EQUITY-BASED PRESERVATION PLAN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION | APRIL 9, 2024

Austin History Center (C05767, PICA 24201, PICA 29995); Chen Chen Wu; City of Austin





Plan Vision

Historic preservation in Austin actively engages communities in protecting and sharing important places and stories. Preservation uses the past to create a shared sense of belonging and to shape an equitable, inclusive, sustainable, and economically vital future for all.





Community-Based Process

HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION



Preservation Plan Working Group



Draft Equity-Based Preservation Plan

Urban Land Institute Technical Assistance Panel

46 people

Community heritage survey

Focus: Vision for historic preservation









Technical Advisory Group

City staff from 12 departments



Focus groups

Cultural and heritage organizations

Legacy businesses

Neighborhood organizations





26 working group members

1,100 working group hours

300+ people involved













Community-Based Process



"Being part of the working group was a great experience mainly because the members had diverse backgrounds, but the same goal. It was a rare learning experience."

Michelle Benavides Ursula A. Carter

Justin Bragiel ² Noel Bridges 1

Julia Brookins*

Amalia Carmona²

Mary Jo Galindo*

Jerry Garcia 1

Ben Goudy ²

Hanna Huang* 1

Linda Y. Jackson

Meghan King*

Jolene Kiolbassa ¹

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Kelechi Madubuko Leslie Ornelas 1

Brenda Malik

Alyson McGee 1

Debra Murphy ²

Robin Orlowski ²

Emily Payne

Rocio Peña-Martinez*

Misael Ramos*

Mary Reed* 1

Lori Renteria 1

Gilbert Rivera 1

JuanRaymon Rubio ²

Maria Solis* 1

Erin Waelder ¹

= EQUITY-BASED = PRESERVATION PLAN

Brita Wallace* 1

Bob Ward 1

Caroline Wright ¹

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¹ Phase 1 only

² Phase 2 only





Draft Plan Goals

- 1. Tell Austin's full history
- 2. Recognize cultural heritage
- 3. Preserve archaeological resources
- 4. Stabilize communities
- 5. Support environmental sustainability
- 6. Engage communities equitably
- 7. Support people doing the work
- 8. Engage new partners

- 9. Proactively identify important places
- 10. Follow good designation practices
- 11. Support stewardship of community assets
- 12. Be strategic with review
- 13. Protect historic resources
- 14. Implement the plan collaboratively





What We Preserve







Parade and mural unveiling (The Austin Chronicle), San Antonio Office of Historic Preservation

Think broadly.

- Recognize Austin's rich and complex history through active listening, inclusive research, and interpretation
- Better recognize and protect legacy businesses, murals, and archaeological resources
- Use preservation tools to support community stabilization and environmental sustainability





Who Preserves

Invite and support.

- Help people access knowledge, resources, and decision-making power
- Streamline and explain historic review and designation processes
- Support craftspeople, commissioners, and staff
- Engage new partners and audiences











How We Preserve

Be strategic and effective.

- Update designation criteria to reflect modern standards
- Support the stewards of Austin's historic properties
- Be strategic with review
- Improve enforcement processes
- Implement the plan collaboratively







Especially Relevant Recommendations

- Recognize and honor Austin's full history by listening to community members and sharing stories out through interpretation. (Recommendations 1, 2, 3, 5, 6)
- Document places that have been lost. (7)
- Consider how various district designations could support Austin's cultural heritage. (11)
- Support people staying in place through accessory dwelling units (ADUs), resources for heirs' property owners and low-income seniors, and legacy inheritance support. (18, 21, 22)
- Develop educational programming for youth and adults. (37-39)
- Engage more people through resources, partnerships, and increased awareness. (33, 47-50)
- For historic designation: Expand criteria, reconsider the number of criteria that a property must meet, reframe integrity requirements, and reduce costs. (60-62, 64)
- Support historic property owners through expanded financial incentives, lower fees, and more information. (77, 79, 81, 82, 84-87)

Four-month engagement window from Feb. through May 2024

• Monthly events will focus on priority stakeholder groups



Feb. 13Community
Kickoff



March 28 Nuts & Bolts
Open House for
property owners &
historic professionals



April 20 Block party @the Homes Tour



MayCommunity
Open House

Presentations at existing meetings (short & deep dives)



City boards and commissions



Community groups



Stakeholder organizations



Educational institutions

Pop-up outreach at community events





Outreach deepened by community-led engagement

• 10 community ambassadors







• 5 mini-grant Partner Organizations

Anderson Community Development Corporation















Multiple ways to give input and feedback

Review the draft plan

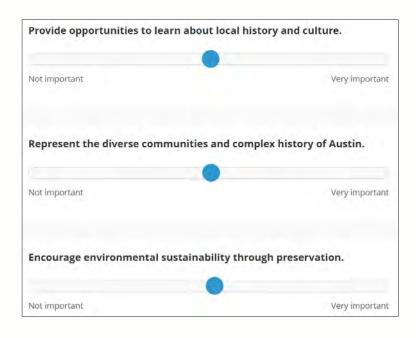




Take the community survey









Come to events











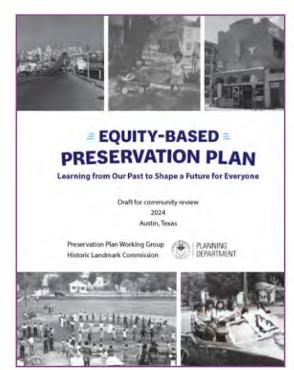


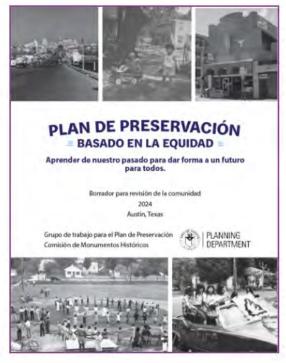




Next Steps

- Community engagement February-May
- Draft plan revised Summer 2024
- Board & commission recommendations
 Fall 2024
- Council review December 2024









Questions?

PublicInput.com/ATXpresplan







