

African American Cultural Heritage District (AACHD)

Vision & Goal Statements



We, the Black and African-American community of Austin, speak with a **unified voice** to assert our right to **remain, return, and thrive** in the African-American Cultural Heritage District. For generations, systemic injustices—from segregation to urban renewal—have displaced our families, dismantled our businesses, and eroded the cultural fabric that once flourished in this district. Through the development of the AACHD strategic plan, **we and our allies commit** to ensuring *tangible actions* that **repair past harms** and build a future of **equity, prosperity, and cultural resilience**.

Our goals center on four areas: **housing, business development, culture and history, and infrastructure**.

These goals are not just aspirations—they are a mandate for accountability. We call on the City of Austin to partner with the Black and African-American community to make evident true repair and reconciliation through sustained investment, policy change, and community-led decision-making. We stand together to ensure that this district remains a **beacon of Black excellence, resilience, and belonging** for generations to come.

Our priorities are to:



HOUSING

Declare the African-American community's rights to **remain, return, and thrive** in the district. This commitment includes **preserving and creating affordable housing**, nurturing homeownership, **combating displacement**, and advancing an inclusive environment where all residents can **celebrate the district's cultural heritage**, and strengthen and **rebuild generational ties and wealth**.



BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

Actively support and sustain **Black-owned businesses** and entrepreneurs through targeted **investments**, access to **resources**, and **policies** that promote **Black ownership in the district**. Establish a **sustainable** foundation that sparks economic vitality and **generational wealth** within the district.



CULTURE AND HISTORY

Gather, preserve, and illuminate the district's **vibrant cultural identity** and rich **history of resilience** through active **storytelling, education**, and the **protection** of cultural and physical landmarks, while nurturing this legacy through **art and music**. Invest in **Black creators**, build inclusive spaces, and **amplify the voices and achievements** of Austin's Black communities past and present.



INFRASTRUCTURE

Enhance **physical and mental health** and **connectivity** by investing in **environmentally just** improvements, infrastructure, accessible transportation, and aesthetic enhancements that promote the district's identity. Create a district that is **accessible, welcoming**, and representative of its past, present, and future.