

ORDINANCE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 2563 ENTITLED “AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION, A HISTORIC DISTRICT, AND PROCEDURES AND STANDARDS FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION IN THE CITY OF BLUE ISLAND, COUNTY OF COOK, AND STATE OF ILLINOIS”  
ENACTED ON SEPTEMBER 8, 1981**

**WHEREAS**, historic preservation enhances our sense of community, energizes local neighborhoods, invests in existing resources, and teaches future generations about our history; and

**WHEREAS**, the rehabilitation of historic buildings is an investment in our economy, supporting local architects, craftsmen and builders, suppliers and independent businesses, contributing overall to the value of our property and the financial strength of the community; and

**WHEREAS**, we celebrate the role of history in our lives and the contributions made by past events, eras, movements and structures with respect to those who created our shared heritage; and

**WHEREAS**, appreciation for our physical past helps inspire expectations for the future and enhances our quality of life; and

**WHEREAS**, stewardship of our historic built environment, its natural setting, and the meaning and memory of our community is a shared responsibility for Americans of all ages, all walks of life and all ethnic backgrounds; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Blue Island contains many structures and areas that embody a sense of time and place unique to the City or which exemplify or reflect the cultural, social, economic, political or architectural history of the nation, the State of Illinois, or the City; and

**WHEREAS**, the protection of the historic and architectural character and resources of the City of Blue Island is necessary for the promotion of its economic development; and

**WHEREAS**, the authority for these purposes is found in the Illinois Historic Areas Preservation Act, Chapter 65, Section 5/11-13.1 and 5/11-48.2 et. seq. of the Illinois Compiled Statutes which have granted powers to the Mayor and City Council of the City of Blue Island to provide for official landmark designation by ordinance of areas, places, buildings, structures, and other objects having a special, historical, community or aesthetic interest or value, and in connection with such areas so designated by ordinance to impose regulations governing the construction, alteration, demolition and use, and to adopt other additional measures appropriate for their preservation, protection, enhancement, rehabilitation, reconstruction, perpetuation or use.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, be it ordained by the City Council of the City of Blue Island, Cook County, Illinois:

### **Section One**

#### **A. Statement of Purpose**

The purpose of this ordinance is to promote the protection, enhancement, perpetuation, and use of improvements of special character or historical interest or value in the interest of the health, prosperity, safety, and welfare of the people of the City of Blue Island by:

1. Providing a mechanism to identify and preserve the historic and architectural characteristics of Blue Island which represents elements of the City's cultural, social, economic, political and architectural history;
2. To promote civic pride in the beauty and noble accomplishments of the past as represented in Blue Island's landmarks and historic districts;
3. Stabilizing and improving the economic vitality and value of Blue Island's landmarks and historic areas;
4. Protecting and enhancing the attractiveness of the City to have buyers, visitors and shoppers and thereby supporting business, commerce, industry, and providing economic benefit to the City;

5. Fostering and encouraging preservation, restoration of structures, areas, and neighborhoods and thereby preventing future urban blight.

## **B. Recognition of Existing Historic District and Landmarks**

1. That area designated as the Old Western Avenue Historic District by ordinance of the City of Blue Island adopted September 8, 1981 as Ordinance No. 2563, as amended, and set forth on the map on file in the office of the City Clerk as Exhibit A and incorporated herein by reference, is hereby recognized and reaffirmed as a designated historic district within the City of Blue Island.
2. Those landmark properties designated by individual resolution of the City of Blue Island and set forth on the map on file in the office of the City Clerk as Exhibit B and incorporated herein by reference, are hereby recognized and reaffirmed as designated landmarks within the City of Blue Island.

## **Section Two**

### **A. Definitions**

Unless specifically defined below, words or phrases in this ordinance shall be interpreted giving them the same meaning as they have in common usage and so as to give this ordinance its most reasonable application.

1. **Alteration** - Any act or process that changes one or more of the exterior architectural features of a structure, including, but not limited to the erection, construction, reconstruction, or removal of any structure.
2. **Area** - A specific geographic division of the City of Blue Island.
3. **Addition** - Any act or process which changes one or more of the "exterior architectural features" of a structure designated for preservation by adding to, joining with or increasing the size or capacity of the structure.
4. **Building** - Any structure created for the support, shelter or enclosure of persons, animals or property of any kind and which is permanently affixed to the land.

5. **Certificate of Appropriateness** - A certificate from the Historic Preservation Commission authorizing plans for alterations, construction, removal or demolition of a landmark or site within a designated historic district.
6. **Certificate of Economic Hardship** – A certificate issued by the Commission authorizing an alteration, construction, removal, or demolition even though a Certificate of Appropriateness has been previously denied.
7. **Commission** - Blue Island Historic Preservation Commission.
8. **Commissioners** - Voting members of the Blue Island Historic Preservation Commission.
9. **Conservation Right** – A term that includes easements, covenants, deeds restrictions or any other type of less than full fee simple interest that might be used to protect a landmark or historic district.
10. **Construction** - The act of adding an addition to an existing structure or the erection of a new principal or accessory structure on a lot or property.
11. **Council** - The City Council of the City of Blue Island.
12. **Demolition** - Any act or process that destroys in part or in whole a landmark or site within a historic district.
13. **Design Guideline** - A standard of appropriated activity that will preserve the historic and architectural character of a structure or area.
14. **Exterior Architectural Appearance** - The architectural and general composition of the exterior of a structure, including, but not limited to the kind, color, and the texture of the building material and the type, design and character of all windows, doors, light fixtures, signs, and appurtenant elements.
15. **Historic District** - An area designated as a "historic district by ordinance of the City Council and which may contain within definable geographic boundaries one or more landmarks and which may have within its boundaries other properties or structures that, while not of such historic and/or architectural significance to be designated as

landmarks, nevertheless contribute to the overall visual characteristics of the landmark or landmarks located within the historic district.

