

TOURISM COMMISSION | APRIL 10, 2024





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









Community heritage survey Focus: Vision for historic preservation

Focus groups

Cultural and heritage organizations

Legacy businesses

Neighborhood organizations







Technical Advisory Group

City staff from 12 departments

27 people

Historic Landmark Commission's Preservation Plan Committee

Urban Land Institute Technical Assistance Panel

46 people

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Maria Solis* 1

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Brita Wallace* 1

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= EQUITY-BASED = PRESERVATION PLAN

*Drafting Committee member

¹ Phase 1 only

² Phase 2 only



Equity-Based Preservation Plan

REVIEWING THE DRAFT

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

- Create a cultural mapping program to identify significant places and businesses. (3)
- Use creative interpretation to tell the full stories of historic places in Austin. (5)
- Reach out to owners of potential historic landmarks and historic districts. (8)
- Strongly support iconic longstanding legacy businesses that contribute to Austin's unique character and heritage. (9)
- Consider how various district designations could support Austin's cultural heritage. (11)
- Develop accessible materials about historic preservation and community heritage. (35)
- Define preservation audiences broadly, recognizing that places and stories are important to a broad range of people. (47)
- Proactively identify important places through community engagement, a citywide windshield survey, and prioritized historic resource surveys. (55-57)





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



May 23 Open House @ the Broken Spoke

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

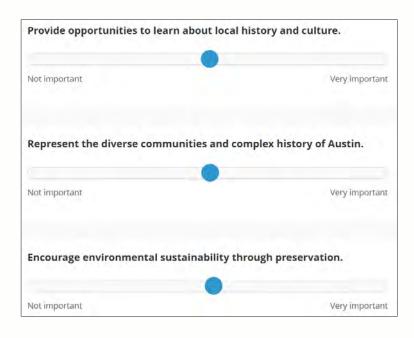




Take the community survey









Come to events











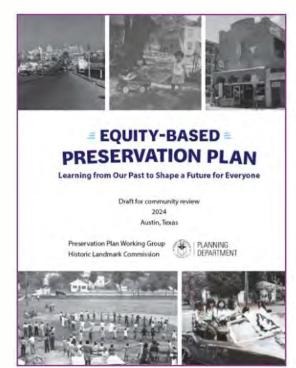






Next Steps

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









Questions?

PublicInput.com/ATXpresplan







