

General Information

1. Summary of local historic district activity and operation in Michigan, per the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC). Homepage at [miplace.org](https://www.miplace.org/historic-preservation/programs-and-services/local-historic-districts/): <https://www.miplace.org/historic-preservation/programs-and-services/local-historic-districts/>
2. Secretary of the Interior's 10 Standards for Rehabilitation, per the National Park Service website at [nps.gov](https://www.nps.gov/tps/standards/rehabilitation.htm): <https://www.nps.gov/tps/standards/rehabilitation.htm>. These standards are the framework for local Historic District Commission conduct when reviewing/approving permit applications in local historic districts.

Why Preserve Historic Structures?

1. *Local Historic Districts and Property Values in Michigan Neighborhoods* (Michigan Historic Preservation Network (MHPN), 2016): Report on the general increase and stability of property values in historic districts according to findings in Ann Arbor, Bay City, Grand Rapids and Kalamazoo, Michigan. PDF from [mhpn.org](https://www.mhpn.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/Local-Historic-Districts-and-Property-Values-in-Michigan-Neighborhoods.pdf): <https://www.mhpn.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/Local-Historic-Districts-and-Property-Values-in-Michigan-Neighborhoods.pdf>
2. *Twenty-Four Reasons Historic Preservation is Good for Your Community* (Place Economics, Washington, DC): Report by research consultants Place Economics on the myriad of benefits of embracing historic preservation; endorsed by MHPN. PDF at [placeeconomics.com](https://www.placeeconomics.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/City-Studies-WP-Online-Doc.pdf): <https://www.placeeconomics.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/City-Studies-WP-Online-Doc.pdf>
3. *The Greenest Building* (National Trust for Historic Preservation, 2016): Scholarly report on the positive environmental impacts of reusing older buildings compared to new construction. PDF from forum.savingplaces.org: <https://forum.savingplaces.org/HigherLogic/System/DownloadDocumentFile.ashx?DocumentFileKey=5119e24d-ae4c-3402-7c8e-38a11a4fca12&forceDialog=0>
4. *Preservation through Partnership: An Introduction to the Certified Local Government Program* (Michigan SHPO, 2021): An overview of grant opportunities and educational partnerships resulting from earning Certified Local Government (CLG) status. PDF from [miplace.org](https://www.miplace.org): https://www.miplace.org/4ae904/globalassets/documents/shpo/programs-and-services/certified-local-governments/clg_intropamphlet_final.pdf

Legal Supplements:

1. Local Historic Districts Act (MI Act 169, 1970): Establishes that historic preservation is a “public purpose” of a local unit, and legal framework for “local units” of government to administer and operate local historic districts. PDF from [legislature.michigan.gov](https://www.legislature.mi.gov): <https://www.ag.state.mi.us/opinion/datafiles/1990s/op06919.htm>
2. MI Attorney General Opinion on Historic Preservation (MI Opinion No.6919, 1996): Establishes that, per the Local Historic Districts Act, “a local unit of government may not enact an ordinance that restricts that unit from placing property in a local historic district without the consent of the property owner”. PDF from [ag.state.mi.us](https://www.ag.state.mi.us): <https://www.ag.state.mi.us/opinion/datafiles/1990s/op06919.htm>