16. **Improvement** – Any visible built feature constituting a physical addition or any part of such addition to a property, including any building, structure, fixture, bridge, work of art, place, parking facility, fence, gate, wall, landscaping, or paving.
17. **Landmark** - Any property, building, structure, site or area which has been so designated by ordinance of the City Council, pursuant to procedures prescribed herein, that is worthy of rehabilitation, restoration, and preservation because of its historic and/or architectural significance to the City of Blue Island.
18. **Landscape** – The area surrounding a landmark or structure within a historic district. This shall include, but not be limited to: fences, statues, signs, plantings, paving and outbuildings, as well as landforms.
19. **Owner of Record** - The person, corporation, or other legal entity listed as owner on the records of the Cook County Recorder of Deeds.
20. **Property** – Land and improvements identified as a separate lot for the purposes of the zoning regulations of the City of Blue Island.
21. **Rehabilitation** - The process of returning a property to a state of utility, through repair or alteration, which makes possible an efficient contemporary use while preserving those portions and features of the property which are significant to its historic, architectural and cultural values.
22. **Removal** - Any relocation of an improvement on its site or to another site.
23. **Repair** - Any change that does not require a building permit that is not construction, relocation or alteration.
24. **Site** – The location of an event, activity, building, structure, or improvement.
25. **Structure** - Anything constructed or erected, the use of which requires permanent or temporary location on or in the ground, including, but without limiting the generality of the foregoing, buildings, fences, gazebos, advertising signs, bill boards, backstops for

tennis courts, radio and television antennae, including supporting towers, swimming pools, satellite dishes, solar panels and wind generation.

26. **Structural Change** - Any change or repair in the supporting members of a building, structure, roof or exterior walls which would expand the building in height, width or bulk of the building.

### **Section Three**

#### **A. Composition of Historic Preservation Commission**

The Blue Island Historic Preservation Commission shall consist of seven (7) voting members, residents of the City of Blue Island, appointed by the Mayor and approved by the City Council, and one (1) ex-officio non-voting member, a representative of the Community Development Department.

#### **B. Qualifications**

The members shall be appointed on the basis of expertise, experience or interest in the areas of local history, urban planning and design, architecture and architectural history, landscape architecture, building construction or engineering, finance, historical and architectural preservation, neighborhood organizing or real estate.

#### **C. Terms**

Members of the Commission shall be appointed for terms of three (3) years. No members shall serve more than two (2) successive three-year terms, but may be reappointed after a one (1) year waiting period. Alternate members shall be appointed to serve in the absence of or disqualification of the regular members. Vacancies shall be filled for the unexpired term only. Members shall serve without compensation.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, all members shall hold office until their successors have been duly appointed, confirmed, and qualified.

### **Section Four**

#### **A. Officers**

Officers shall consist of a chairman, vice-chairman, and a secretary elected by the Preservation Commission who shall serve a term of one (1) year and shall be eligible for re-election, but no members shall serve as an officer for more than two (2) consecutive years. The chairman shall preside over meetings. In the absence of the chairman, the vice-chairman shall perform the duties of the chairman. If both are absent, a temporary chairman shall be elected by those present. The secretary to the Preservation Commission shall have the following duties:

1. Take minutes of each Preservation Commission meeting;
2. Be responsible for publication and distribution of copies of the minutes, reports, and decisions of the Preservation commission to the members of the Preservation Commission;
3. Give notice as provided herein or by law for all public hearings conducted by the Preservation Commission;
4. Advise the Mayor of vacancies on the Preservation Commission and expiring terms of members;
5. Prepare and submit to the City Council a complete record of the proceedings before the Preservation Commission on any matter requiring Council consideration.

#### **B. Meetings**

1. A quorum shall consist of a majority of the members. All decisions or actions of the Historic Preservation Commission shall be made by a majority vote of those members present and voting at any meeting where a quorum exists. Meetings shall be held at regularly scheduled times to be established by resolution of the Commission at the beginning of each calendar year or at any time upon the call of the Chairman. There shall be a minimum of four (4) meetings per year.
2. No member of the Historic Preservation commission shall vote on any matter that may materially or apparently affect the property, income or business interest of that member. No action shall be taken by the Commission that could in any manner deprive or restrict the owner of property in its use, modification, maintenance, disposition, or demolition

until such owner shall first have had the opportunity to be heard at public meeting of the Preservation Commission, as provided herein. The Chairman, and in his absence the acting Chairman, may administer oaths and compel the attendance of witnesses. All meetings of the Preservation Commission shall be open to the public. The Preservation Commission keep minutes of its proceedings, showing the vote, indicating such fact, and shall keep records of its examinations and other official actions, all of which shall be immediately filed in the office of the Preservation Commission and shall be a public record.

