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Cultural Resources

Cayce’s cultural resources add to the quality of life for its citizens and visitors. Cayce’s cultural resources define what is unique to the City and give the community a sense of place and a connection with its past. This element of the comprehensive plan explores the City’s historic resources, arts and cultural events, and cultural, religious, and civic organizations.

Summary of Key Findings

- Cayce has an abundance of historical and cultural resources
- The 12,000 Year History Park and Three Rivers Greenway are regional destinations and tourism attractions
- Cayce has a large number of active institutional and civic organizations that contribute to the City’s civic and community culture
- Cayce has a demonstrated commitment to supporting the arts through the Arts Overlay District and Art Lot

Issues and Opportunities

Historic Preservation. Cayce has an abundance of historical resources and an established commitment to ensuring the documentation, preservation, interpretation, and public accessibility of these resources. Cayce should continue this commitment by working with the SC State Historic Preservation Office and community partners to develop a citywide historic/cultural resource survey. Such efforts should prioritize documentation, preservation, and interpretation of the City’s African American history and landmarks, such as the former Ida A. Bull Elementary School. Surveys might also include documentation of the City’s mid-century neighborhoods, many of which are now over fifty years old and therefore eligible for nomination to the national register of historic places. Cayce should also continue to support the Cayce Historical Museum, and the 12,000 Year History Park as it grows with the new visitor’s center planned for construction over the next several years.

Support for the Arts. Cayce has demonstrated support for the arts by establishing the Arts and Design Overlay District and supporting the development of public murals and arts related events. The City should continue this support and explore opportunities for strengthening and growing the district. One opportunity would be to develop a sub-area master plan for the Cayce Arts District to identify priority projects and hospitality tax investment opportunities. Another would be to pursue the South Carolina cultural district designation for the Cayce Arts and Design District which could be an important marketing and business development tool.

Related Goals and Strategies

The key issues and opportunities relate to the comprehensive plan goals listed below. Relevant objectives and strategies corresponding with these goals are summarized in Table 5.1.

- Goal # 5: Preserve, Protect and Promote Natural and Cultural Resources
- Goal # 4: Strengthen and Grow the Economy

Performance Metrics

To assist with monitoring progress towards achieving relevant goals and objectives, the City should collect and analyze the following data:

- Attendance records - Trails, museums, events
- National register nominations - New nominations
- Arts District business licenses - Number issued

Cultural Resources as a Community Asset. Cayce has an abundance of unique cultural resources. The City should continue to expand access to these amenities where appropriate, while also working with community partners to protect, conserve, and restore them. These assets should be marketed as a unique and defining characteristic of the City to promote growth and strengthen its position as a regional tourism destination. The City should continue efforts to establish a visitor’s center for the 12,000 Year History Park, and implement a wayfinding signage system.

Table 5.1: Goals, Objectives, and Strategies

<p>Goal # 5: Preserve, Protect, and Promote Natural and Cultural Resources</p>	<p>Preserve Cayce’s cultural heritage</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinate with SHPO and other partners to develop a citywide historic/cultural resource survey to include documenting African American history and landmarks, assessing preservation priorities for mid-century neighborhoods, and pursuing national register nominations for eligible sites and districts • Continue to support the Cayce Historical Museum and the development and promotion of the 12,000 Year History Park • Increase awareness and encourage the use of historic preservation tax credits <hr/> <p>Support the growing arts community</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to strengthen and support the Cayce River Arts District, art lot, public art installations, and community, cultural events and festivals • Consider expanding the boundaries of the Cayce Arts Design Overlay District • Develop a sub-area master plan for the Cayce Arts District to promote growth and development opportunities within the district and identify priority projects and investment opportunities • Pursue South Carolina cultural district designation for the Cayce River Arts District <hr/> <p>Ensure natural and cultural resources contribute to the tourism economy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to work with historic, cultural, and civic organizations to promote cultural assets and opportunities
<p>Goal # 4: Strengthen and Grow the Economy</p>	<p>Promote Cayce as a regional tourism destination</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a hospitality and tourism development master plan to identify growth opportunities, priority projects, and hospitality tax investment opportunities