# **EQUITY-BASED** PRESERVATION PLAN COUNCIL WORK SESSION | OCTOBER 22, 2024 in History Center (C05767, PICA 24201, PICA 29995); Chen Chen Wu; City of Austin

### **Planning Process**







Community heritage survey

Focus: Vision for historic preservation

#### Focus groups

Cultural and heritage organizations

Legacy businesses

Neighborhood organizations

23 people





Caroline Wright 1



#### **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 <sup>1</sup>

Julia Brookins\*

Amalia Carmona <sup>2</sup>

Ursula A. Carter

Mary Jo Galindo\*1

Jerry Garcia 1

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Brenda Malik

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Debra Murphy <sup>2</sup>

Robin Orlowski <sup>2</sup>

Leslie Ornelas <sup>1</sup>

Emily Payne

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Lori Renteria <sup>1</sup>

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Maria Solis\* 1

= EQUITY-BASED =
PRESERVATION PLAN

\*Drafting Committee member

<sup>1</sup> Phase 1 only

<sup>2</sup> Phase 2 only







### 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.





- 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: Juneteenth parade, unveiling of La Loteria mural, archaeological resources

### 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: Protest at City Hall to preserve Edward Rendon Park (Chicano Park), door hanger in San Antonio, "Stories within Stories" project of the Austin Asian American Film Festival

**=** EQUITY-BASED **=** PRESERVATION PLAN



#### **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



Image: Homes in Hyde Park





## Community Outreach + Engagement

### 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











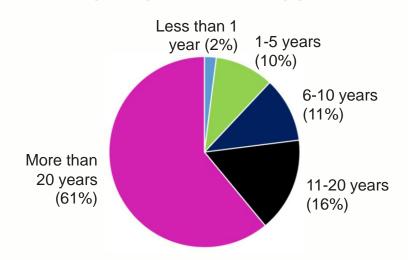


### Who We Heard From

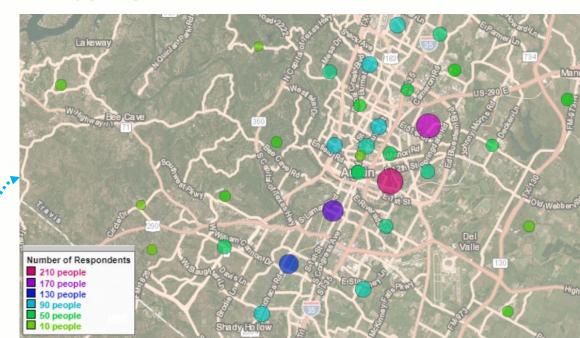
Historically Marginalized Communities	Survey Respondents (2,083)	Austin
Communities of color	52%	49.6%
People with disabilities	18%	7.2%
LGBTQIA+ communities	14%	5.9%
Renters	28%	55.6%

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

#### LENGTH OF TIME IN AUSTIN



ZIP CODES



### What We Heard

73.2% Create connections between people by sharing diverse stories.

> **= EQUITY-BASED = PRESERVATION PLAN**

**AVERAGE** 

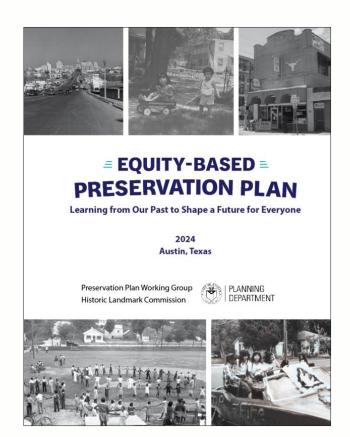
PRIORITY SCORE



COMMUNITY PRIORITIES (AGGREGATED PLAN GOALS)	(out of 100) 51% of respondents said we should begin working	
Ensure longtime residents and businesses can afford to stay in their current spaces.	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	,
Help older neighborhoods and commercial districts maintain their unique look and feel as Austin grows.	<b>79.3%</b> 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 w	vay. <b>75.6%</b>	

### 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

#### **CREATE WITH INPUT**

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



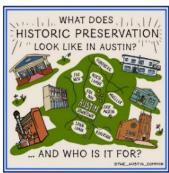
#### Fall 2022

Draft plan presented to Historic Landmark Commission

Council funds outreach

#### **RAISE AWARENESS**





#### **Spring 2024**

Intensive outreach & engagement

#### **GET FEEDBACK ON DRAFT PLAN**









#### Summer 2024

Draft plan revised by Preservation Plan Committee and Working Group

#### **REVISE + FINALIZE THE PLAN**

• 4 joint revision meetings



#### Fall 2024

City board + commission briefings

# Sept. 12 Council initiated IACP amendment

#### Nov. 21 Council review and adoption of plan; IACP amended



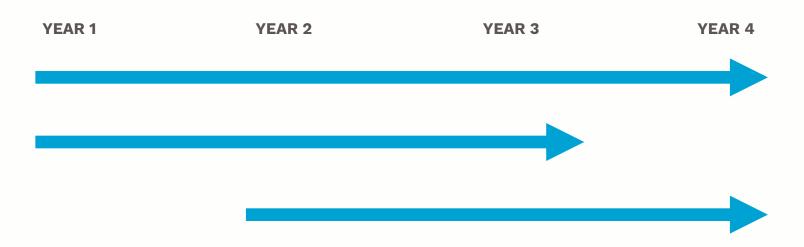


### **Next Steps**

High-impact recommendations with existing resources

Lay groundwork for larger initiatives

High-impact recommendations with additional resources



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