## Section Five

### **A. Powers and Duties**

1. To adopt its own procedural regulations;
2. To conduct an ongoing survey to identify historically and architecturally significant properties, structures and areas;
3. To investigate and recommend to the City Council the adoption of ordinances designating properties having special historic, community, or architectural value as landmarks;
4. To investigate and recommend to the City Council the adoption of ordinances designating properties and structures having special historic, community or architectural value as historic districts;
5. To keep a register of all properties and structures that have been designated as landmarks or historic districts, including all information required for each designation;
6. To determine an appropriate system of markers and make recommendations for the design and implementation of specific markings of the streets and routes leading from one landmark or historic district to another;
7. To advise owners of landmarks and property or structures within historic districts on physical and financial aspects of preservation, renovation, rehabilitation, and reuse, and on procedures for inclusion on the State or National Register of Historic Places;

## **B. Surveys and Research**

The Historic Preservation Commission shall undertake an ongoing survey and research effort in the City of Blue Island to identify neighborhoods, areas, sites, structures, and objects that have historic, community, architectural, or aesthetic importance, interest, or value. As part of the survey, the Historic Preservation Commission shall review and evaluate any prior surveys and studies by any unit of government or private organization and compile appropriate descriptions, facts, and photographs. The Historic Preservation Commission shall identify potential landmarks and adopt procedures to nominate them in groups based upon the following criteria:

1. The potential landmarks in one identifiable neighborhood or district geographical area of the City of Blue Island;
2. The potential landmarks associated with a particular person, event, or historical period;
3. The potential landmarks of a particular architectural style or school, or of a particular architect, engineer, builder, designer or craftsman;
4. Such other criteria as may be adopted by the Preservation Commission to assure systematic survey and nomination of all potential landmarks within the City of Blue Island.

## **Section Six**

### **A. Criteria for Landmark Designation**

1. Nominations shall be made to the Historic Preservation Commission on a form provided by the Commission.
2. The Commission shall, upon investigation as it deems necessary, make a preliminary determination as to whether a property, structure, or area possesses the integrity of design, workmanship, materials, location or setting and meets one or more of the following criteria:
  - a. Significant value as part of the historic, heritage or cultural characteristics of the community, county, state or nation;

8. To inform and educate the citizens of Blue Island concerning the historic and architectural heritage of the City by publishing appropriate maps, newsletters, brochures, and pamphlets, and by holding programs and seminars;
9. To hold public hearings and to review applications for construction, alteration, removal, or demolition affecting proposed or designated landmarks or structures or historic districts and issue or deny Certificates of Appropriateness for such actions. Applicants shall be required to submit plans, drawings, elevations, specifications, and other information as may be necessary to make decisions;
10. To develop specific guidelines for the alteration, demolition, construction, or removal of landmarks or property and structures within historic districts;
11. To review proposed zoning amendments, applications for special use permits or variances that affect proposed or designated landmarks and historic districts. Such review shall be made prior to the date of the hearing by the Plan Commission or the Zoning Board of Appeals;
12. To administer on the behalf of the City of Blue Island any property or full or partial interest in real property, including a conservation right as that term is used in Chapter 30, paragraph 401, et.seq., Illinois Revised Statutes, which the City may have or accept as a gift or otherwise, upon designation by the City Council;
13. To accept and administer on behalf of the City of Blue Island, upon designation by the City Council, such gifts, grants and money as may be appropriate for the purpose of this ordinance;
14. To call upon available City staff members as well as other experts for technical advice;
15. To testify before all boards and commissions, including the Plan Commission and the Zoning Board of Appeals, on any matter affecting historically and architecturally significant property and landmarks;
16. To periodically review the Blue Island Zoning Ordinance and to recommend to the Plan Commission and the City Council any amendments appropriate for the protection and continued use of landmarks or property and structures within historic districts.

- b. Its identification with a person or persons who significantly contributed to the development of the community, county, state or county;
  - c. Representative of the distinguishing characteristics of architecture inherently valuable for the study of a period, type, method of construction or use of indigenous materials;
  - d. Notable work of a master builder, designer, architect or artist whose individual work has influenced the development of the community, county, state or nation;
  - e. Its unique location or singular physical characteristics that make it an established or familiar visual feature;
  - f. Its character as a particularly fine or unique example of a utilitarian structure, including but not limited to farmhouses, gas stations, or other commercial structures, with a high level of integrity or architectural significance;
  - g. Area that has yielded or may be likely to yield, information important in history or prehistory;
3. A preliminary determination as to whether a property, structure, or area meets one or more of the foregoing criteria shall be made within thirty (30) days of filing of a nomination with the Commission.

## **B. Landmark Designation Procedures**

The Building & Zoning Department shall supply, upon request, the application forms. Completed forms shall be submitted to the Community Development Department which shall be forwarded to the Commission for their consideration.

1. Upon receipt of the application, the secretary of the Commission shall schedule a public hearing, to be held within forty-five (45) days after preliminary approval of application.
  - a. During the public hearing, the Commission shall review and evaluate the application according to the criteria established by this ordinance.

