Item 13.2
Texas Historical Commission
Quarterly Meeting
October 24-25, 2024

Consider Approval of Work Plan for 2026 Official Texas Historical Markers

Recommendations for 2026: For new historical markers to be considered for calendar year 2026, staff recommends application period dates of **March 1 – May 15, 2026**. This will allow sufficient time to evaluate applications before the July 2026 quarterly meeting. Staff recommends the following thematic priorities for 2026: **Science and Technology Topics; Agriculture; and Civil Rights Topics.** Topics addressing these themes will receive additional points when new applications are scored. Staff recommends approving and processing no more than **170** new applications and no more than **15** markers produced through the Undertold marker program (accumulated Marker Application Funds). The total of no more than **185** historical markers in calendar year 2026 shall proceed by the following work plan schedule:

INTERNAL THC DATES		EXTERNAL CHC/SPONSOR DATES	
Jan. 2026	Marker applications open on portal	Mar. 1 – May 15, 2026	Application period for new markers (due May 15 at 2 pm CDT)
Feb. 2026	Inform 2025 Undertold recipients	May 15, 2026	$100 fee benefiting Undertold markers (postmarked due date)
Mar. 1 – May 31, 2026	Staff processes and scores all applications		
		May 17-31, 2026	Public comment period for new topics (posted on website)
		May 29, 2026	Final day to submit missing or deficient components
May 2026	RTHL Meeting with DOA staff and scoring meeting with DDs, Admin staff		
Jul. 2026	Commissioners review 2026 marker topics at quarterly meeting		
By Aug. 4, 2026	Staff sends out payment vouchers to recommended topics	Sep. 15, 2026	Marker fee due for all marker applications (postmarked due date)
Oct. 2026	Commissioners select application dates, priority themes and number of markers to be processed for 2028		
Oct. 2026 – Feb. 2027	Staff schedules workshops and webinars (as resources allow) on marker applications and other topics		
		Oct. 1 – Nov. 15, 2026	Application period for Undertold markers

Recommended motion (Committee): Move that the committee send forward to the Commission and recommend approval of staff recommendations for qualified Official Texas Historical Marker applications and adopt a work plan to complete no more than 185 new historical markers in calendar year 2026.

Recommended motion (Commission): Move to approve staff recommendations for qualified Official Texas Historical Marker applications and adopt a work plan to complete no more than 185 new historical markers in calendar year 2026.