



City of Denton

City Hall
215 E. McKinney Street
Denton, Texas
www.cityofdenton.com

AGENDA INFORMATION SHEET

DEPARTMENT: Department of Development Services

DCM: Cassey Ogden

DATE: October 13, 2025

SUBJECT

Receive a report, hold a discussion, and give staff direction regarding Denton's historic district signage.

BACKGROUND

At the January 13, 2025, Historic Landmark Commission (HLC) meeting, the commission requested a review of the City of Denton's local historic district signage. Presently, the city's three historic districts contain one large sign per entry point, as shown below.



Figure 1: Example of Entry Point Signage for Denton's Historic Districts

Additionally, in the Oak-Hickory Historic District, many of the street signs are brown and white, signifying a historical destination. Some of these street signs feature the historic district's name, as shown on the following page. No other historic district has this type of street signage nor recognition.



Figure 2: Oak-Hickory Historic District Street Signage

Staff reviewed additional programs, plans, and policy related to signage for historic districts within the City of Denton, and identified the following:

Street Sign Topper Program

Established in 2022, the Street Sign Topper program was created to provide neighborhoods within Denton the opportunity to install sign toppers to demonstrate neighborhood unity and identify the boundaries of existing homeowner and neighborhood associations, non-homeowner and neighborhood associations, special districts, or proposed residential neighborhood developments.

Currently, there are eight neighborhoods within Denton who have participated in this program, none of which are the city's local historic district areas. Neighborhoods can start the application process by sending their neighborhood boundary to staff at streetsigntopper@cityofdenton.com. Funding for the Street Sign Topper program is funded using a portion of the City's adopted annual budget; therefore, once depleted, neighborhoods will have to wait for the following fiscal year to participate. Staff has been notified that for the 2025-2026 Fiscal Year, there is no allocated budget for this program.

2019 Denton Historic Preservation Plan

Goal #2, Policy 2.3 of the 2019 Denton Historic Preservation Plan states for decision-makers to "encourage activities and initiatives that increase visitorship and visibility to Denton's heritage assets and historic districts." As part of this policy, Recommendation #2.17 states the following:

Create a more comprehensive interpretive and wayfinding signage plan for Denton's heritage sites. Existing stands and plaques in Quakertown Park and along Kerley Street in southeast Denton interpreting the Denton African-American experience is a model interpretive effort that could be extended to other heritage sites and places in the city, perhaps integrating wayfinding signage as part of the overall interpretive program. The City and the Historic Landmark Commission should develop the expanded interpretive program in collaboration with the Denton County Office of History and Culture and other partners.

Based on the information presented, staff seeks guidance from the Commission on how to proceed with the information presented and if any additional information that may impact the Commission's next steps needs to be presented at a future HLC meeting.

EXHIBITS

1. Agenda Information Sheet

Respectfully submitted:
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Planning Director

Prepared by:
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