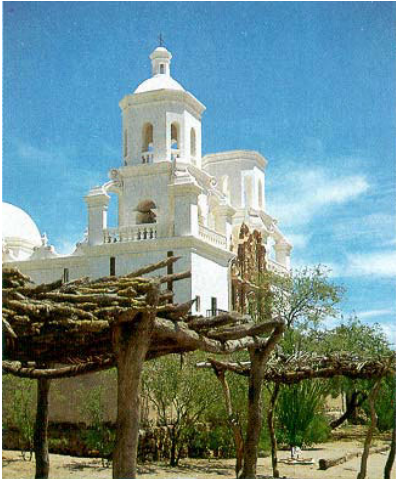


ELEMENT 5: CULTURAL HERITAGE

VISION The community views its heritage and diverse cultures as valuable resources that enhance the physical attributes of the area and provide its distinctive regional identity. Local artists, performing arts, and art programs blend with the cultural traditions of the Southwest and Sonoran Desert to present a colorful backdrop that embellishes both tourism and the economic vibrancy of the Tucson metropolitan area.



The Spanish Colonial heritage complements Native American traditions.

The history of human settlement in the region extends from archaic Indian sites more than 7,000 years old to Pre-Columbian Hohokam Indian villages to more recent Native American communities, particularly the Tohono O'Odham. The history of the region has been influenced by Spanish, Mexican, and Territorial periods. A strong and well-rooted commitment exists to protect, preserve, and respect the archaeological and historic resources of the region, as well as the variety of cultural traditions cherished by the varied population groups. The *Vision* emphasizes that indigenous culture will be protected and preserved to the fullest extent possible. Particular respect will be given to the artifacts and remains from Tohono O'Odham ancestral sites. Public programs and policies in the region will focus on the protection of vital historic neighborhoods and incorporate archaeological, historic, and cultural resources into parks and other public places.

Each of the jurisdictions recognizes the historic and cultural wellspring of its own unique identity, such as the Tucson Downtown District, Old Main and the University of Arizona Mall, the San Xavier Mission, and the ceremonial plazas of the Yaqui communities.



Mural arts express the region's multicultural diversity.

Economic incentives will be provided to encourage preservation and restoration goals and policies for these resources. These goals will be coordinated with capital improvement projects in each jurisdiction.

Public education regarding the region's distinctive heritage and different cultural resources will be encouraged. These efforts will be complemented by a continuing broad array of festivals and fiestas that celebrate the region's cultural diversity. Weekends often give rise to a cultural festival in one or another community in the region. In the city of Tucson, there are the Fiesta de los Vaqueros, Tucson Heritage Exposition, Juneteenth Celebration, Fiesta del Presidio, Founding of the Presidio, coming of the railroad, Statehood Day, Waila Festival, Summer Arts Festival, Festival of the Sun, Tucson Folk Festival, and Mariachi Festival; while in the city of South Tucson, the Norteño Festival and St. Patrick's Day parade are major cultural events. In the San Xavier District of the Tohono O'Odham Nation, the Feast Days of Saint Francis of Assisi and of Saint Francis Xavier, as well as the White Dove Festival (or San Xavier Mission Festival) and the Wa:k Pow-Wow, are some of the local festivals. During Holy Week,



The Tucson Rodeo Parade celebrates the region's pioneer history.

"Cuaresma" ceremonies are held concurrently in each of the four Yaqui communities in the region. Art festivals promoting local artists are held in each of the communities of the region throughout the year. The community will continue to celebrate the diversity of its heritage and arts and pride itself on the harmony of the cultural traditions that it embraces.

Livable Tucson Goals

People-Oriented Neighborhoods

Includes designing new neighborhoods and investing in old neighborhoods to promote a mix of commercial and residential uses, a pedestrian focus, landscaping and aesthetics, and interaction among residents.

Respected Historic and Cultural Resources

Includes the preservation and celebration of local landmarks, buildings, neighborhoods, archaeological treasures, open spaces, cultures, and traditions that make Tucson unique.

