

Memorandum



CITY OF DALLAS

DATE September 20, 2024

TO Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

SUBJECT **Quality of Life, Arts, and Culture Committee Reponses**

This memorandum serves to provide follow-up responses to questions from the Quality of Life, Arts, and Culture Committee Member questions.

Item A. Historic Preservation Update

Question: Can you provide more details on the workload and tasks that the six staff members handle, particularly those not covered in the presentation?

Follow-up: The slide deck highlights some of the new projects Planning and Development (PDD) is exploring for this coming FY. These projects would be in addition to staff's normal day-to-day tasks that include managing the Landmark Designations and Administering the Certificate of Appropriateness process (+520 this year), building permit review, demolition delay (we have processed 13 Certificates of Demolition and have processed and released 106 Demolition Delay requests), tax exemption program, staffing and running the Landmark Commission, and issuance of citations, as needed, for thousands of structures in 21 historic districts and over 130 individually landmarked buildings.

Question: How will the upcoming amendment for the CA process impact the labor load and budget?

Follow-up: An amendment to the CA process where certain work can be reviewed and approved administratively would streamline and simplify the CA process and free up staff to devote more time to proactively engage with the community with other education, training, and sharing of preservation resources.

Question: Can you clarify the number of new positions you're requesting in the new budget?

Follow-up: No new positions are requested in this budget year. We are a new department focused on improving efficiency and will be seeking help from other teams, filling vacant positions, and looking for external opportunities. We may seek additional positions in next year's budget 2025-26 to help carry out the Historic and Cultural Preservation Strategy if needed.

Question: When do you anticipate the RFP for updating the city's preservation plan to come to city council for approval?

Follow-up: We would anticipate having an RFP ready to post as early late spring 2025.

Question: Was money allocated for the preservation strategy in last year's budget?

Follow-up: No funding was budgeted for the preservation plan in FY 23-24

Question: Requested details on the types of workshops planned in collaboration with Preservation Dallas.

Follow-up: We would anticipate discussing a partnership with Preservation Dallas to help host regular preservation workshops that may include the following topics of interest to the community:

1. Learn about the City's Tax Incentives program for City Landmarks and Historic Districts and how to use it
2. Learn about the Certificate of Appropriateness: When do I need one? How do I complete the application?
3. Repairing and maintaining historic homes
4. Best practices for more sustainable homes in a historic district
5. Preservation and repair of historic windows workshop

Item B. Short-Term Rentals Update

Question: How many new registered STRs have there been this year as a result of repeat letters and other enforcement actions?

Follow-up: Between October 1, 2023, and September 17, 2024, the City Controller's Office (CCO) received a total of 297 Hotel Occupancy Tax (HOT) registrations from short-term rentals (STRs). Of the 297, 137 registrations submitted a registration on their own before being contacted by the CCO. The remaining 160 submitted a registration after the CCO sent one or more letters to the property owner. The table below shows the details of these STR registrations, and the number of letters sent to each property owner.

New STR Registrations from 10/01/2023 through 09/17/2024	
Description	Number of Registrations
STR operator registered on their own	137
STR operator registered after receiving first letter	18
STR operator registered after receiving second letter	44
STR operator registered after receiving third letter	44
STR operator registered after receiving four or more letters	54
Total	297

Question: How many STRs have stopped doing business since 6/14/2023?

Follow-up: There were approximately 233 STRs that were registered with the CCO and requested to close their account between June 14, 2023, and September 17, 2024.

Question: Can you provide data on how many of the 160 calls are repeat offenders from the same property?

Follow-up: Out of the 160 calls, there were **112 unique addresses** associated with short-term rental-related concerns. Of these, **28 addresses** were identified as having more than one reported issue, indicating repeat concerns. The remaining **84 addresses** had only one reported issue.

Question: Can you provide an update on the litigation timeline and potential outcomes?

Follow-up: The Court of Appeals has not set an oral argument in the City’s appeal of the temporary injunction entered in December 2023.

The remaining STR-related council inquiries require further research. This information will be provided via memorandum as soon as the data becomes available.

Item C. City Facilities Partners Update - Dallas Theater Center

Question: Can you confirm if any of the bond improvement funds will go toward the Heldt building or just the Kalita Humphrey Theater?

Follow-up: 2024 Bond Proposition E funds allocated for Kalita Humphreys Theater are designated for mitigation of water infiltration, HVAC system repairs Fire Alarm replacement, ADA accessibility enhancements, elevator upgrades, and public safety upgrades. No 2024 Bond Funds have been allocated to the Heldt Building.

Item E. Proposed Elimination of the Hotspot Loaning Program

Question: Can you explore best practices to improve the program's efficiency rather than eliminate it?

Follow-up: We are currently in the process of doing that in partnership with the Office of Community Care.

Question: Can you provide a city-wide approach to addressing digital inequities, including resources from school districts and Dallas College?

Follow-up: DISD already provides their students with digital access via loaned devices that are controlled by each campus. Dallas College loans laptops to its students in need and offers assistance to find discounted internet connections.

Question: Can you provide a briefing on where we are with digital equity initiatives, especially considering the end of the ACP?

Follow-up: OCC and DPL are planning to provide a comprehensive update on our digital equity strategy.

Question: Can you provide data on which libraries have a DART stop nearby?

Follow-up: Attached document cited the stop number at or very near each library location.

Question: Can you provide more details on the conflicts with the public regarding checking materials back in?

Follow-up: This can be a contentious interaction library staff have with some customers who do not wish to relinquish their hotspot or have returned one with missing parts which causes their borrow privileges to be suspended until restitution is made or the part returned.

Please advise if there are additional questions, I can be reached at 214-708-0151 or by email liz.cedillopereira@dallas.gov

Sincerely,



M. Elizabeth (Liz) Cedillo-Pereira
Assistant City Manager

Kimberly Bizer Tolbert, City Manager (I)
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Mark Swann, City Auditor
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Donzell Gipson, Assistant City Manager (I)
Robin Bentley, Assistant City Manager (I)
Jack Ireland, Chief Financial Officer
Elizabeth Saab, Chief of Strategy, Engagement, and Alignment (I)
Directors and Assistant Directors

[Attachment]

Branch	Bus Stop #
Arcadia Park	221-Merrifield
Audelia Road	242-Walnut Hill
Bachman Lake	020-Northwest Hwy
Dallas West	028-Singleton
Forest Green	022-Forest Lane
Fretz Park	250-E Beltline
Grauwyler Park	213-Harry Hines
Hampton-Illinois	101-Illinois
Highland Hills	041-Bonnie View
Kleberg-Rylie	Greenline train to GoLink (no bus)
Lancaster-Kiest	114- East Oka Cliff
Lakewood	249-Columbia
Lochwood	016-Ferguson
Martin Luther King, Jr.	104-Illinois
Mountain Creek	No Bus Stop
North Oak Cliff	009-Jefferson/Gaston
Oak Lawn	023-Haskell & 103-Cedar Springs
Park Forest	022-Forest Lane
Pleasant Grove	030- Lake June
Polk-Wisdom	108-Camp Wisdom
Prairie Creek	030-Lake June
Preston Royal	237-Preston
Renner Frankford	232-Frankford

Skillman Southwestern	017-Skillman
Skyline	216-Everglade
Timberglen	235-Timberglen/Midway
Vickery Park	020-Northwest Hwy
White Rock Hills	016-Ferguson