- b. If the Historic Preservation Commission finds at the time that the application merits further consideration, then the Commission may table the request until its next regularly scheduled meeting.
    - c. A Certificate of Appropriateness shall be required for alteration, construction, removal or demolition of a proposed landmark from the date when the nomination form is presented to the Commission until the final disposition of the request.
2. Notice of date, time, place and purpose of the public hearing shall be sent by mail to owner(s) of record and to the nominator(s) as well as to the adjoining property owners, not less than fifteen (15) nor more than thirty (30) days prior to the date of the hearing. A public hearing notice also shall be published in a newspaper having general circulation in the City of Blue Island. The notice shall state the location of the property and a statement summarizing how the proposed landmark meets the criteria set forth in Subsection 6.A.2 under Criteria for Landmark Designation.
3. Upon notification, any owner or owners of a property who wish to object shall submit to the City Clerk a notarized statement certifying that the party is the sole or partial owner of the property, as appropriate, and objects to the listing.
4. A decision shall be made within thirty (30) days following the date of the closing of the public hearing.
  - a. Following the public hearing, the Secretary of the Commission shall prepare the Commission's evaluation, recommendation and all available information for submission to the City Council within thirty (30) days.
  - b. If the Commission determines that the landmark should be designated, it shall do so by a resolution passed by a majority of the Commission.
  - c. The owner(s) of record shall be notified within five (5) days by a letter containing information of the Commission's decision.
  - d. A simple majority vote by the City Council is necessary for approval of a landmark designation, provided, however, that if the owner objects to the

Landmark designation, then the City Council may not designate the property, structure, or area as a Landmark without a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote by the City Council. If the City Council approves the application for designation, a notice will be sent to the property owner, the Community Development Department, the Building Commissioner, the City Clerk's office, and recorded with the Cook County Recorder of Deeds that the property has been designated as such and shall be subject to issuance of Certificate of Appropriateness.

- e. If the City Council denies the application, no petitioner or applicant can file for ninety (90) days to the Secretary of the Commission.

### Section Seven

#### **A. Criteria for Historic District Designation**

1. Nominations shall be made to the Historic Preservation Commission on a form provided by the Commission.
2. The following criteria shall be utilized by the Blue Island Historic Preservation Commission in determining the designation of Historic Districts:
  - a. The Historic District contains one or more landmarks along with such other buildings, places or areas within its definable geographic boundaries which contribute to the overall visual characteristics of the landmark or landmarks located in such District;
  - b. At least fifty (50%) percent of the structures meet the standards of Subsection 6.A.2 under Criteria for Landmark Designation;
  - c. Establishes a sense of time and place unique to the City of Blue Island;
  - d. Exemplifies or reflects the cultural, social, economic, political and/or architectural history of the community, county, state or nation.
3. A preliminary determination as to whether a district or an area meets one or more of the foregoing criteria shall be made within sixty (60) days of the filing of a nomination with the Commission.

## **B. Historic District Designation Procedure**

The Building & Zoning Department shall supply, upon request, the application forms. Completed forms shall be submitted to the Community Development Department which shall forward them to the Commission for their consideration.

1. The application form must be accompanied by a petition signed by no less than fifty-one (51%) percent of the property owners.
2. Upon receipt of the application, the Secretary of the Commission shall schedule a public hearing to be held within forty-five (45) days after preliminary approval of application.
  - a. During the public hearing, the Commission shall review and evaluate the application according to the criteria established by this ordinance.
  - b. If the Historic Preservation Commission finds at the time that the application merits further consideration, then the Commission may table the request until its next regularly scheduled meeting.
  - c. A Certificate of Appropriateness shall be required for alteration, construction, removal or demolition of a proposed landmark from the date when the nomination form is presented to the Commission until the final disposition of the request.
3. Notice of date, time, place and purpose of the public hearing shall be sent by mail to owner(s) of record and to the nominator(s) as well as to the adjoining property owners, not less than fifteen (15) nor more than thirty (30) days prior to the date of the hearing. A public hearing notice also shall be published in a newspaper having general circulation in the City of Blue Island. The notice shall state the location of the property and a statement summarizing how the proposed historic district meets the criteria set forth in Subsection 7.A.2 under Criteria for Historic District Designation.

4. Upon notification, any owner or owners of a property who wish to object shall submit to the City Clerk a notarized statement certifying that the party is the sole or partial owner of the property, as appropriate, and objects to the listing.
5. A decision shall be made within thirty (30) days following the date of the closing of the public hearing.
  - a. Following the public hearing, the Secretary of the Commission shall prepare the Commission's evaluation, recommendation and all available information for submission to the City Council within thirty (30) days.
  - b. If the Commission determines that the proposed historic district should be designated, it shall do so by a resolution passed by a majority of the Commission.
  - c. The owner(s) of record shall be notified within five (5) days by a letter containing information of the Commission's decision.
  - d. A simple majority vote by the City Council is necessary for approval of a historic preservation designation. If the City Council approves the application for a designation, a notice will be sent to the property owner, the Community Development Department, the Building Commissioner, the City Clerk's office and recorded with the Cook County Recorder of Deeds that the area has been designated as such and that buildings located within the boundaries of the historic district shall be subject to issuance of Certificate of Appropriateness.
  - e. If the City Council denies the application, no petitioner can file for ninety (90) days to the Secretary of the Commission.

