EQUITY-BASED PRESERVATION PLAN

MAYOR'S COMMITTEE FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES
SEPTEMBER 13, 2024

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

Planning Process

HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION

170 people

Community heritage survey

Focus: Vision for historic preservation

Focus groups

Cultural and heritage organizations

Legacy businesses

Neighborhood organizations

23 people

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

Michelle Benavides
Noel Bridges [1]
Julia Brookins*
Amalia Carmona [2]
Ursula A. Carter
Mary Jo Galindo*[1]
Jerry Garcia [1]
Hanna Huang* [1]
Linda Y. Jackson
Meghan King*
Jolene Kiolbassa [1]
Kevin Koch
Kelechi Madubuko [1]
Brenda Malik
Alyson McGee [1]
Debra Murphy [2]
Robin Orlowski [2]
Leslie Ornelas [1]
Emily Payne
Rocio Peña-Martinez*
Misael Ramos* [1]
Mary Reed* [1]
Lori Renteria [1]
Gilbert Rivera [1]
JuanRaymon Rubio [2]
Maria Solis* [1]
Erin Waelder [1]
Brita Wallace* [1]
Bob Ward [1]
Caroline Wright [1]

**Drafting Committee member*

[1] Phase 1 only

[2] Phase 2 only

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PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Joe's Bakery, anonymous, Amy Moreland/ Austin's Atlas

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.

Plan Goals

107 recommendations

1. Tell Austin's full history
2. Recognize cultural heritage
3. Preserve archaeological resources
4. Stabilize communities
5. Support environmental sustainability
6. Make preservation more accessible
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

Images, clockwise from top left: 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 displacement prevention and environmental sustainability

Who Preserves

Invite and support.

- Engage new partners and audiences
- Help community members access knowledge and resources
- Support people doing the work: homeowners and tenants, craftspeople, commissioners, and staff

Images, clockwise from top left: Bertha Rendon Delgado, San Antonio Office of Historic Preservation, Austin Asian American Film Festival

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

Selected Recommendations

1) Gather stories that tell Austin's diverse history across different cultures and languages.
2) Create a cultural mapping program to identify significant places, businesses, and other resources, prioritizing communities that have historically been marginalized and neighborhoods where longtime residents face a high risk of displacement.
3) Develop thematic context statements to understand how local communities, groups, and building types grew and changed, prioritizing themes associated with communities that have historically been marginalized.
8) Designate more historic landmarks and districts that represent communities that have historically been marginalized to tell Austin's full story.
21) Provide resources for heirs' property owners and low-income seniors.
36) Help people access knowledge and resources to preserve community stories.

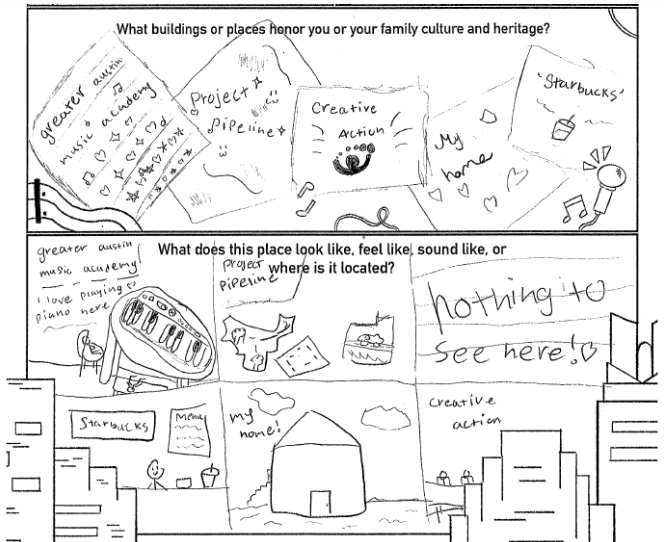
Community Outreach + Engagement

Joe Lung and sons, not dated, Lung House National Register nomination

Broad, Inclusive Community Engagement

Four-month engagement window from Feb. through May 2024

- **2,500+** people engaged
- **49** presentations to boards and commissions, community groups, and professional stakeholder organizations
- **45** pop-ups at community events
- **29** small-group and 1-on-1 conversations
- **4** City-hosted events
- ❖ **9** paid community ambassadors
- ❖ **5** mini-grants to community organizations



