



Historic Preservation Ordinance Comparison

2023 Framework / Discussions vs. Adopted 2026 Ordinance

This document is intended as an educational comparison to help residents understand the philosophical and structural differences between the earlier 2023 preservation discussions and the Historic Preservation Ordinance adopted in May 2026.

Topic	2023 Framework / Discussions	Adopted 2026 Ordinance
Overall Philosophy	Focused on a modest, collaborative, and incentive-based preservation approach.	Creates a broader regulatory framework with formal classifications and review procedures.
Homeowner Incentives	Included discussion of adaptive reuse, dimensional flexibility, lot averaging, and other owner-focused tradeoffs.	Final ordinance contains limited direct homeowner incentive language.
Adaptive Reuse	Adaptive reuse concepts and flexibility discussions were part of earlier framework conversations.	Not prominently included as a structured incentive in the final ordinance.
Dimensional Flexibility	Earlier framework discussed flexibility tools to support preservation efforts.	Final ordinance focuses primarily on review and regulatory procedures.
Regulatory Structure	More limited oversight approach was discussed.	Establishes Historic Resources Commission, classifications, reviews, and overlay regulations.
Historic Classifications	More conceptual and limited preservation structure.	Creates formal Class I and Class II classifications.
Review Procedures	Earlier discussions emphasized collaboration and limited oversight.	Expanded procedural review requirements for certain actions affecting historic resources.
Demolition Review	Preservation-focused demolition considerations discussed.	Formal demolition restrictions and review standards adopted.
Public Engagement	Earlier framework emphasized broad collaboration and homeowner participation.	Final ordinance adopted after formal hearing process and prior ordinance development efforts.
Implementation Approach	Phased and evolving preservation framework discussed.	Comprehensive ordinance structure adopted upfront.
Relationship with Homeowners	Focused on encouraging participation and preservation partnerships.	Places greater emphasis on regulatory review and compliance procedures.

Residents are encouraged to review the full ordinance documents and participate in future Historic Resources Commission and Borough Council discussions regarding historic preservation policy.