



MEMORANDUM

Council Agenda
Item No.IX. AC
9/10/2024

The City of OKLAHOMA CITY

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Craig Freeman, City Manager

Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute the Certified Local Governments National Register Nomination Report for the Dr. William L. and Susie Price Haywood Estate ("Haywood Estate"), at 7100 North Sooner Road, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, which includes an affirmative statement of opinion regarding the property's National Register of Historic Places eligibility for the reasons stated herein, and therefore recommending the Haywood Estate to the Oklahoma State Historic Preservation Review Board and the Keeper of the National Register of Historic Places, Washington DC, as eligible for the National Register. Ward 7.

Location:

7100 North Sooner Road, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Purpose:

The City has participated in the Certified Local Governments Program with the Oklahoma Historical Society, State Historic Preservation Office since January 1991. As a part of being a Certified Local Government, the City has accepted certain responsibilities including the administration of a Historic Preservation program. One of those responsibilities is to review and make recommendations to the Oklahoma State Historic Preservation Review Committee who in turn makes recommendations to the Keeper of the National Register of Historic Places, Washington DC, regarding properties within the incorporated area that the City deems eligible for the National Register. The National Register recognizes properties with historic, architectural, archaeological, or cultural integrity as exhibited through characteristics such as location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association. National Register recognition is supported by a Statement of Significance based on one or more of four specific criteria, which can be summarized as history, architecture, significant figures, and archeology.

Background:

On September 4, 2024, the Historic Preservation Commission considered a recommendation to the Mayor and City Council, the State Historic Preservation Review Committee and the Keeper of the National Register at their regular meeting. By unanimous vote, the Commission adopted the resolution affirming the recommendation.

The completed National Register nomination documents that the Haywood Estate is eligible for listing under Criterion "B" as a property that "is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past," under the theme of Ethnic Heritage: Black and Social History for its association with Dr. William L. and Susie Price Haywood.

Dr. Haywood, an African American physician, served many important roles in his medical career, from chief African American health officer of Oklahoma County as early as 1910 to chief of staff at the Oklahoma University Hospital in the 1950s. After attending medical school at Meharry Medical College in Nashville, Tennessee, Dr. Haywood opened what is believed to have been the first African American Hospital west of the Mississippi in 1921, Utopia Hospital in Oklahoma City (no longer extant). In his work at the Oklahoma University Hospital, he successfully integrated numerous hospital services and departments at a time when strict racial segregation policies prevailed. Dr. and Mrs. Haywood were both active in civic matters as well, providing leadership in the YWCA, the NAACP, medical organizations, and other civic and social institutions, and opened their home as a public gathering space at a time when such gathering spaces were often unavailable to Oklahoma City's African American community.

The owners of this property have initiated this nomination in order to provide for the documentation and recognition of its significance. The owners support the nomination; no other objections have been made.

Review:

Planning Department

Recommendation: Resolution be adopted.