLG program is a partnership among local governments, the State of California's Office of Historic Preservation (OHP), and the National Park Service (NPS) which is responsible for administering the National Historic Preservation Program.



REQUIREMENTS

Any general purpose political subdivision with land-use authority is eligible to become a CLG. A local government may apply to become a CLG by submitting an application, signed by the chief elected official of the applying local government, to OHP. If the applicant meets the criteria, OHP will forward the application and recommend certification to the NPS who makes the final certification decision. When the NPS is in agreement with OHP's recommendation, a certification agreement is signed by OHP and the local government, the certification process is complete.

The requirements to be a CLG include the following:

- Enforce appropriate state and local laws and regulations for the designation and protection of historic properties;
- Establish a historic preservation review commission by local ordinance;
- Maintain a system for the survey and inventory of historic properties;
- Provide for public participation in the local preservation program; and
- Satisfactorily perform responsibilities delegated to it by the State (e.g., the filing of an annual report by the local government summarizing its activities and continuing eligibility to OHP).

BENEFITS

The benefits of being a CLG include the following:

- Credibility – Local survey and designation program will be consistent with the National Register and California Register.
- Technical Assistance – Through the use of a members-only listserv, CLG's receive open access to expert OHP staff.
- Streamlining – The use of the National Register/California Register criteria and the Secretary of the Interior's Standards integrates local, state, and federal levels of review.
- Funding – States allocate 10% of their annual Historic Preservation Fund grant from the National Park Service to CLGs. Funding can support important activities including completion of a preservation element or plan, a survey, preparation of a National Register district application, or the update of an ordinance. Only CLGs are eligible for certain types of CLG grants.
- Autonomy – CLGs agree to carry out the intent of the National Historic Preservation Act and the Secretary of the Interior's Standards. OHP's role is advisory. Beyond that, neither the NPS nor OHP have any regulatory authority over local governments.