



City of Phoenix

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

Staff Report: Historic Preservation Plan – *PreserveHistoricPHX2025* May 22, 2025

INTRODUCTION

The first comprehensive plan for historic preservation in the city of Phoenix was adopted in 2015. *PreserveHistoricPHX2025* provides the opportunity to assess the achievements made after the adoption of the original plan, new challenges as well as new opportunities to advance historic preservation in Phoenix. A copy of the draft version of *PreserveHistoricPHX2025* can be accessed here: [PreserveHistoricPHX | City of Phoenix](#).

STAFF REQUEST

Staff requests that the Village Planning Committees review and provide comments regarding the draft Historic Preservation Plan, *PreserveHistoricPHX2025*, and recommend its approval.

BACKGROUND

The city commissioned the preeminent historic preservation data analysis firm PlaceEconomics to conduct stakeholder meetings to identify challenges and create a series of recommendations to advance historic preservation in Phoenix based on practices occurring across the country. The city began a public engagement effort based on the findings of this PlaceEconomics study with a series of public meetings and a publicly posted survey from fall of 2023 through summer of 2024 to evaluate the relevancy of the original 2015 goals and to set priorities for the next decade.

The City Archaeology Office played an important role in developing recommendations for *PreserveHistoricPHX2025* because archaeology is a key component of historic preservation. The city of Phoenix Historic Preservation Ordinance – Chapter 8 of the Zoning Ordinance – mandates the identification and preservation of archaeological resources and the recognition that “archaeological resources found on public land are the property of all citizens and are not private property. Archaeological resources found on City-owned lands are the property of the City.” (§802.B.2(c))

These engagement efforts revealed that the original five goals of the 2015 plan continue to have relevance:

1. Protect Archaeological Resources
2. Protect Historic Resources
3. Explore Preservation Incentives
4. Develop Community Awareness

5. Promote Partnerships

Stakeholders helped prioritize the potential tools and incentives to help achieve the five goals for the creation of the *PreserveHistoricPHX2025* draft plan. The goals and tools can be found starting on page 54 of the draft plan.

PreserveHistoricPHX2025 is intended as a more specific plan to augment PlanPHX2025 and to protect and promote the historic and archaeological resources of Phoenix.

PROJECT TIMELINE

Below is the tentative timeline set for *PreserveHistoricPHX2025*.

	DATE
Encanto Village Planning Committee	6/2/2025
Paradise Valley Village Planning Committee	6/2/2025
Camelback East Village Planning Committee	6/3/2025
Desert View Village Planning Committee	6/3/2025
Central City Village Planning Committee	6/9/2025
Laveen Village Planning Committee	6/9/2025
Rio Vista Village Planning Committee	6/10/2025
South Mountain Village Planning Committee	6/10/2025
Maryvale Village Planning Committee	6/11/2025
North Gateway Village Planning Committee	6/12/2025
Deer Valley Village Planning Committee	6/17/2025
Estrella Village Planning Committee	6/17/2025
North Mountain Village Planning Committee	6/18/2025
Ahwatukee Foothills Village Planning Committee	6/23/2025
Alhambra Village Planning Committee	6/24/2025
Historic Preservation Committee Meeting	7/21/2025
Planning Commission	8/7/2025
CC Subcommittee (Transportation, Infrastructure & Planning)	9/17/2025
City Council Meeting	10/15/2025

CONCLUSION

Staff requests that the Village Planning Committees review and provide comments regarding the attached draft of *PreserveHistoricPHX* and recommend its approval.

WRITER/TEAM LEADER

Helana Ruter

5/22/2025