

Charlotte-Mecklenburg Historic Landmarks Commission

FY2027 Advisory Board Budget Priorities

1. **Revolving Fund Contribution.** The HLC has been very active this year with property purchases - although we anticipate natural replenishment of the fund as these properties are renovated and turned over to their new owners, the sale price can often be impacted by repairs that we make prior to the sale. A slight replenishment of the revolving fund could aid in some immediate repairs that could increase our final sale price. This ask is not earmarking a specific amount-- however, one example could be the Alexander House, which we recently received approval to purchase. We believe that \$50,000 worth of repairs prior to resale could make the house more competitive on the market. So, any infusion into the revolving fund is always helpful!
2. **Revolving Fund Line Item for the Purchase of Preservation Easements.** One of the most cost-effective tools that we have in our arsenal to protect historic properties, outside of purchasing them outright, is to purchase preservation easements for the properties, in collaboration with the current owner. We believe that a \$50,000 line item in the Revolving Fund earmarked for the purchase of these easements could go a long way in supporting owners who need assistance to protect their properties long-term.
3. **Additional operating budget line item for the purchase of Historic Markers.** The HLC was able to install two Historic Markers recently as the centerpiece of moving and impactful community gatherings (Franks House and the Huntersville School #2). We received good feedback from BOCC attendees for both events! Although all of our buildings are eligible for plaques (and approximately 75% of them have those installed), only selected properties have their stories told through our ongoing Historic Marker program. An operating budget increase of approximately \$10,000 a year could allow us to install 2-3 additional markers per year.