

Draft City of Meridian HPP Survey Summary

Survey open from: April 11, 2025 – May 12, 2025

Total Respondents: 114 (91 respondents from Meridian)

A large majority of respondents (87%) believe the biggest benefit to preservation is “sustaining authentic community character,” followed by “providing educational opportunities to historic sites users/visitors” (71%). The opinion of what is the biggest priority for historic preservation in Meridian is mixed, with the two top-voted options being “Celebrate the city’s heritage” (45%) and “Identify and document historic properties in the city” (44%).

From the responses 3 main historic areas/property types were identified to be most vulnerable to demolition those being, Agricultural buildings with (75%) followed by Downtown and other commercial areas (58%) and Houses and Neighborhoods (52%).

Respondents shared that they would be most interested in learning about “historic districts and how they work” (52%), along with “Historic designation (local or national) and what it means to you” (39%). This correlates to later responses of how historic preservation in the community is viewed, as an equal number of respondents (39) believed that it is viewed as “positive for the community” but at the same time “not well understood.”

For primary contacts for historical questions the responses were distributed between all options, but the three top resources were the “Meridian Library/History Center (at City Hall)” (25 respondents), the “Idaho State Historical Society (SHPO, Museum, Archives)” (17 respondents), and the “Meridian Historic Preservation Commission” (15 respondents). When it comes to experiencing the city’s historic resources, the city website and the library/history center were voted as the two most popular options. Four historic resources that respondents were most familiar with were the Meridian Speedway (82%), Meridian Water Tower (74%), Meridian Feed Mill (69%), and the Old Meridian High School (63%).