

**Town of Lyons, Colorado  
Board of Trustees  
BOT Agenda Cover Sheet  
Agenda Item No: VI.5  
Meeting Date: September 3, 2024**

**TO:** Mayor Rogin and Members of the Board of Trustees

**FROM:** Historic Preservation Commission Chair Sarah Lorang and Kristen Bruckner Staff Liaison

**DATE:** 8/29/2024

**ITEM:** **Ordinance 1171 – an Ordinance of the Town of Lyons, Colorado, Approving and Accepting the Local Historic Designation for the Depot Building at 430 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Lyons, Colorado Second Reading and Public Hearing**

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ORDINANCE  
 MOTION / RESOLUTION  
 INFORMATION

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**I. REQUEST OR ISSUE:**

The Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) initiated a local designation program with the intent to balance private property rights with public interest in preserving the Town's unique character and history. The goals of this program are the protection and preservation of the Town's architectural, cultural, and heritage landmarks, the enhancement of property values, and the stabilization of historic neighborhoods, in addition to the promotion of civic pride and community planning.

The HPC presented the local designation plan to the BOT earlier this year; their presentation is in the packet.

The HPC held a public hearing on July 18, 2024, to vote and formally adopt this resolution. Public notice was given and posted. No one from the public commented.

The first reading of the ordinance was held on August 19, 2024.

As such, the ordinance now goes before the Board of Trustees for a second reading and public hearing to consider accepting the local historic designation on the Depot Building.

**II. RECOMMENDED ACTION / NEXT STEP:**

Approve the ordinance to accept the local historic designation on 2nd reading.

**III. FISCAL IMPACTS:** Minor. There is staff time and purchase of a historic plaque for designation.

**IV. BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

Historic Designation helps preserve the community's unique heritage, culture, and character by protecting buildings that represent Lyons' unique past. Preservation and historic designation honors, preserves, and protects buildings and areas determined to have a special character and historic, architectural, or aesthetic interest within Lyons. The Depot building is already on the National and State Register of Historic Places.

Longmont contractor Mark Boyd built the depot in 1885 utilizing native Lyons sandstone. Used first by the narrow-gauge Denver, Utah and Pacific Railroad, the depot served passengers and freight until declining traffic brought its closure in the 1940s.

The first building that the HPC selected for this local historic designation process is the Lyons Depot Building. As part of the application process, the date and time of a public hearing was publicly noticed and posted. A public hearing with the Historic Preservation Commission was held on July 18, 2024. At the public hearing, the HPC voted unanimously to approve the application for Historic Designation.

At this time, staff anticipates only one more local historic designation of a public building in the future: the historic portion of Town Hall. The HPC and staff anticipate that by establishing this process for publicly owned buildings, private homeowners could follow a similar process to historically designate their homes, thus further preserving the character of Lyons' residential neighborhoods and possibly being eligible for historic tax credits.

Staff recommend approving the ordinance on the second reading.

**V. LEGAL ISSUES:**

a. None at this time. The Town Attorney has reviewed the ordinance.

**VI. CONFLICTS OR ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES:** None known.

**VII. SUMMARY AND ALTERNATIVES:** The Board of Trustees may opt not to accept the historic designation and not approve the ordinance.

**PROPOSED MOTION:** "I move to approve Ordinance 1171 – an Ordinance of the Town of Lyons, Colorado, Approving and Accepting the Local Historic Designation for the Depot Building at 430 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Lyons, Colorado".