



Oregon Parks and Recreation Department

NEWS RELEASE

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Rule advisory committee concludes meeting series on changes to Oregon's National Register of Historic Places program March 10 in Salem

The Rule Advisory Committee—formed earlier this year by Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD) to review the agency's proposed changes to Oregon Administrative Rules governing Oregon's administration of the federal National Register of Historic Places Program—will hold their final meeting 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. March 10 in the Dye House of the Willamette Heritage Center, 1313 Mill Street SE, Salem. The meeting is open to the public.

On the agenda: reviewing and commenting on staff edits; fiscal impact of proposed changes; discuss outreach plan should the OPRD Commission open rulemaking.

The March meeting will be the third and final in a series of meetings held by the Committee. There were originally four public meetings planned—Jan. 28, Feb. 10, Feb. 25 and March 10—however the Feb. 25 meeting has been cancelled.

Ian Johnson, associate deputy state historic preservation officer, says the Committee's strong progress prompted the Feb. 25 cancellation.

"The Committee has been immensely helpful with their recommendations to refine our proposed rule changes," said Johnson. "We need more time to consider their input, so we've decided to cancel the second February meeting and will present our updated changes March 10."

Audio of the Jan. 28 and Feb. 10 meetings is on the ORPD administrative rules webpage: [oregon.gov/oprd/PRP/Pages/PRP-rulemaking.aspx](https://www.oregon.gov/oprd/PRP/Pages/PRP-rulemaking.aspx).

The Committee has considered several topics when reviewing OPRD's proposed rule changes, including counting property owners and objections; how Tribal governments, state agencies and local jurisdictions participate in the nomination process; administrative functions like staff duties, public notices and hearing procedures; and determining circumstances that would exempt nominations from public disclosure, e.g., protecting culturally-sensitive information.

Committee members were appointed by OPRD and drawn from Tribal, state, county and local governments, preservation and natural resource organizations, and citizens with an interest in the National Register program.

After the March 10 meeting, OPRD will consider the committee's final recommendations and present the proposed rule changes to the Oregon State Parks and Recreation Commission. If the Commission approves the proposal, OPRD will begin the public rulemaking process later this year.

More information about rulemaking is available on the OPRD administrative rules webpage: <https://www.oregon.gov/oprd/PRP/Pages/PRP-rulemaking.aspx>

The National Register of Historic Places was established as part of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 and is maintained by the National Parks Service.

Individuals who require special accommodations to attend the meeting should contact Tracy Collis, OPRD executive support specialist, at least three days in advance by calling (503) 986-0690.