

# FAQ: Heritage Neighborhood Recognition Program

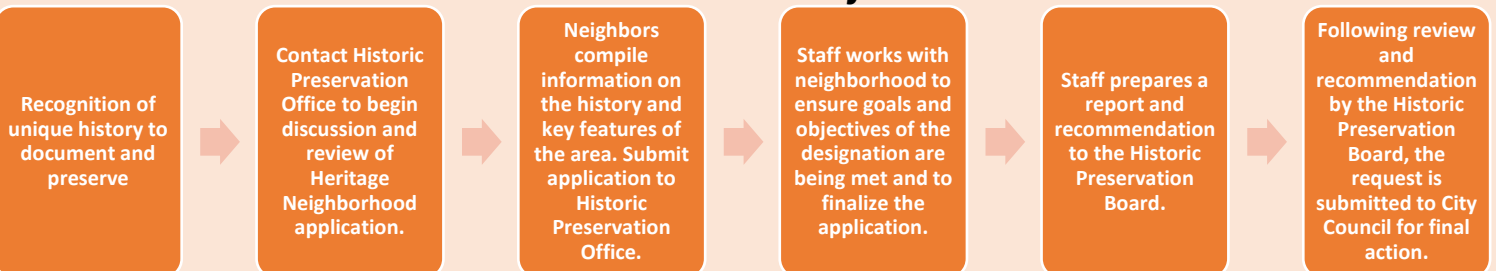
## Purpose

The Heritage Neighborhood designation has been created to help recognize and give status to those neighborhoods in Mesa that have a unique history that do not have historic district designation.

## Benefits

- Increase in neighborhood pride
- Increased sense of ownership in the neighborhood
- Improved communication and cooperation between neighbors
- The opportunity to share with the rest of the City the history and unique aspects of the neighborhood
- Foster neighborhood maintenance and redevelopment to maintain the historic character of the neighborhood
- A recognition by the City that the neighborhood has contributed to a unique character and sense of history in Mesa and should be encouraged to maintain its unique sense of history and place

## Process Summary\*



\*Please refer to the [Heritage Neighborhood Recognition Program Instructions for Filing an Application for a Heritage Neighborhood](#) document for full process.

## How does this compare with a historic district?

The Heritage Neighborhood Recognition Program is a tool to help build neighborhood pride and identity. For a neighborhood to receive the designation it requires City Council approval of the designation by resolution. This designation does not contain any regulatory requirements and does not result in any additional level of review by the City--it is honorary only. In comparison, an historic overlay district is designated through the rezoning process and requires property owners to maintain and repair their property consistent with the City's Zoning Ordinance, which includes compliance with the United States Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation (36 CFR Part 68) and additional standards and guidelines for historic properties (as applicable). New construction also has to comply with these standards.

## What are the limitations?

None. While it is the hope that by going through the process to achieve the Heritage Neighborhood designation the property owners and residents will take greater pride in their neighborhood, there are no new restrictions or limitations placed on the use of property as a result of this designation. The designation helps to encourage, educate and influence preservation of the historic character of the neighborhood.

## Does this increase City oversight?

No. This program simply provides recognition of the historic role this neighborhood played in the development of Mesa and helps both the city and the community to encourage and influence preservation of the historic neighborhood characteristics.

## How is recognition provided?

Recognition may include:

- One neighborhood identification sign on major streets bordering the neighborhood as well as Heritage Neighborhood designation signs added to selected street signs, similar to what is used in the historic districts
- Information regarding the history of the neighborhood posted on the City's Historic Preservation website
- Documenting the neighborhood in the City's Geographic Information system
- Adding the neighborhood and its history to the Mesa Heritage Neighborhood Register