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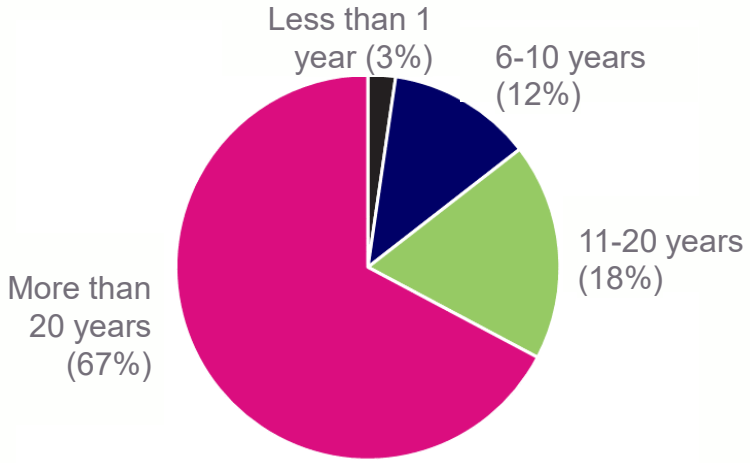
Center images: Creative Action, TAP-Austin

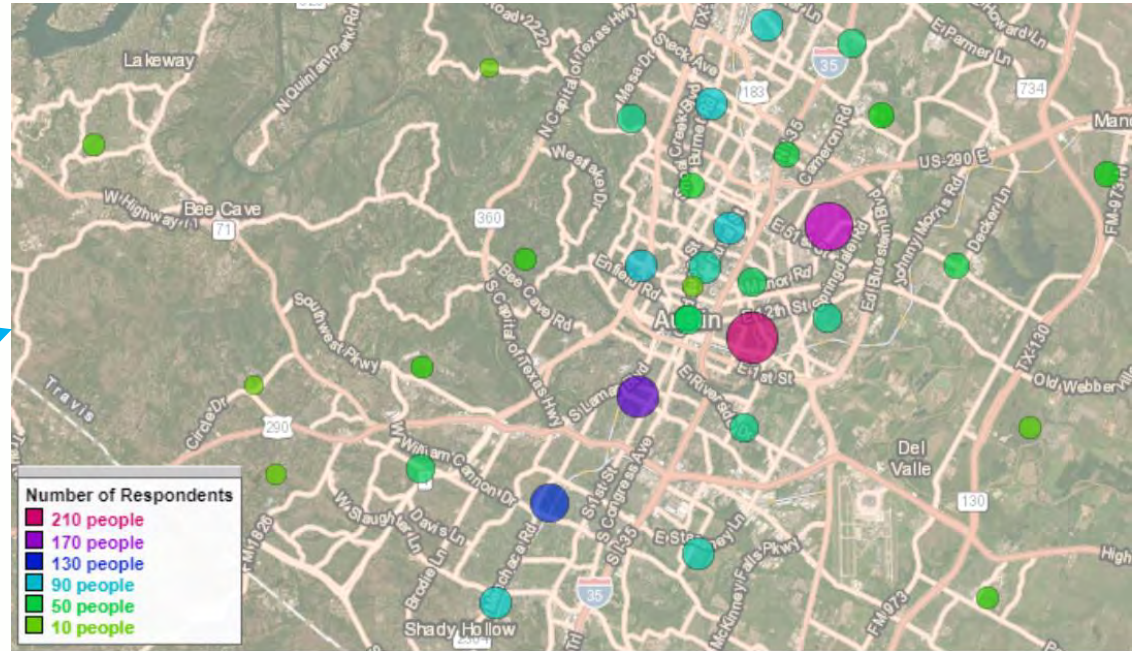
Who We Heard From

Historically Marginalized Communities	Survey Respondents (2,083)	Austin
Communities of color	52%	49.6%
People with disabilities	18%	7.2%
LGBTQIA+ communities	14%	5.9%
Renters	28%	55.6%

LENGTH OF TIME IN AUSTIN



ZIP CODES



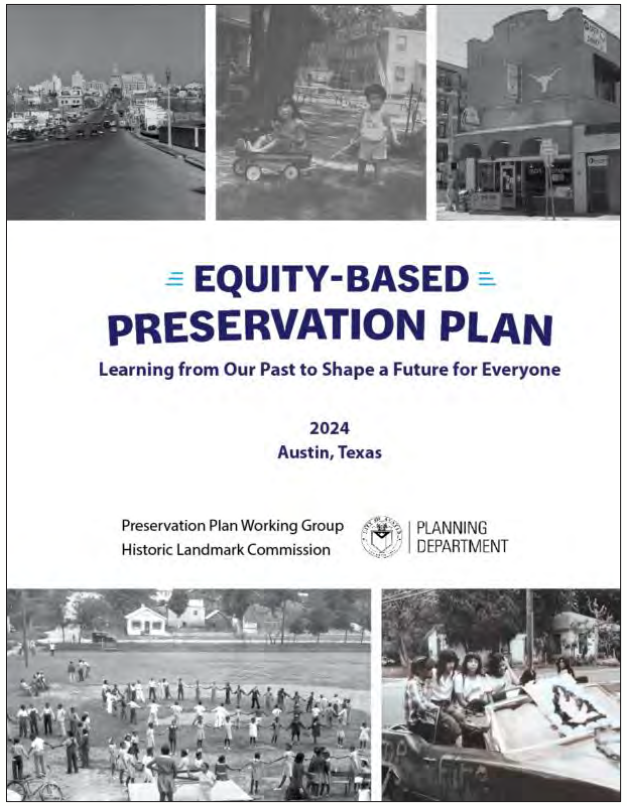
More than 5 people responded to the survey in 41 of Austin's 64 ZIP codes

