

**CITY OF TEMECULA
AGENDA REPORT**

TO: City Manager/City Council

FROM: Luke Watson, Deputy City Manager

DATE: September 26, 2023

SUBJECT: Consider Reorganization of Old Town Local Review Board and Provide Direction Regarding the Same

RECOMMENDATION: That the City Council consider the reorganization of the Old Town Local Review Board and provide direction regarding the same.

BACKGROUND: The Old Town Local Review Board (OTLRB) was established as an advisory body to the Temecula City Council. Its primary objective is to oversee and regulate architectural, historical, and cultural aspects within the Old Town district of Temecula.

The establishment of the OTLRB was in response to the growing need to preserve and protect the unique character and historical significance of Old Town Temecula. Recognizing the area's rich cultural heritage, the board was created to ensure that new developments, renovations, and projects adhere to established historical guidelines.

The OTLRB is currently comprised of five (5) members, each appointed by the City Council. Members possess expertise in fields such as architecture, historic preservation, urban planning, and local history. Their collective knowledge and dedication to preserving Old Town's legacy contribute significantly to the success of the board.

Current Functions and Responsibilities: OTLRB primary functions include:

- Reviewing and providing recommendations on proposed developments, alterations, and renovations within the Old Town district.
- Ensuring that all projects align with established architectural and historical guidelines.
- Facilitating public engagement and soliciting community input on preservation initiatives.

Notable Achievements: Since its inception, the OTLRB has played a pivotal role in safeguarding the cultural and historical integrity of Old Town Temecula. Some key accomplishments include:

- Preservation of historic sites
- Recommendation to approve several development projects that have enhanced Old Town's visual appeal without compromising its historical authenticity.

Challenges and Future Opportunities: Despite its successes, the OTLRB faces ongoing challenges, including balancing preservation efforts with the need for modernization and economic development. Additionally, securing funding for restoration and or economic development-oriented projects and garnering community support for preservation and development initiatives remains an area of focus.

Staff is requesting that the City Council discuss a proposal to reorganize the OTLRB to meet new challenges and to take advantage of current opportunities, and to direct City staff to take appropriate action regarding the results of Council's discussion.

FISCAL IMPACT: No fiscal impact

ATTACHMENTS: None