



# City of Petersburg

Department of Planning and  
Community Development  
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From: Petersburg's Architectural Review Board

Through: Kate Sangregorio, Preservation Planner

Date: November 9, 2022

**RE: Proposal by Councilmember for Making Individual National Register Properties Subject to ARB Purview**

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At the November 9, 2022 regular ARB meeting, the board discussed the proposal to have properties that are individually listed on the National Register of Historic Places put under ARB purview, requiring a Certificate of Appropriateness (COA) before any exterior changes are made.

The ARB generally supports adding additional protections for historic buildings, however, the proposal sent directly to Council seemed to go against the recommended process in the Zoning Ordinance Chapter 35 Section 3.2. The normal creation of a district should include public notice and input before a resolution is adopted. Our Zoning Ordinance currently only allows ARB purview to apply to historic areas/districts, and having historic properties in the context of a whole district is important for the review process.

The board also wondered if property rights concerns would arise. Most owners of NR properties are aware of the history and appreciate it. It was noted that there may be other methods to protect historic properties, such as adding language in sales agreements from city sold properties, or in Special Use Permits.

More considerations need to be made for the varying types of individual resources this proposal would include. The ARB reviews exterior alterations, and as it stands, resources like Petersburg National Battlefield, Legends Park (Lee Park), People's Memorial Cemetery, and Blandford Cemetery would require review of hundreds of acres of land.