

Heritage Neighborhoods



City Council Study Session
August 29, 2016

Background

- Goal to maintain neighborhoods
- City has an active historic preservation program
 - 7 National Districts
 - Over 20 National and/or local landmarks
- Based primarily on having structures that have maintained historic integrity
- Local designation places strict zoning requirements

- Some neighborhoods have historic significance but don't fit traditional requirements
 - Washington Park/Escobedo
 - Lehi
- Need a new tool to help preserve and maintain these types of neighborhoods

Proposal

- Create a new program –
 “Mesa Heritage Neighborhood Program”
- Key features:
 - Based more on recognizing socially and culturally important neighborhoods
 - Adopted by resolution not ordinance
 - Would encourage preservation of scale and feel of the neighborhood
 - Require neighborhood residents to actively document the history of their neighborhood

Criteria for Designation

- At least 50 years old.
- Character of the neighborhood remains the same as in the historic period.
- Residents and/or business owners demonstrate they worked together to create a unique and identifiable neighborhood
- There are unique and identifiable physical characteristics that create the fabric of the neighborhood
- Residents document the people, events, and/or cultural heritage that influenced the neighborhood's historic integrity

Benefits

- Brings neighbors together, improve sense of place
- Listed on website with history
- Consideration during any development decisions

Benefits

- Street signage



Existing Historic District neighborhood signs

Modify to “Heritage Neighborhood”, reverse colors



Existing Historic District street signs

Modify to “Heritage Neighborhood”, reverse colors

Implementation Process

- Neighborhood submits application
- Staff works with neighborhood to refine
- Neighborhood holds at least one neighborhood meeting
- Review and recommendation by Historic Preservation Board
- Review and approval by City Council

Adoption

- Presented to Community and Cultural Development Committee
- Received input from neighborhood groups
- Recommendation for approval from Historic Preservation Board