SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS **COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**



FROM: TLMA - Planning Department

SUBMITTAL DATE: June 30, 2010

SUBJECT: Order to Initiate an Amendment to Riverside County Ordinance No. 578, Regarding the Establishment of Historic Preservation Districts, Pursuant to Board Policy A-67.

RECOMMENDED MOTION: The Planning Director recommends that the Board of Supervisors adopt an order initiating an amendment to Ordinance No. 578, regarding the Establishment of Historic Preservation Districts, to revise and update the ordinance to comply with all current state and county laws and policies.

BACKGROUND: Ordinance No. 578, which provides Riverside County rules regarding the establishment and operation of historic preservation districts in the unincorporated area, was initially adopted in 1979, in conjunction with a proposal at that time to establish a historic

> Ron Goldman **Planning Director**

Initials: RG:jj

Departmental Concurrence

(continued on attached page)

Current F.Y. Total Cost: FINANCIAL DATA

Current F.Y. Net County Cost: Annual Net County Cost:

\$ N/A \$ N/A \$ N/A

In Current Year Budget: **Budget Adjustment:**

For Fiscal Year:

N/A N/A 2010/11

0

SOURCE OF FUNDS: N/A

Positions To Be Deleted Per A-30

Requires 4/5 Vote No

C.E.O. RECOMMENDATION:

APPROVE

County Executive Office Signature

N Policy X

Consent

Dep't Recomm.: Exec. Ofc.:

Prev. Agn. Ref.

District: Third

Agenda Number:

The Honorable Board of Supervisors

RE: Order to Initiate an Amendment to Riverside County Ordinance No. 578, Regarding the Establishment of Historic Preservation Districts, Pursuant to Board Policy A-67. Page 2 of 2

preservation district in Old Town Temecula, prior to Temecula's incorporation. However, efforts to establish that historic preservation district were never completed.

Until relatively recently, no other proposals to establish such districts have been initiated. However, during the past two years, the County has been studying the potential for the establishment of a historic preservation district in the commercial core area of Idyllwild, as part of a broader program to resolve local code compliance issues and enhance the tourism potential of the community.

At the request of Supervisor Stone, in early 2009 the Board allocated \$12,500 of Community Improvement Designation funds and the Economic Development Agency allocated \$25,000 of Community Development Block Grant Program funds for the preparation of a Historic Resources Survey of Idyllwild's commercial area. LSA Associates, Inc. was contracted to perform the survey, which was completed in September 2009. The survey concluded that there are considerable historic resources in Idyllwild's commercial area, and recommended the establishment of a historic preservation district there. Such a district would offer many potential benefits, including, for example, permitting the use of the state's Historic Building Code for structures within the district, resulting in flexible, historically sensitive applications of building codes, thereby assisting local businesses in meeting code requirements in more practical ways while still adequately protecting public safety and welfare.

The Planning Department and Regional Park and Open Space District staffs have conducted several community meetings in Idyllwild over past two years to discuss local code compliance, community enhancement, and historic preservation issues. Also, the Planning Commission conducted a public workshop regarding the historic district proposal on May 5, 2010.

In order for the Idyllwild historic preservation district proposal to proceed, Ordinance No. 578 will need to be updated to reflect current laws and policies. The process of establishing the district will necessitate additional community meetings, plus formal meetings and/or public hearings before the County's Historical Commission, Planning Commission, and Board of Supervisors.

Updating Ordinance No. 578 and completing the process of establishing the historic preservation district is estimated to require one year (FY 10/11) and cost approximately \$100,000. It is the understanding of staff that upon initiation of this amendment request and the adoption of the County's FY 2010/11 budget, Supervisor Jeff Stone will place a request for the Board to allocate funding to complete both the ordinance update and the Idyllwild historic preservation district proposal during FY 2010/11.