In order to ensure that alterations of existing structures in the Historic Preservation Overlay District (HPOD) are compatible with the structures being altered and with the character of the district and to ensure that new construction is also compatible and to encourage restoration of structures that contribute to the integrity of the district, the town council created a public body, the Historic District Review Board, to assess the district’s architecture, assist homeowners in preservation awareness, and establish guidelines for exterior design alterations or construction planned for structures in the district.
At monthly meetings, the Historic District Review Board advises applicants on exterior alterations desired by the property owners. This review and subsequent certificate are required before any structure, shed, fence or sign in the district is built, constructed, converted, altered, moved, modified, added to or changed in any way or for any exterior painting or embellishments. Exemptions are limited to emergency situations where structural integrity, health or safety are factors. Any property owner or other person responsible for a property within the HPOD needs to consult with the Town of Smyrna Building and Inspections Office to ascertain the necessity of building permits and/or historic review applications.

In reviewing an application for a historic review certificate, the board considers the impact of the proposed action on the historic and architectural character of the district, the compatibility and historical appropriateness of materials, colors, textures and proportion for the historic period of the structure or the predominant architectural style of the neighborhood. The board desires to maintain, or reestablish in some cases, the historic integrity of the structure and the district and considers the reversibility or permanence of the changes relative to the preservation of the original historic materials and architectural features.

For further information please refer to the following documents available on our website:

Smyrna Town Code
Chapter 19 - Historic Preservation

Smyrna Town Code
Appendix A - Zoning
Section 5.19