What We Heard

COMMUNITY PRIORITIES (AGGREGATED PLAN GOALS)	AVERAGE PRIORITY SCORE (out of 100)	
Ensure longtime residents and businesses can afford to stay in their current spaces.	**86.1%**	51% of respondents said we should begin working on this goal first.
Help older neighborhoods and commercial districts maintain their unique look and feel as Austin grows.	**79.3%**	20% of respondents said we should begin working on this goal first.
Represent the diverse communities and complex history of Austin.	**77.5%**	
Encourage environmental sustainability through preservation.	**77.3%**	
Provide opportunities to learn about local history and culture.	**76.8%**	
Improve tools that help historical property owners in an equitable way.	**75.6%**	
Create connections between people by sharing diverse stories.	**73.2%**	

How the Plan Responds

- **272** community and stakeholder comments on the draft plan
- **140** actionable changes suggested
- **50** recommendations revised based on community feedback (of 107 in the final plan)
- **8** new recommendations added, covering areas such as:
  - Support for stewards of historic cemeteries
  - Support for energy efficiency improvements for older and historic properties
  - Regular building maintenance education and training for property owners and tenants
  - Identification of and support for heritage tourism sites



Preservation Plan Timeline

2021-22
Draft plan developed by Preservation Plan Working Group

Fall 2022
Draft plan presented to Historic Landmark Commission

Spring 2024
Intensive outreach & engagement

Summer 2024
Draft plan revised by Preservation Plan Committee and Working Group

Fall 2024
City board + commission briefings

Nov. 21 (target)
Council review and adoption

CREATE WITH INPUT

- Preservation Plan Committee
- Community survey
- Focus groups
- Technical Advisory Group
- ULI Technical Assistance Panel

RAISE AWARENESS

GET FEEDBACK ON DRAFT PLAN

REVISE + FINALIZE THE PLAN

- 4 joint revision meetings

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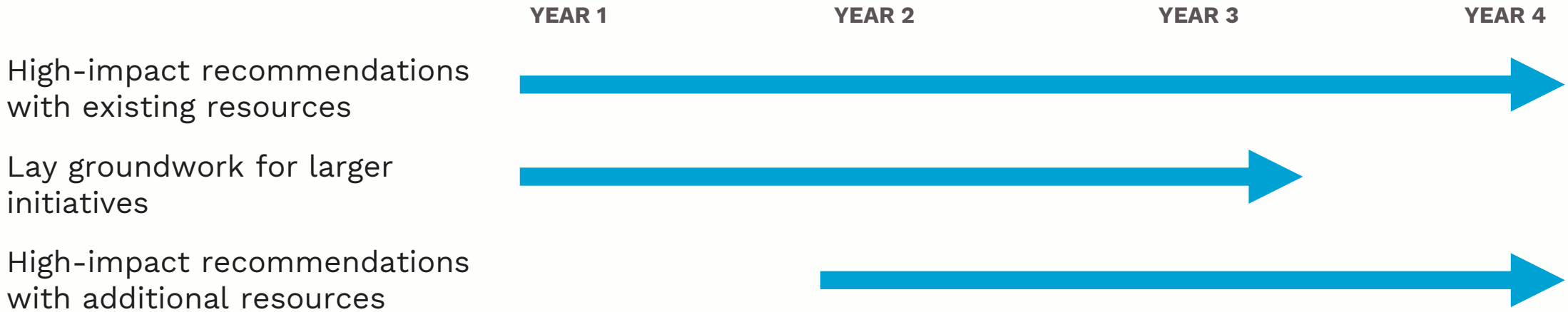
Next Steps



- Public dashboard to track plan progress
- Align implementation with related City departments and plans
- Continue community engagement and partnership-building

www.SpeakUpAustin.org/ATXPresPlan

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