



**Tucson-Pima County Historical Commission**  
Historic Landscapes Subcommittee  
Legal Action Report

**January 16, 2025**

The Historic Landscapes Subcommittee of the Tucson-Pima County Historical Commission conducted a meeting on Thursday, January 16, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. hybrid via Zoom and at Pima Community College, Downtown Campus, Advanced Manufacturing Building, M369 Conference Room, 1255 N. Queen Avenue, Tucson, AZ 85709

**1. Call to Order / Roll Call**

Meeting was called to order by Chair Grede at 10:00 a.m. Those present and absent were:

**Members Present:**

Steve Grede, Chair  
Helen Erickson  
Jan Mulder  
J. J. Lamb

**Members Absent:**

Geoffrey Ellwand

**Guests:**

Eric Barrett – ARC Studios  
Anita McNamara – Pima County Planning  
Donny Russell - Project Manager for City of Tucson Parks and Recreation

**2. Approval of Historic Landscapes Subcommittee LAR/Minutes from Meeting of: 12-5-2024**

Commissioner Erickson moved approval of the minutes of the meeting of 12-5-2024. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Mulder and passed by a roll call vote of 4-0.

**3. Review Cases (Discussion/Action)**

- a. Catalina Park, 941 N. 4th Ave. – Oleander replacement

Mr. Barrett presented a plan for updating the landscape for Catalina Park, which did not include the restroom renovation, which was considered separately. HLS was able to pull up historic images from COT GIS to recommend a course of action.

Commissioner Erickson moved; Commissioner Mulder seconded:

The oleanders scattered through the turf area should be removed; a perimeter planting of Chinese pistache should be installed along the 4th Avenue side of the park and along other perimeters if funding permits; the two Desert Museum Palo Verde trees next to the restrooms should be removed and replaced with two desert willow trees.

An updated plan should be submitted to HLS for verification, since this was not the plan presented at the meeting. Motion passed 4-0.

#### **4. Current Issues for Information (Discussion/Action)**

a. Pima County (PC) Gateway Zones

Ms. McNamara presented an overview of existing gateway zones and potential for the expansion of current zones or the creation of new zones. She will share the sections of PC code summarizing design review for existing zones. The HLS will study this information and ask Ms. McNamara to return if there are additional questions.

b. DTM Projects Street Lighting – Courtesy review

Jorge Castillo will be invited to present information on this at a future meeting.

c. Drachman Motels - Tucson Inn, El Rancho Motor Hotel, and Frontier Motel, Miracle Mile District

Commissioner Erickson provided an update. Commissioner Grede recused himself as he is a faculty member at Pima Community College.

d. TEP Midtown Reliability Project

Nothing to report at this time.

e. RTA Next: Colossal Cave Road and Environs

The TPCHC Transportation Subcommittee is following up on this item.

f. City of Tucson and Pima County: Parks and Recreation Surveys on Park Amenities

Commissioner Lamb will invite a speaker from Pima County Parks to present information at HLS meeting on 2/27. Commissioner Erickson will invite Jasmine Chan, COT Parks and Recreation Manager, to present information at the HLS meeting on 3/27.

5. **Current Issues for Information (Discussion only)**

a. Fox Theatre

Nothing to report at this time.

b. Villa Catalina replacement of turf with artificial turf.

Nothing to report at this time.

6. **Future Agenda Items for Upcoming Meetings**

- Next HLS meeting is February 27, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. in same location.
- Invited speakers from COT and Pima County as above.
- Discussion of Landscape Review criteria passed by TPCHC in 2018.

7. **Call to the Audience (Information Only)**

No comments were received by the posted deadline.

8. **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 1:31 a.m.