

# **Demolitions**

Culture and Neighborhood Services Committee – Item 6 April 5, 2021

Presented by: Michael Shannon, PE, CBO - Director





### **Demolitions**

- 2 types:
  - Owner-initiated
    - Has a permit and review process
  - Dangerous structures:
    - A hazard to the public health, safety, and welfare
    - Poses a threat or potential threat to life, health, property, or human safety.
    - Demolitions are always option of last resort
    - Take all the opportunities to help owners
- All demolitions are reviewed by the Office of Historic Preservation

# Current process for dangerous structures

Assessment of structure

Initial notice of violation

Possible notice to vacate

Provide repair permit information

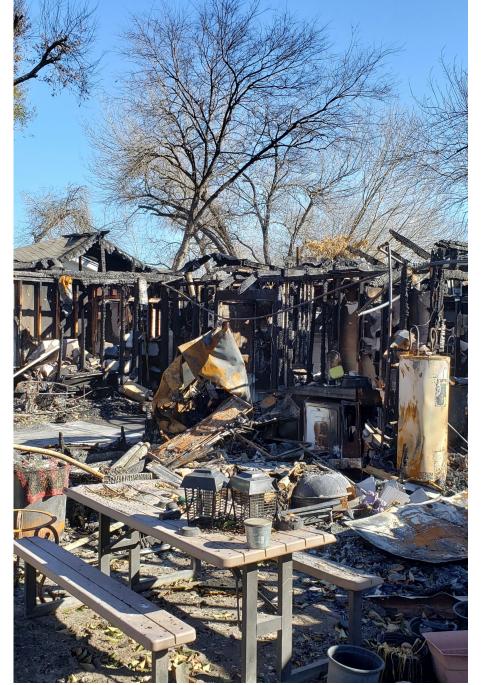
Hardship program

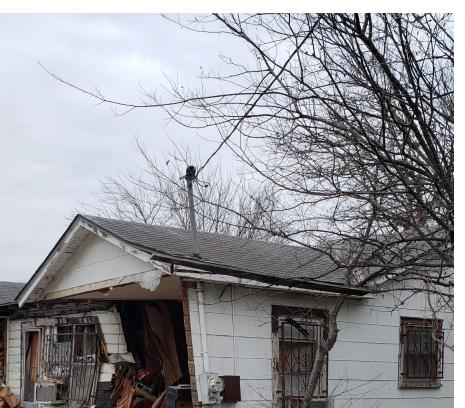
Notification to BSB

Average of 15 months

- Building
   inspector and
   Dangerous
   Premise Officer
   assesses
   integrity of
   structure
- 30-day notice also mailed
- Notify OHP
- Occupants at high risk of harm or danger
- Code Officer
   refers & closely
   works with NHSD
   and DHS; non profits; churches;
   persons assisting
   to reach
   compliance and
   answer questions
- Code Officer
   assists owner
   through process
- Community
  Resources Guide
- Up to 9 mos. extension
- Extensions
  granted =
  75%+
  completed
  improvements
- Review with OHP again

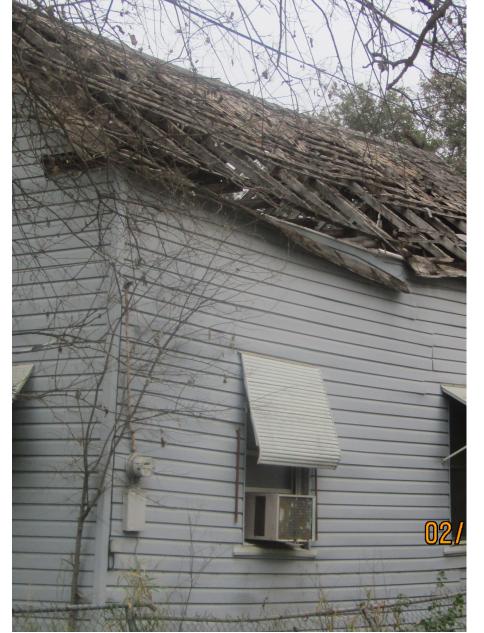
















# Process for Historic Landmarks

- Coordination with OHP concurrent with DP process
- If designated or have potential for designation, it is heard by Historic & Design Review Commission has 60 days to decide if structure should be designated a landmark
  - City Council designation must occur 180 days from notification
- Municipal court used to deter demolition by neglect
- If a landmark or in a historic district and has not received demolition recommendation from HDRC, case must be heard by full BSB
  - Historic professional member must be present



### **Building Standards Board**

- Quasi-judicial board
- Hears appeals to and violations of the San Antonio Property Maintenance Code (SAPMC)
- Rules on cases and can order repairs or demolitions
- 14 members appointed by City Council



- Board composition:
  - 2 architects (1 with experience in reuse of existing and historic buildings)
  - 2 engineers (1 with experience in reuse of existing and historic buildings)
  - 2 general contractors (1 with experience in reuse of existing and historic buildings)
  - 2 social workers
  - 2 health care professionals
  - 2 retirees 64<sup>+</sup> years old
  - 2 veterans of U.S. Military
  - 1 professional property manager in lieu of a general contractor or social worker
    - Maximum of 2 substitutions

# **Building Standards Board Process**



#### Pre-Board Conference meeting letter

- Packet includes:
  - FAQs
  - What to expect at BSB
  - Sample Scope of Work
  - Report with key findings

#### Case Summary Review

DSD and OHP

# BSB Notice of Hearing

 BSB hearing packet with outline and photos (pandemic process requirement)

# Translator at BSB

• Since 2016

# BSB orders issued

 Can appeal to District Courts within 30 days

### Number of Demolitions

FY 2019 - FY 2021

<b>Demolition</b>	<b>Permits</b>	(FY	2019-2021)
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Council											
District	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	<b>Grand Total</b>
2019	89	83	45	18	68	17	14	20	12	13	379
2020	69	67	39	18	63	9	7	12	7	12	303
2021	21	17	16	18	26	8	4	9	5	6	130

#### Demolitions by City (FY 2019-2021)

Council											
District	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	<b>Grand Total</b>
2019	17	14	15	2	39	8	2	0	1	1	99
2020*	14	10	13	3	25	3	2	0	0	2	72
2021*	3	3	1	4	8	0	1	0	0	0	20

<sup>\* 71</sup> pending due to Texas Supreme Court Emergency Order



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