HISTORIC DISTRICTS MATTER

COMMUNITY BENEFITS

- Historic districts are unique and authentic to their area. They preserve the history of the people, the culture, events in time and more. Preservation is integral to giving communities a sense of pride and it allows individuals to learn from the past.
- Historic districts improve occupancy rates, encourage vibrant activity day and night, are visited by tourists, encourage property maintenance, and typically have lower crime rates.
- Authentic neighborhoods bring new visitors and residents into communities.



ECONOMIC BENEFITS

- Studies conducted all across the nation conclude that historic designation, as well as a design review board, significantly boost property values and improve the economic climate of the area. Property values in historic districts rose 5-35% per decade in more than 20 historic districts nationally, compared with property values in undesignated neighborhoods in the same community.*
- Local communities see 75 cents of every dollar spent on building rehabilitation projects. Preservation projects require skilled labor and specialized materials, creating more local jobs than new construction.*
- Small businesses thrive in historic districts. Residents and visitors to heritage areas statistically spend more money at businesses and stay longer. Heritage tourists seek the authenticity of historic districts.*

ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS

- Historic preservation is “green” because it reuses structures and building materials.
- Reusing historic structures and infilling vacant lots in a historic area generates density, which encourages the use of public transit and saves energy in the distribution of resources (water, electricity, etc.).
- Historic districts are walkable because they are mixed-use. People are able to walk to restaurants, shopping and work – allowing many to leave their car at home, thus allowing less land for parking.



*Sources: *Benefits Of Residential Historic District Designation For Property Owners by Johnathan Mary, PhD*
Restore Oregon: Special Report Healthy Historic Districts
PlaceEconomics

German Village
Character lives on.

GERMAN VILLAGE MATTERS

German Village is one of the most unique urban neighborhoods in the US. German Village is memorable for as many reasons as there are bricks. The sense of community is palpable. The architecture is beautiful. And the stories that make our neighborhood are visible. German Village is easy to love and hard to leave. The trend to urban living and historic preservation in Columbus started in German Village, in 1960. German Village's local and national historic district designations encourage preservation, investment and community spirit. Our brick streets and sidewalks lead to densely built houses, urban gardens and subtle architectural details.



> German Village and Short North are so important to Columbus, not because everyone is going to live there, but because no matter where people live in Columbus, they want to be able to experience places like them. People need to be rewarded by the built environment in which they live, and **when people have human affection for their community, they are willing to fight for its future."**
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> **MICHAEL WILKOS,** THE COLUMBUS FOUNDATION

COMMUNITY BENEFITS

- Visitors from 45 states and 18 countries visited German Village in 2015. German Village attracts visitors and residents from around the globe to be a part of the community, for a day or a lifetime.
- In 1960, the neighborhood created German Village Society, the nonprofit tasked with preservation education. Members of German Village Society manage the gardens in Schiller Park, give guided tours of the neighborhood, and work with the city to insure the city helps preserve and maintain the historic integrity of the neighborhood.

ECONOMIC BENEFITS

- Home values in German Village rose by 9.4% in 2014, while homes in the City of Columbus as a whole rose 4.7%.
- Over 50 businesses reside in German Village...some for over 100-years! German Village is home to many of Columbus's top restaurants and shopping.

ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS

- German Village historic district has very low demolition rates, which exhibits the interest in preserving historic structures and adapting them to contemporary lifestyles.
- Public transit thrives in the German Village historic district due to its proximity to downtown, and high density. German Village is close to the popular CBUS bus route, has 2 CoGo bicycle stations, and is included in the Car2Go carsharing program footprint.

> Visitors who are interested in heritage tourism stay longer and spend more money. **German Village is consistently cited as among the most visited destinations in central Ohio** – a visit to the neighborhood offers historic buildings and architecture, tours, shopping, galleries, dining and interaction with locals. Especially important to German Village is its story of historic preservation – an area of growing interest for millennial travelers, as well as baby boomers – the two largest travel segments today. German Village adds value to any visit to Ohio."
>
> **MARY CUSICK,** DIRECTOR OF TOURISM OHIO

German Village

Character lives on.