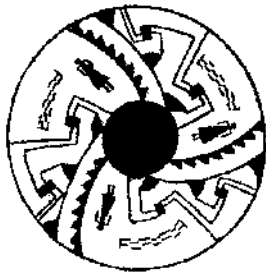
Successful Downtown

Includes the cultural and commercial aspects of the city center.

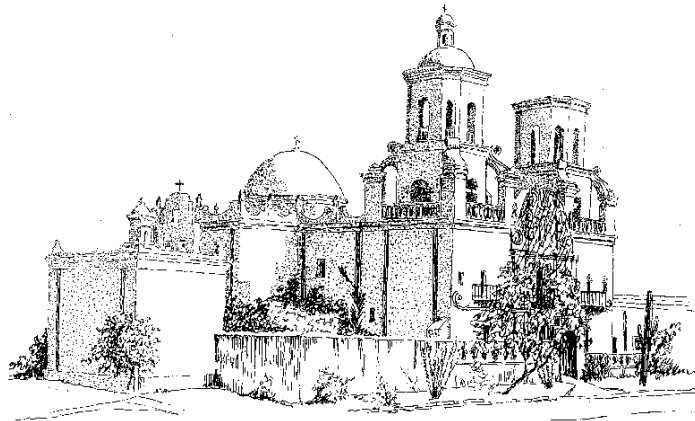
Introduction

The cultural heritage of a city is defined by its inhabitants: past, present, and future generations. Their political, economic, and social histories are intertwined with cultural resources and heritage programs that provide an identity. Tucson has long been and will continue to be identified by its unique historic preservation zones, landmarks, architecture, arts, and archaeology. The policy goals of this document provide the direction required to assist our citizens in improving the quality of life for now and years to come.

Background



As one of this continent's oldest continuously inhabited communities, Tucson has a rich, multicultural heritage. Tucson's legacy is evident through its historic buildings and neighborhoods, many of which are recognized and preserved through historic district designation. A less visible, but equally important component of Tucson's heritage is the city's wealth of archaeological resources which tell the story of Tucson's more distant past. Our public library services and materials promote our cultural heritage and celebrate the diversity of our citizens and the cultures they represent. Finally, there is Tucson's culture itself, a composite of the diverse groups which have come together during Tucson's long history and which is expressed in its many traditions. Protection and enhancement of Tucson's cultural heritage is critical to preserving the unique identity of the community and to expanding the scope of urban experiences for residents and visitors to enjoy. Economic development, particularly tourism, can benefit from the promotion and visibility of Tucson's unique history. The image of the city depends on an environment that is enriched by a variety of stimuli, including the art and architecture, the blending of past with present, and the celebration of the ethnic diversity which makes up Tucson's distinctive heritage.



Policy 1: Identify, evaluate, and protect historic and archaeologic resources.

Supporting Policies

- 1.1 Pursue programs to maintain the City's status as a Certified Local Government (CLG) and funding eligibility therein.
- 1.2 Develop priorities for State of Arizona Heritage Fund projects and other ongoing funding sources in coordination with Pima County and other jurisdictions.
- 1.3 Foster the continued enhancement and expansion of Tucson's existing historic districts and landmark areas.
- 1.4 Encourage designation of additional city, county, state and national historic districts and landmarks.
- 1.5 Continue to strengthen Tucson's Historic Preservation Zone (HPZ) Ordinance to provide additional protection to the city's historic resources.
- 1.6 Promote the preservation and enhancement of Tucson's historic architecture in keeping with applicable rehabilitation standards.
- 1.7 Continue to utilize and enhance historic resources as an important element in Arts District development and as a stimulant for Downtown's economic revitalization.
- 1.8 Continue to promote state tax legislation that improves the opportunity for private property owners to preserve archaeologic and historic resources.
- 1.9 Pursue the development of a local heritage fund for the preservation and enhancement of Tucson's cultural resources and for the provision of matching funds for state and federal grant programs.
- 1.10 Continue to identify and designate areas throughout Tucson meriting archaeologic protection.



Element 5: Cultural Heritage



1.11 Encourage the revitalization of historic commercial areas and corridors in keeping with historic preservation goals.

