



Meeting Date: January 7, 2026

AGENDA MEMORANDUM

To: Historic Preservation Board Members

From: Brad Boland, AICP, Planning Manager
Development Services

Title: **Historic Preservation Month**

Executive Summary

Historic Preservation Month is celebrated every May in the Town of Castle Rock and nationwide. The purpose of this memo is to provide the Board information on previous activities and efforts during Historic Preservation Month to help guide the conversation on what the Board would like to do for 2026.

Discussion

Historic Preservation Month is observed nationwide each May to promote, educate, and celebrate the importance of preserving historic sites, buildings, and cultural heritage. The National Trust for Historic Preservation began National Preservation Week in 1973 and expanded the celebration to the entire month of May in 2005. Historic Preservation Month supports one of the Historic Preservation Board's core goals by providing educational opportunities that increase public awareness and appreciation of the Town's unique heritage. Each year, the Town Council issues a proclamation recognizing Historic Preservation Month.

Since 2023, the Historic Preservation Board, with assistance from the Town of Castle Rock Communications Team, has developed a Historic Preservation Month poster highlighting a historic property within the Town. Each poster includes a QR code that links to the Town's Historic Preservation webpage. Properties featured to date include the Denver & Rio Grande Depot (Castle Rock Museum), Cantril School, and the First National Bank of Douglas County (Masonic Lodge) (Attachment B). If a poster is produced for 2026, staff recommends selecting a different locally landmarked property (Attachment B).

The posters have been produced in two formats: a 24-inch by 36-inch sidewalk decal placed at various locations throughout Town, and an 11-inch by 17-inch paper poster distributed to local businesses. In addition, Historic Preservation-themed placemats have been provided to several restaurants in the downtown area in prior years (Attachment C).

In 2024 and 2025, the Historic Preservation Board participated in the Downtown Castle Rock Alliance's Spring Kickoff Concert at Festival Park by hosting an informational table. Educational materials, including self-guided walking tour brochures and additional

posters, were available for attendees. Board members and staff were able to engage directly with the public and discuss historic preservation efforts and programs within the Town. It is anticipated that the 2026 Spring Kickoff Concert will take place on May 16, 2026.

In addition to the Historic Preservation Board's efforts, the Castle Rock Historical Society & Museum hosts several Historic Preservation Month–related events, including Scavenge the Rock, historic trolley rides, and Victoria Tea. The Historic Preservation Board has provided financial support for these activities in past years.

The Town of Castle Rock Communications Team also develops a communications plan for Historic Preservation Month. Historically, this has included issuing a press release announcing the month's observance and using various social media platforms to share information about Historic Preservation Month activities and highlight interesting facts about the Town's history throughout May.

Options for 2026

To support Historic Preservation Month in 2026, the Historic Preservation Board may consider the following options, either individually or in combination:

1. **Historic Preservation Month Poster**
Continue the annual Historic Preservation Month poster program by selecting a new locally landmarked property to feature. The poster could again be produced as both a sidewalk decal and a paper poster for distribution to local businesses.
2. **Community Event Participation**
Participate in the Downtown Castle Rock Alliance's Spring Kickoff Concert by hosting an informational table with educational materials, similar to prior years.
3. **Educational Materials and Outreach**
Update and redistribute self-guided walking tour materials and consider additional outreach tools, such as placemats, handouts, or digital content highlighting local historic resources.
4. **Partnership Support**
Continue to support Historic Preservation Month activities hosted by the Castle Rock Historical Society & Museum, such as *Scavenge the Rock*, trolley rides, and Victoria Tea, as funding and resources allow.
5. **Communications and Promotion**
Coordinate with the Town's Communications Team to develop a communications plan that includes a proclamation, press release, and social media content highlighting Historic Preservation Month and related activities.
6. **Additional Public Engagement Activities**
Explore new or one-time Historic Preservation Month activities, such as guided historic walking tours, educational presentations or lectures, youth-focused activities, historic photo exhibits, preservation-themed contests, or collaborations with local schools, businesses, or community organizations.

Budget Impact

In 2025, the HP board provided the Castle Rock Historical Society and Museum \$750 to help offset the cost of the Trolley rental and Scavenge the Rock materials.

In 2025 a total of five sidewalk posters were printed at \$75.30 for a total of \$376.50

In 2025 a total of 60 paper posters were printed at \$1.25 for a total of \$75.

Staff's recommendation is to keeping expenditures in the same range as past years of between \$1150 and \$1350

Board Direction

The Historic Preservation Board is requested to provide direction on which Historic Preservation Month activities it would like to pursue in 2026, including whether to continue the Historic Preservation Month poster program, participate in community events, and support partner organization activities. Board feedback will assist staff in coordinating with the Communications Team and outside partners and in planning logistics and budget considerations for the 2026 Historic Preservation Month observance.

Attachments

Attachment A: Previous Posters

Attachment B: Landmarked Properties

Attachment C: Placemat