### **Section Eight**

#### **A. Applications for Nominations of Landmarks and Historic Districts**

1. Any person, group of persons or association, may apply to the Blue Island Historic Preservation Commission for the designation of a Landmark or Historic District.
2. Applications for a nomination shall be filed at the Building & Zoning Department. Persons wishing guidance or advice prior to completing an application may contact the

Staff of the Historic Preservation Commission. At a minimum, the application shall include the following:

- a. For a Landmark:
  - i. The name and address of the property owner.
  - ii. The legal description and common street address of the property.
  - iii. A written statement describing the property and setting forth reasons in support of the proposed designation.
  - iv. Documentation that the property owner has been notified or consents to the application for designation.
  - v. A list of significant exterior architectural features that should be protected.
  - vi. An overall site plan and photographs of the landmark. The plan shall also include a front, side and rear elevation drawing.
  - vii. Additional documents as requested by the Building Commissioner, Community Development Director, or Historic Preservation Commission.
  
- b. For a Historic District:
  - i. The names and addresses of the property owners.
  - ii. A map delineating the boundaries of the area to be designated.
  - iii. A written statement describing the area and properties within the historic district and setting forth reasons in support of the proposed designation.
  - iv. A list and photographs of significant exterior architectural features of all properties in the district that should be protected.
  - v. Additional documents as requested by the Building Commissioner, Community Development Director, or Historic Preservation Commission.

## Section Nine

### **A. Certificate of Appropriateness**

1. A Certificate of Appropriateness issued by the Commission shall be required before a building permit, moving or building permit or demolition permit is issued for any designated historic landmark or any building, structure or site or part thereof in the

historic district. It is required if the building, structure or site will be altered, extended, or repaired in such a manner as to produce a major change in the exterior appearance of such building or structure. Such major changes include, but are not limited to:

- a. Major changes by addition, alteration, maintenance, reconstruction, rehabilitation, renovation or repair;
  - b. Any new construction and demolition in whole or in part requiring a permit from the City of Blue Island;
  - c. Moving a building;
  - d. Any construction, alteration, demolition, or removal affecting a significant exterior architectural feature as specified in the ordinance designating the landmark or historic district.
2. An exception to the Certificate of Appropriateness shall be made if the applicant shows to the Commission that a failure to grant the certificate will cause an imminent threat to life, health or property. The Building Commissioner or Fire Chief shall certify that such conditions exist.

#### **B. Application for Certificate of Appropriateness**

1. Every application for a building permit or demolition permit, including plans and specifications, shall be forwarded by the Building & Zoning Department to the Historic Preservation Commission within thirty (30) days following receipt of the application by the Department. The application for issuance of a Certificate of Appropriateness must include:
  - a. Street address of the property involved.
  - b. Legal description of the property involved.
  - c. Brief description of the present improvements situated on the property.
  - d. A detailed description of the construction, alteration, demolition or use proposed together with any architect drawings or sketches if those services have been utilized

by the applicant and if not, a sufficient description of the construction, alteration, demolition, and use to enable anyone to determine what final appearance and use of the real estate will be.

- e. Owner's name.
- f. Developer's name, if different than owner.
- g. Architect's name.
- h. Owner's signature
- i. Survey or site plan
- j. Photographs of existing conditions
- k. Additional documents as requested by the Building Commissioner, Community Development Director, or Historic Preservation Commission.

### **C. Standards for Certificate of Appropriateness**

In making a determination whether to approve or deny an application for a Certificate of Appropriateness, the Blue Island Historic Preservation Commission shall be guided by the Secretary of the Interior's "Standards for Rehabilitation," as follows:

1. A property shall be used for its historic purpose or be placed in a new use that requires minimal change to the defining characteristics of the building and its site environment.
2. The historic character of a property shall be retained and preserved. The removal of historic materials or alteration of features and spaces that characterize a property shall be avoided.
3. Each property shall be recognized as a physical record of its time, place, and use. Changes that create a false sense of historical development, such as adding conjectural features or architectural elements from other buildings, shall not be undertaken.
4. Most properties change over time; those changes that have acquired historic significance in their own right shall be retained and preserved.

5. Distinctive stylistic features or examples of skilled craftsmanship that characterize a building, structure, or site shall be treated with sensitivity.
6. Deteriorated historic features shall be repaired rather than replaced. Where the severity of deterioration requires replacement of a distinctive feature, the new feature shall match the old in design, color, texture, and other visual qualities, and, where possible materials. Replacement of missing features shall be substantiated by documentary, physical, or pictorial evidence.
7. Chemical or physical treatments, such as sandblasting, that cause damage to historic materials shall not be used. The surface cleaning of the structures, if appropriate, shall be undertaken using the gentlest means possible.
8. Significant archaeological resources affected by a project shall be protected and preserved. If such resources must be disturbed, mitigation measures shall be undertaken.
9. New additions, exterior alterations, or related new construction shall not destroy historic materials that characterize the property. The new work shall be differentiated from the old and shall be compatible with the massing, size, scale, and architectural features to protect the historic integrity of the property and its environment.
10. New additions and adjacent or related new construction shall be undertaken in such a manner that if removed in the future, the essential form and integrity of the historic property and its environment would be unimpaired.