1.12 Provide for the designation of historic streets and roadways.

Policy 2: Promote professional development and efficient, cost-effective management of city cultural resource and heritage programs.

Supporting Policies



2.1 Develop a focused, specific plan and management program for heritage and cultural resources, in coordination with the Tucson-Pima County Historical Commission.

2.2 Continue to utilize and expand the professional expertise of the Tucson-Pima County Historical Commission to accomplish Tucson's responsibilities as a CLG.

2.3 Encourage the development of formalized relationships between the City of Tucson, Pima County, and other regional jurisdictions in order to share professional knowledge and responsibilities for the identification and protection of archaeological and historic and cultural resources. Encourage other jurisdictions to join in the intergovernmental agreement for the Tucson-Pima County Historical Commission and appoint member representatives to the Commission.



2.4 Specify processes, policies, and oversight responsibility for the treatment and preservation of cultural resources under City ownership or lease.

2.5 Identify grant sources for historical preservation, such as the Arizona Heritage Fund and the Federal Historic Preservation Fund, and pursue project funding in a coordinated manner.

Policy 3: Consider the needs of unique and newly emerging preservation-related resource areas requiring special attention.

Supporting Policy

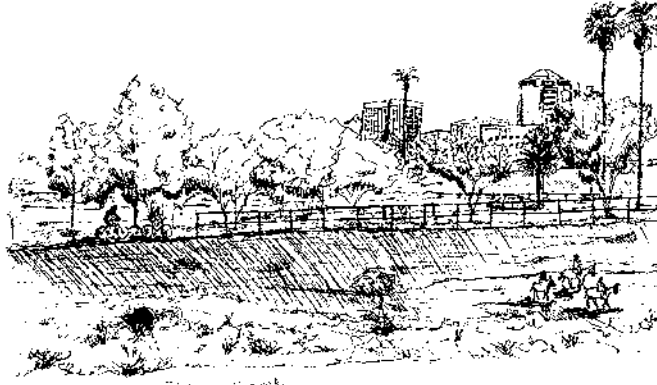
3.1 Focus on the preservation of historic vegetation, historic landscapes, and historic trails.

Actions

3.1.A *Develop a process for the identification, designation, and protection of these historic elements as a component of a heritage and cultural resources plan.*

3.1.B *Foster the development of regional heritage resources and areas (e.g., De Anza Trail) which supports and includes local historic and cultural attractions.*

Element 5: Cultural Heritage



Santa Cruz River Park and Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail

- Supporting Policies***
- 3.2 Foster the continuation of original use or adaptive reuse of historic landmarks.
 - 3.3 Encourage the rehabilitation of Tucson's aging housing stock.
 - 3.4 Consider the creation of special zoning overlay districts (e.g., Conservation Districts) which preserve the character of unique neighborhoods and business districts.

Policy 4: Create an atmosphere for the authentic expression and celebration of both traditional and contemporary elements of Tucson's many cultures.

- Supporting Policies***
- 4.1 Continue to support and provide venues for cultural events which celebrate Tucson's multicultural heritage.
 - 4.2 Coordinate special cultural celebrations with other programs and events associated with the Arts District.
 - 4.3 Recognize Tucson's historic, cultural, and environmental setting in the design of public facilities.

Policy 5: Foster the continued development of Tucson as a regional center of arts and cultural activities.

- Supporting Policies***
- 5.1 Continue to implement Tucson's Arts District as a focal point of the community's arts and cultural activities.
 - 5.2 Utilize the Five-Year Community Cultural Plan, as it may be updated and amended, to guide and prioritize Tucson's arts and cultural programs.
 - 5.3 Promote and integrate Tucson's vibrant cultural environment as part of tourism and economic development programs.
 - 5.4 Continue to support public library services and materials that reflect the unique cultural, literary, and artistic heritage of the Southwest.

Element 5: Cultural Heritage



5.5 Utilize the Master Plan for Public Art, as it may be updated and amended, as a guide to the funding, selection, and incorporation of public art in the community.

5.6 Provide opportunities for artistic and cultural expression in the design of public facilities.

5.7 Continue to utilize and refine the One Percent for Public Art Program to provide public artwork in City of Tucson projects.

