



**CITY OF TEMPE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION**

**Meeting Date: 04/13/2022
Agenda Item: 9**

MEMORANDUM

TO: Historic Preservation Commission
FROM: Braden Kay, Sustainability and Resilience Director
THROUGH: Steven Methvin, Deputy City Manager
DATE: April 7, 2022
SUBJECT: Hayden House Patio Landscaping

ATTACHMENT: DTA letter of support

Background

The Downtown Tempe Authority (DTA) is a recent occupant of the historic Hayden House. DTA expressed a desire to have additional landscaping in the Hayden House patio area. In order to entertain guests, tourists, and partners, there is a need to increase shade in the patio area. Given the historic and cultural significance of the property, this memo outlines temporary plans that will provide relief from the sun and provide green infrastructure in the short term. More in-depth, long-term plans for permanent landscaping will be developed in the future through appropriate site review and clearances. The Office of Sustainability and Resilience will utilize a Climate Adapted Urban Forestry grant from the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community to pay for trees and shrubs to support temporary, above-ground urban cooling on the patio.

Landscaping Update

The plan's Site Design (still in development) will show the above-ground trees, shrubs, and accent plants. Trees will be Cascalote and Fruitless Olive, and, per the Site Design, the focus of the live infrastructure will be on the west side of the building, away from the adobe structure. All trees and shrubs will be maintained by a temporary irrigation system being installed with the

assistance of the City of Tempe maintenance and operation experts. All trees and shrubs are native to the Sonoran Desert.

As the Community Services Department begins to implement operational responsibility of the Hayden House, staff will develop long-term landscape designs and partner with Aztec Engineering Group, a City-approved consultation firm, to coordinate possible archaeological monitoring. City staff is currently checking with Aztec to determine if any archaeological monitoring will be required for the above-ground stage of the landscaping project.

Timeline

The temporary, above-ground Hayden House patio landscaping project is planned to be completed by the beginning of May 2022. A site visit with City of Tempe staff and landscape architects is planned for April 12 to ensure that the Site Design can be executed, with a follow-up meeting scheduled for April 15.

April 12: Site visit with City staff and landscape architects

April 15: Follow-up meeting with City staff and landscape architects

May 6: Complete installation

Conclusion and Next Steps

The Sustainability and Resilience Office appreciates the opportunity to support shade and cooling at the Hayden House through these temporary measures. Ongoing site review and planning for permanent landscaping and irrigation will occur in consultation with the Historic Preservation Commission and the Historic Preservation Office. After that, appropriate ground disturbance processes and procedures will be implemented to ensure the prioritization of cultural sensitivity and historic preservation. Please feel to contact Braden Kay at braden_kay@tempe.gov for additional information and context.

To: Tempe Historic Preservation Commission
From: Kate Borders, Downtown Tempe Authority
Date: April 5, 2022
Re: Hayden House

Dear members of the commission,

It is with the greatest privilege that I reach out to you at this time. While I'm writing to extend a request for the addition of native landscaping elements at Hayden House, I must take a step back and acknowledge the incredible position that I find myself in. I have served as the leader of the Downtown Tempe Authority since March of 2014, eight years now. I have spent the past 15 years of my career in this industry with the goal of improving the urban environment, and there are certain values that permeate this industry. First and foremost, place is of utmost importance.

Place defines us and binds us to community, past, present and future. The city centers are often the home to the greatest history of a place and celebrating history is one of the core principles of our industry. So it was with great pride that we moved our offices into the Hayden House in October of 2020. We also had the opportunity to watch the restoration unfold as our previous offices were only a few blocks north. Every day that we are in this space, we feel the responsibility to honor and respect the history as we plan and execute the events and activities of today. That is all to say 'Thank You' for your work in bringing this building back to its original significance and allowing us to play a role in its history. We are humbled by this opportunity.

As we have "lived" in the home, we have had the opportunity to host a couple of tours and one wedding, celebrating the nuptials of Charles Hayden's great granddaughter. The event was beautiful and important, but it revealed that some space improvements would allow for more guests to utilize the space and enjoy the connection to its rich history. It is with these experiences and the desire to showcase the space more regularly, that we are requesting consideration for landscaping improvements.

The back patio area is prime for hosting gatherings and welcoming the community, however our weather prevents it for most of the year. Currently it is fully exposed to the elements, making heat and direct sun difficult to manage. Having native shade and a pollinator garden would show off the Sonoran desert plants that would be most successful in the space. A refreshed patio area would give residents a greater opportunity to experience this home and feel connected to the history. As you can imagine, smaller events and tours could be more frequent throughout the year if the space were enhanced with native plants and shade.

Thank you for supporting this project. It is with the most sincere gratitude that we extend this request and recognize that grant funds are available through June. I am hopeful that you will see the potential here and move forward to create a more welcoming environment at this beautiful, historic home. It is always an honor when someone wanders into our office and asks, "tell me about this place?" Imagine if we could share the story and also invite them to consider it for their future celebrations.

Please feel free to reach out to me with any questions.

Warmly,



E. Kate Borders, LPM
President/Executive Director
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