#### **D. Design Guidelines**

Design guidelines for applying the criteria for review of Certificates of Appropriateness shall at a minimum, consider the following architectural criteria:

1. Height - the height of any proposed alteration or construction should be compatible with the style and character of the landmark and with surrounding structures in a historic district.

2. Proportions of windows and doors - The proportions and relationships between doors and windows should be compatible with the architectural style and character of the landmark.
3. Relationship of Building Masses and Spaces - The relationship of a structure within a historic district to the open space between it and adjoining structures should be compatible.
4. Roof Shape - The design of the roof, fascia, and cornice should be compatible with the architectural style and character of the landmark.
5. Landscaping - Landscaping should be compatible with the architectural character and appearance of the landmark.
6. Scale - The scale of the structure after alteration, construction, or partial demolition should be compatible with its architectural style and character and with surrounding structures in a historic district.
7. Directional Expression - Facades in historic districts should blend with other structures with regard to directional expression. Structures in a historic district should be compatible with the dominant horizontal or vertical expression of surrounding structures. The direction expression of a landmark after alteration, construction, or partial demolition should be compatible with its original architectural style and character.
8. Architectural Details - Architectural details including types of materials, colors, and textures should be treated so as to make landmark compatible with its original architectural style and character of a landmark or historic district.
9. New structures in a Historic District shall be compatible with the architectural styles and design in said districts.

#### **E. Hearing on Application**

1. Applications for a Certificate of Appropriateness are available from the Building & Zoning Department. Such applications shall be completed and submitted to the

Department which shall be forwarded to the Blue Island Historic Preservation Commission.

- a. The Commission shall schedule a public meeting for consideration of the application within thirty (30) days of receipt of application. A public notice for consideration of the application shall be made not less than fifteen (15) days nor more than thirty (30) days before hearing, in a newspaper of general circulation published in the City of Blue Island.
2. If the Historic Preservation Commission finds at the time that the application merits further consideration, then the Commission may table the request until its next regularly scheduled meeting.

#### **F. Issuance of a Certificate of Appropriateness**

1. The Blue Island Historic Preservation Commission shall notify the applicants of their decision within five (5) days after the public meeting. Upon approval of the application, the Commission shall direct the Building & Zoning Department to issue signed Certificate of Appropriateness to the applicant with copies forwarded to the Building Commissioner.
2. A Certificate of Appropriateness shall be invalid if changes in the plans reviewed by the Commission are necessary in obtaining a building permit or if the building permit issued for the same work becomes invalid. The Certificate of Appropriateness remains valid for the same period of validity as the building permit (one year).

#### **G. Appeals for Denial of a Certificate of Appropriateness**

1. In the event of denial of an application for a Certificate of Appropriateness, the Commission shall notify the applicant in writing within five (5) days of the disapproval and the reasons therefore and shall recommend changes, if any, in the proposed action that would cause the Commission to reconsider its denial.
2. Within fifteen (15) days of receipt of the notification of disapproval, the applicant may resubmit an amended application that takes into consideration the recommendations of the Historic Preservation Commission. The application shall be considered to be

withdrawn if no written modification on request for public hearing is received. Within thirty (30) days of receipt of a written modification the Commission must either issue the Certificate of Appropriateness or hold a hearing.

#### **H. Findings on Appeal**

1. The Blue Island Historic Preservation Commission shall select a reasonable time and place for the hearing of the appeal and give due notice thereof to the applicant by mailing notice of the hearing, said mailing to be made at least ten (10) days prior to the date of the hearing.
2. Notice of the time and place of such public hearing shall be published not less than fifteen (15) days nor more than thirty (30) days before the hearing in a newspaper of general circulation published in the City of Blue Island.
3. The Chairperson shall conduct the hearing and the Blue Island Historic Preservation Commission and the applicant shall have the right to introduce evidence and cross examine witnesses. A recorded or written transcript of the hearing shall be made and kept.
4. The Commission shall vote, announce its decision, make its recommendation, and notify the Building & Zoning Department and the applicant within five (5) days after the conclusion of the public hearing, unless the time is extended by mutual agreement between the Commission and the applicant.
5. In the event of a denial of appeal by the Blue Island Historic Preservation Commission, the applicant may appeal the decision to the City Council, whose decision in this matter shall be final subject only to judicial review as provided by law.

### **Section Ten**

#### **A. Certificate of Economic Hardship**

Notwithstanding any of the provisions of the ordinance to the contrary, the Commission may issue a Certificate of Economic Hardship to allow the performance of work for which a Certificate of Appropriateness has been denied.

