

Certified Local Governments and Historic Preservation (April 2011)

The Department of Interior, National Park Service (NPS), funds and administers a nationwide program for Certified Local Governments (CLGs). Its goal is to make historic preservation an institution within local government.

Who are CLGs?

- Colorado currently has 112 counties and cities with a preservation ordinance, a number that continues to increase.
- Over 40% of Colorado local governments with a preservation ordinance are CLGs
- Nearby CLG governments to Manitou Springs include: Colorado Springs, Cripple Creek, Pueblo, Castle Rock and Denver

What are the benefits of CLG designation?

- NPS provides annual funding and requires the State of Colorado to subgrant a portion directly to CLGs. This funding is usually enhanced with an annual grant from the State Historical Fund. In 2010, over \$154,000 in CLG grants were awarded.
- Manitou Springs used CLG funding for the Agate Hill historic resources survey.
- CLG grants do not require a cash or in-kind match.
- While grants are small, they often are used as seed money to start projects and attract other sources of funding.
- The historic preservation commission in a CLG is able to review tax credit applications for local property owners, so that they do not need to seek review from the state.
- CLGs are part of the review and negotiation process for federal projects that may adversely affect historic properties. Manitou Springs is most often consulted by CDOT because of the City's CLG designation.
- Properties within CLGs that contribute to a local preservation district are exempt from federal floodplain regulations that require buildings to be brought up to current floodplain code if work is done in excess of 50% of the historic structure's value.
- The State Historic Preservation Office provides substantial training and technical assistance to CLGs.

What are the requirements to be a CLG?

- Local preservation ordinance that meets minimum requirements.
- An appointed preservation commission that meets certain minimum professional requirements, meets at least four times per year, and provides adequate public process for its decisions.
- Annual report to the State Historic Preservation Office
- Minimum commission training requirements
- Preservation responsibilities are carried out in a manner consistent with Colorado's historic preservation planning process.

Further publications available on the Internet at
<http://www.historycolorado.org/oahp/clg-orientation-handouts>:

- CLG Handbook
- Preserving Your Community's Heritage