

Restore Oregon urges your support of SB 927: Fix Oregon's Broken System of Historic Preservation

Oregon's current system of protecting and revitalizing its historic buildings and districts is considered "worst practice" in the U.S.

The Public Participation in Preservation Act brings Oregon policy in line with the rest of the U.S. It will make preservation in Oregon more equitable, flexible, relevant, and community-centered.

- Less demolition/landfill/contamination = greater environmental sustainability.
- More retention & restoration = less displacement; retained cultural history; greater affordability.
- Using a public process = a balance of public benefits, economic development, private property rights, and local land use goals.



LESS DEMOLITION



MORE RESTORATION

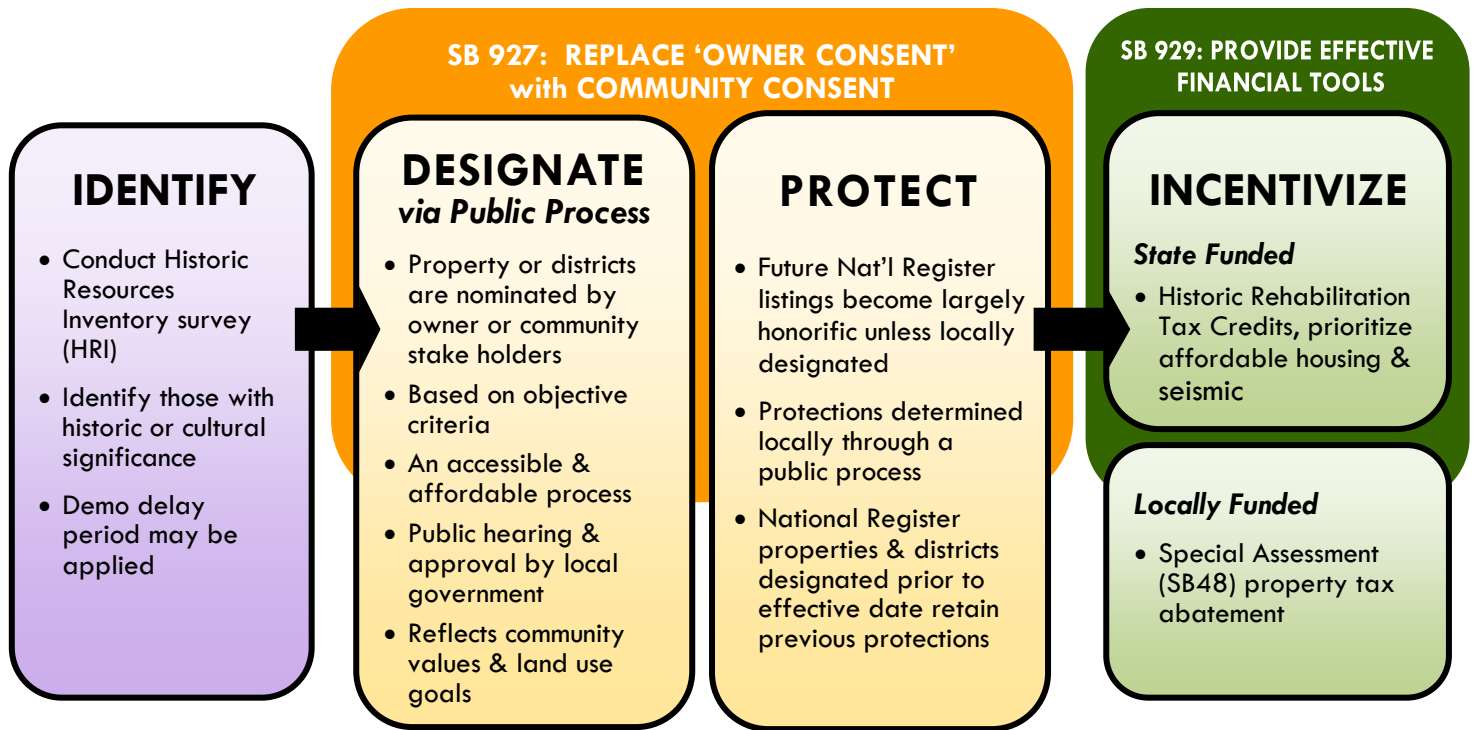


Housing Added HERE!

ACCESSIBLE PUBLIC PROCESS



SB 927 Would Align Management of Historic Resources with the Rest of Our Land Use Laws



Frequently Asked Questions:

What are the benefits of historic preservation? Retention of community history, cultural heritage, and an authentic sense of place; increased sustainability through building reuse; economic development from restoration jobs, new businesses setting up in old buildings, heritage tourism; and more affordable housing.

Why do we need this change? The system Oregon has now is broken, unpredictable, opaque, inefficient, and completely one-sided. The demolition of important historic resources impacts the entire community, as does their designation and protection, but the community currently has no say at all. Times have changed – we now understand that community voices, including tenants, deserve to be heard, in these important decisions.

What do other states do? Oregon is the only state in the nation that has a state-wide owner consent law and the only state that uses the National Register for automatic regulatory purposes. A public process for local landmark designation similar to the model illustrated above is typical across the U.S.

How would this change fit with the rest of Oregon's land use laws? SB 927 would align our treatment of historic resources with the other types of resources managed through our land use programs: farmland, forestland, wetlands, etc.

What will protect property owner's from an unwanted historic designation? Mailed notice to property owners of a nomination; a public hearing where all interested parties may be heard; a decision by the local elected government based on clear standards and public policies; a right to appeal; and Measure 49, which provides relief should a local government adopt a regulation that restricts a residential use. Nothing prevents a local government from giving weight to, or requiring owner consent, as part of its local standards for designation.



[Contact your legislators](#) by phone, in person, or by email and urge their support.