1. Applicants claiming economic hardship shall be required to apply to the Community Development Department to determine eligibility for rehabilitation assistance. The eligibility for and availability of financial aid shall be considered by the Commission in making its decision.
2. An applicant for a Certificate of Economic Hardship may submit any or all of the following information in order to assist the Commission in making its determination on the application:
  - a. The amount paid for the property, the date of purchase and the party from whom purchased (including a description of the relationship, if any, between the owner and the person from whom the property was purchased).
  - b. The assessed value of the land and improvements thereon according to the two most recent assessments.
  - c. Real estate taxes for the previous two years.
  - d. Remaining balance on mortgage, if any, and annual debt service, if any, for the previous two years.
  - e. All appraisals obtained within the previous two years by the owner or applicant in connection with this purchase, financing or ownership of the property.
  - f. Any listing of the property for sale or rent, price asked and offers received, if any.
  - g. Any consideration by the owner as to profitable adaptive uses for the property.
  - h. If the property is income-producing, the annual gross income from the property for the previous two years, itemized operating and maintenance expenses for the previous two years, and annual cash flow before and after debt service, if any during the same period.
  - i. Form of ownership or operation of the property, whether sole proprietorship, for-profit or not-for-profit corporation, limited partnership, joint venture or other.

- j. Any other information including the income tax bracket of the owner, applicant or principal investors in the property, reasonably necessary for a determination as to whether the property can be reasonably used or yield a reasonable return to present or future owners.
3. If the Commission finds that without approval of the proposed work, the property cannot obtain a reasonable economic return therefrom, then the application shall be delayed for a period not to exceed three (3) months. During this period of delay, the Commission shall investigate plans and make recommendations to the City Council to allow for a reasonably beneficial use or a reasonable economic return, or to otherwise preserve the subject property. Such plans and recommendations may include, but not be limited to: a relaxation of the provisions of the ordinance, a reduction in real property taxes, financial assistance, building code modifications and/or changes in zoning regulations.
4. If by the end of this three (3) month period, the Commission has found that without approval of the proposed work, the property cannot be put to a reasonable beneficial use or the owner cannot obtain a reasonable economic return therefrom, then the Commission shall issue a Certificate of Economic Hardship approving the proposed work. If the Commission finds otherwise, it shall deny the application for a Certificate of Economic Hardship.

## Section Eleven

### **A. Appeals**

1. When a Certificate of Appropriateness or a Certificate of Economic Hardship is approved or denied for either a landmark or a structure within a historic district, the applicant or any interested party may, within thirty (30) days, appeal the Commission's decision to the City Council. The Council may receive comments on the contents of the record but no new matter may be considered by the Council. The City Council may affirm the decision or recommend changes by a majority vote of the Council after due consideration of the facts contained in the record submitted to the Council by the Commission. The Council may overturn the Commission's decision by a majority vote of

a quorum of the Council. If the Council decides that a Certificate of Economic Hardship should be issued, the Secretary shall notify the applicant and the Building & Zoning Department within seven (7) days of the Council's decision and the Building & Zoning Department then shall issue the permit within fifteen (15) days.

2. If the Council concurs with the Commission's decision not to issue a Certificate of Economic Hardship, the Secretary shall notify the applicant and the Building & Zoning Department within seven (7) days.

#### **B. Natural Destruction or Demolition**

In the case of partial or complete natural destruction or demolition of a Landmark or a property within a Historic District, the owner will be required to obtain a Certificate of Appropriateness from the Commission prior to reconstruction. Although exact duplication of the previous structure may not be required, the exterior design of the property shall be in harmony with:

1. The exterior design of the structure prior to damage
2. The character of the Historic Preservation District

### **Section Twelve**

#### **A. Fees and Penalties**

The Preservation Commission may establish an appropriate system of processing fees for the review of nominations and Certificates of Appropriateness. Any person who undertakes or causes an alteration, construction, demolition, or removal of any nominated or designated landmark or property within a nominated or designated landmark or designated historic district without a Certificate of Appropriateness shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof shall be punished by a fine of not less than fifty dollars (\$50) nor more than seven hundred and fifty dollars (\$750). Every day such violation shall continue to exist shall constitute a separate violation. The Preservation Commission may institute any appropriate action or proceeding in the name of the City of Blue Island to enjoin, correct or abate any violation of this ordinance.

### **Section Thirteen**

#### **A. Separability**

If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase, or portion of this ordinance is for any reason held invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, such portion shall be deemed a separate, distinct and independent provision and such holding shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions thereof.

### **Section Fourteen**

#### **A. Ordinances Repealed**

All ordinances, resolutions and orders, or parts thereof, in conflict herewith, be and the same are hereby repealed

### **Section Fifteen**

#### **A. Publication and Effective Date**

This ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage, approval and publication as provided by law. A full, true and complete copy of this ordinance shall be published in pamphlet form, by authority of the City Council, as corporate authorities.

