



## **RECOMMENDATION RESOLUTION**

(Historic Preservation Commission)

Recommendation Number: (2023-01RR – HPC): recommending the City Council authorize an amendment to Appendix C, Historic District Design Guidelines of the San Marcos Design Manual, to include specific design standards for maintaining the compatibility of historic residential site elements, such as but not limited to walkways, sidewalks, and topography.

WHEREAS, the City’s Comprehensive Plan, “Vision San Marcos: A River Runs Through Us,” recognizes that the citizens of San Marcos “are conscious of preserving our rich historical past and will pursue future cultural enrichment”; and

WHEREAS, toward that end, the city boasts seven locally designated historic districts and nine locally designated landmarks while other structures and sites have been recognized at the national and state levels for their historical or cultural significance; and

WHEREAS, the site elements of individual residential properties are essential features in defining the historic character of San Marcos’s historic residential areas; and

WHEREAS, the Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties recognizes that the relationship of buildings to each other, setbacks, fence patterns, views, driveways and walkways, and street trees and other landscaping together establish the character of a district or neighborhood and drastic changes to these features diminish a historic property’s ability to convey its historic significance; and

WHEREAS, the Historic District Design Guidelines do not include specific guidelines that correlate to site-specific elements, and the Historic Preservation Commission has explored including specific, clear cut, and easy to understand guidelines for historic residential site elements.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Historic Preservation Commission recommends the San Marcos City Council consider the initial authorization of an amendment to Appendix C, Historic District Design Guidelines of the San Marcos Design Manual, to include specific design standards for maintaining the compatibility of historic residential site elements, such as but not limited to walkways, sidewalks, and topography.

Date of Approval: July 13, 2023

Record of the vote: 6-0

Attest: Jennifer J Rogers  
Jennifer J Rogers (Aug 8, 2023 11:26 CDT)

Jennifer Rogers, Chair, Historic Preservation Commission