

LANDMARKS PRESERVATION COMMISSION

Meenakshi Srinivasan, Commissioner/Chair



WHAT WE DO

The Landmarks Preservation Commission (LPC) designates, regulates and protects the City's architectural, historic and cultural resources, which now number 1,351 individual landmarks and more than 34,000 properties in 114 historic districts and 23 extensions to existing historic districts. The Commission reviews applications to alter landmark structures, investigates complaints of illegal work and initiates action to compel compliance with the Landmarks Law.

FOCUS ON EQUITY

LPC focuses on equitable and inclusive service delivery through its education and outreach efforts in communities across all five boroughs. These efforts include holding community meetings to inform diverse stakeholders—including residents, property owners, business owners, and community boards—about the landmark designation process and its regulatory impact. The Commission is also implementing multi-lingual education campaigns to serve those same audiences. The agency works with applicants from all backgrounds including homeowners, commercial property owners and small businesses, retail tenants, developers, institutions and City agencies to provide technical advice and expedite applications related to improvements and alterations to landmark properties. An agency grant program provides funding to low-income applicants to assist with building repairs. LPC seeks to preserve historic resources that represent a diversity of cultures, historical periods, and neighborhoods to tell the story of the development of New York City.

OUR SERVICES AND GOALS

SERVICE 1 Identify and protect qualifying architectural, historical, cultural and archaeological assets in all five boroughs.

- Goal 1a Identify and designate as landmarks, eligible individual buildings, interiors, scenic landmarks and historic districts.
- Goal 1b Facilitate appropriate work on landmark buildings through technical assistance and timely issuance of permits.
- Goal 1c Increase compliance with landmark regulations.
- Goal 1d Evaluate potential impacts to archaeological resources in a timely manner.

HOW WE PERFORMED

- In the first four months of Fiscal 2016, the Commission designated one historic district extension in the Mount Morris section of Manhattan which included 276 buildings, and prioritized the research for another 800 buildings in a district in the Bedford-Stuyvesant section of Brooklyn that was scheduled for a designation vote in December 2015.
- Along with a reorganization of the Commission's designation schedule and redistribution of its research staff workload towards designating two historic districts, the launch of a large initiative to address the Commission's backlog of calendared properties contributed to the decrease in the number of individual designations during the Fiscal 2016 four-month period. As a result of this initiative, which included holding four special public hearings and making more than 15,000 pages of research material available online, the Commission expects the number of designations to increase for remainder of Fiscal 2016.
- The number of actions taken on permit applications received at LPC decreased by 27 percent to 4,737 in the first four months of Fiscal 2016, from 6,447 in the comparable period of Fiscal 2015. In the Fiscal 2015 four-month period, the Commission conducted an efficiency initiative to clear its large backlog of inactive permit applications, many of which were then withdrawn or resolved promptly, inflating the total for actions taken during that earlier period.
- Staff reorganization by LPC resulted in improved performance in its processing times for permits and certificates related to construction or modification affecting landmarked structures. The percentage of Expedited Certificates of No Effect issued within two days increased to 98 percent, from 84 percent in the first four months of the previous year. The percentage of Certificates of No Effect issued within ten days rose to 94 percent from 91 percent.

SERVICE 1 Identify and protect qualifying architectural, historical, cultural and archaeological assets in all five boroughs.

Goal 1a Identify and designate as landmarks, eligible individual buildings, interiors, scenic landmarks and historic districts.

Performance Indicators	Actual			Target		4-Month Actual	
	FY13	FY14	FY15	FY16	FY17	FY15	FY16
★ Individual landmarks and historic districts designated	20	11	15	20	20	4	1
★ - Total number of buildings designated	1,408	324	2,013	*	*	4	276

★ Critical Indicator "NA" - means Not Available in this report * No Target ↕ ↑ shows desired direction

Goal 1b Facilitate appropriate work on landmark buildings through technical assistance and timely issuance of permits.

Performance Indicators	Actual			Target		4-Month Actual	
	FY13	FY14	FY15	FY16	FY17	FY15	FY16
★ Work permit applications received	11,886	13,235	13,273	*	*	4,797	4,643
★ Actions taken on work permit applications received	11,767	13,176	15,446	*	*	6,447	4,737
Certificates of No Effect issued within 10 days (%)	87%	94%	91%	85%	85%	91%	94%
Expedited Certificates of No Effect issued within two days (%)	100%	97%	90%	100%	100%	84%	98%
Permits for minor work issued within 10 days (%)	83%	91%	92%	*	*	93%	93%

★ Critical Indicator "NA" - means Not Available in this report * No Target ↕ ↑ shows desired direction

Goal 1c Increase compliance with landmark regulations.

Performance Indicators	Actual			Target		4-Month Actual	
	FY13	FY14	FY15	FY16	FY17	FY15	FY16
Number of complaints received	815	875	772	*	*	285	286
Investigations completed	806	783	755	*	*	259	327
Enforcement actions taken: Total warning letters, NOVs, and stop work orders issued	1,030	993	1,014	*	*	359	392
Violations admitted to or upheld at the Environmental Control Board (%)	87%	97%	98%	*	*	97%	99%

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Goal 1d Evaluate potential impacts to archaeological resources in a timely manner.

Performance Indicators	Actual			Target		4-Month Actual	
	FY13	FY14	FY15	FY16	FY17	FY15	FY16
Archaeology applications received	242	284	308	*	*	106	106
Archaeology applications reviewed within 10 days (%)	96%	98%	97%	85%	85%	97%	99%

★ Critical Indicator "NA" - means Not Available in this report * No Target ↕ shows desired direction

AGENCY CUSTOMER SERVICE

Performance Indicators	Actual			Target		4-Month Actual	
	FY13	FY14	FY15	FY16	FY17	FY15	FY16
Customer Experience							
Letters responded to in 14 days (%)	88%	94%	85%	*	*	87%	74%
E-mails responded to in 14 days (%)	99%	100%	100%	*	*	100%	99%

"NA" - means Not Available in this report * No Target

AGENCY RESOURCES

Resource Indicators	Actual			Sept. 2015 MMR Plan	Updated Plan	Plan	4-Month Actual	
	FY13	FY14	FY15	FY16	FY16 ¹	FY17 ¹	FY15	FY16
Expenditures (\$000,000) ²	\$4.5	\$4.7	\$4.8	\$5.7	\$5.8	\$6.1	\$1.6	\$1.8
Revenues (\$000,000)	\$5.4	\$6.4	\$6.9	\$4.0	\$4.0	\$4.0	\$2.4	\$2.6
Personnel	64	64	71	73	74	74	61	72
Overtime paid (\$000)	\$1	\$0	\$1	\$7	\$7	\$7	\$0	\$0

¹January 2016 Financial Plan ²Expenditures include all funds "NA" - Not Available in this report

NOTEWORTHY CHANGES, ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS

None.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

For additional information, go to:

- Press Releases (information on landmark approvals):
<http://www.nyc.gov/html/lpc/html/about/newsroom.shtml>

For more information on the agency, please visit: www.nyc.gov/landmarks.