Exhibit A

Olde Western Historic District Properties

PIN	ADDRESS
24-36-424-003-0000	2413 CANAL ST
24-36-424-001-0000	13301 OLDE WESTERN
24-36-424-009-0000	13307 OLDE WESTERN
24-36-424-010-0000	13307 OLDE WESTERN
24-36-423-014-0000	13308 OLDE WESTERN
24-36-423-012-0000	13308 OLDE WESTERN
24-36-424-005-0000	13311 OLDE WESTERN
24-36-424-011-0000	13311 OLDE WESTERN
24-36-423-016-0000	13312 OLDE WESTERN
24-36-423-008-0000	13316 OLDE WESTERN
24-36-423-009-0000	13318 OLDE WESTERN
24-36-424-007-0000	13319 OLDE WESTERN
24-36-424-008-0000	13325 OLDE WESTERN
24-36-423-010-0000	13328 OLDE WESTERN
24-36-432-003-0000	13336 OLDE WESTERN
24-36-432-004-0000	13340 OLDE WESTERN
24-36-433-003-0000	13341 OLDE WESTERN
24-36-433-004-0000	13341 OLDE WESTERN
24-36-432-005-0000	13344 OLDE WESTERN
24-36-432-045-0000	13344 OLDE WESTERN
24-36-432-046-0000	13344 OLDE WESTERN
24-36-433-025-0000	13351 OLDE WESTERN
24-36-433-012-0000	13357 OLDE WESTERN
24-36-433-026-0000	13357 OLDE WESTERN
24-36-433-027-0000	13357 OLDE WESTERN
24-36-433-029-0000	13357 OLDE WESTERN
24-36-432-048-0000	13362 OLDE WESTERN
24-36-432-040-0000	13404 OLDE WESTERN
24-36-432-041-0000	13404 OLDE WESTERN
24-36-432-024-0000	13406 OLDE WESTERN

<b>24-36-433-020-0000</b>	<b>13411 OLDE WESTERN</b>
<b>24-36-432-025-0000</b>	<b>13414 OLDE WESTERN</b>
<b>24-36-432-026-0000</b>	<b>13416 OLDE WESTERN</b>
<b>24-36-432-027-0000</b>	<b>13426 OLDE WESTERN</b>
<b>24-36-432-034-0000</b>	<b>13430 OLDE WESTERN</b>
<b>24-36-432-035-0000</b>	<b>13434 OLDE WESTERN</b>
<b>24-36-432-042-0000</b>	<b>13434 OLDE WESTERN</b>
<b>24-36-432-043-0000</b>	<b>13440 OLDE WESTERN</b>
<b>24-36-432-039-0000</b>	<b>13442 OLDE WESTERN</b>
<b>24-36-433-001-0000</b>	<b>13337-39 OLDE WESTERN</b>
<b>24-36-433-002-0000</b>	<b>13337-39 OLDE WESTERN</b>

Exhibit B

Landmark Designations

<b>PIN</b>	<b>ADDRESS</b>
24-25-428-057-0000	2506 BURR OAK
24-25-428-013-0000	2546 BURR OAK
24-25-427-041-0000	2620 BURR OAK
24-25-312-036-0000	2824 BURR OAK
25-30-305-013-0000	2336 COLLINS ST
25-31-363-004-0000	2303 DES PLAINES ST
24-36-216-008-0000	12904 ELM ST
24-36-216-009-0000	12908 ELM ST
24-36-220-007-0000	12944 ELM ST
24-36-212-016-0000	12844 GREENWOOD AVE
24-36-212-020-0000	12850 GREENWOOD AVE
24-36-218-008-0000	12904 GREENWOOD AVE
24-36-219-001-0000	12905 GREENWOOD AVE
24-36-219-009-0000	12917 GREENWOOD AVE
24-36-223-022-0000	12939 GREENWOOD AVE
24-36-222-017-0000	12940 GREENWOOD AVE
24-36-222-013-0000	12956 GREENWOOD AVE
24-36-226-017-0000	13020 GREENWOOD AVE
24-36-230-008-0000	13050 GREENWOOD AVE
24-36-226-009-0000	13050 GREENWOOD AVE
24-36-226-014-0000	13050 GREENWOOD AVE
24-36-231-011-0000	13051 GREENWOOD AVE
VERMONT STREET STATION	2300 GROVE ST
25-31-118-015-0000	2021 HIGH ST
24-36-223-003-0000	2445 HIGH ST
24-36-222-009-0000	2523 HIGH ST
24-36-203-013-0000	12738 MAPLE AVE
24-36-211-021-0000	12852 MAPLE AVE
24-36-211-023-0000	12852 MAPLE AVE
24-36-212-008-0000	12857 MAPLE AVE

24-36-217-009-0000	12900 MAPLE AVE
24-36-231-007-0000	2431 NEW ST
24-36-209-007-0000	2451 OAK ST
24-36-212-025-0000	2520 UNION ST
24-36-229-020-0000	2626 VERMONT ST
24-36-209-016-0000	2444 WALNUT ST
24-36-211-007-0000	2627 WALNUT ST
25-31-119-021-0000	13013 WESTERN AVE
24-36-227-026-0000	13022 WESTERN AVE
24-36-231-022-0000	13042 WESTERN AVE
24-36-404-012-0000	13122 WESTERN AVE
24-36-408-014-0000	13168 WESTERN AVE
24-36-408-015-0000	13168 WESTERN AVE
24-36-412-004-0000	13222-26 WESTERN AVE
28-01-203-016-0000	13635 WESTERN AVE
24-36-404-011-0000	2403 VERMONT ST
24-36-226-021-0000	2537 YORK ST
24-36-226-022-0000	2551 YORK ST



# Olde Western Historic District

Historic District Boundaries

BICDD; 08/29/2011

