

# The Undertold McKinney Project

Revealing the Hidden Chapters of McKinney's History

## Agenda

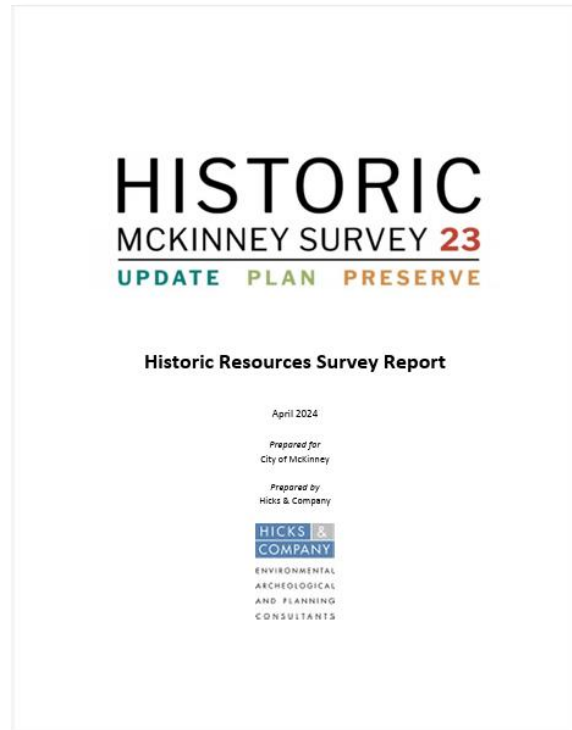
- Project Background
- 2025 Pilot Project Recap
- Year 2 Program Continuation
- Q&A

# Project Background – 2023 East McKinney Neighborhood Preservation Study



- Education and outreach for existing programs is a key recommendation
- Undertold McKinney allows us to:
  - increase HPOs visibility within the community
  - grow relationships within the Legacy neighborhoods and larger McKinney community
- Stronger relationships → better understanding of residents and their circumstances → enhanced ability to connect people with our programs → **trust is built**

# Project Background – 2023 Historic McKinney Survey



- Prioritization of Black and Hispanic Neighborhoods is a key recommendation of the 2023 HRS Report

*“The Black and Hispanic communities have contributed to the history, diversity, and culture of McKinney since the city’s founding, but the historic buildings and neighborhoods in which these groups resided were not adequately surveyed prior to the current fieldwork.”*




- 2023 HRS report

# Project Background – 2023 Historic McKinney Survey (continued)

Hicks & Company Environmental/Archaeological Consultants

## VIII.B. OTHMs and THC Undertold Markers

In addition to district or individual historic designation, commemorative markers such as OTHMs through the THC may be an appropriate mechanism for celebrating and sharing the history and significance of local communities and resources. The THC's Undertold Marker program funds the creation of new markers that highlight diverse topics such as ethnic history, science, civil rights, fine arts, and labor issues. Table 9 includes a list of resources recommended for recognition through an OTHM or THC Undertold Marker.

Parcel	Address	Notes	Survey Photo (2023)
1125605	407 W. Louisiana St.	Although the property is recommended a high priority due to its Neoclassical architecture, newspaper articles suggest this was the home of Mary E. Boyd, a female philanthropist in the early twentieth century. She donated money to many local efforts. Further research may qualify property for an Undertold Marker in the subject of Women's Topics. Replaced windows are compatible but not original.	
1122163	300 Kincaide St.	The First Spanish Assembly of God. Although the c. 1940 building is significantly altered, further research may reveal the historic function (potentially a former school and/or community center) and whether the property has any community significance. Property is associated with the two parcels to the west. Further research may qualify property for an Undertold Marker.	
1145905	901 Hamilton St.	The Word Church of McKinney. The building has some material alterations but merits research for association or significance to the local community. Further research may also qualify property for an Undertold Marker.	

McKinney Historic Resources Survey Report, Collin County, Texas – April 2024

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- List of resources recommended for recognition through an Official Texas Historic Marker (OTHM) or Undertold Marker

- Mary E. Boyd House – 407 W Louisiana*
- First Spanish Assembly of God – 300 Kincaide*
- The Word Church of McKinney – 901 Hamilton*
- E.S. Doty School – 500 N Throckmorton*
- Reuben Johnson House – 804 Canal*
- Iola Lee & Albert Malvern House – 406 N Throckmorton*
- Lloyd Owens Place Apartments – 910 Throckmorton*
- Holy Family School – 404 Lincoln*

# Project Background – THC's Undertold Marker Program



- In 2006, the Texas Historical Commission created the Undertold Marker program to incentivize “special” or “priority” markers
  - Addresses historical gaps, promotes topics, and proactively documents significant underrepresented subjects or untold stories
- Highly competitive – only 15% of applications are selected
- Thorough, well-documented applications have the best chance of success

# Project Background – Forming the Community Advisory Group (CAG)

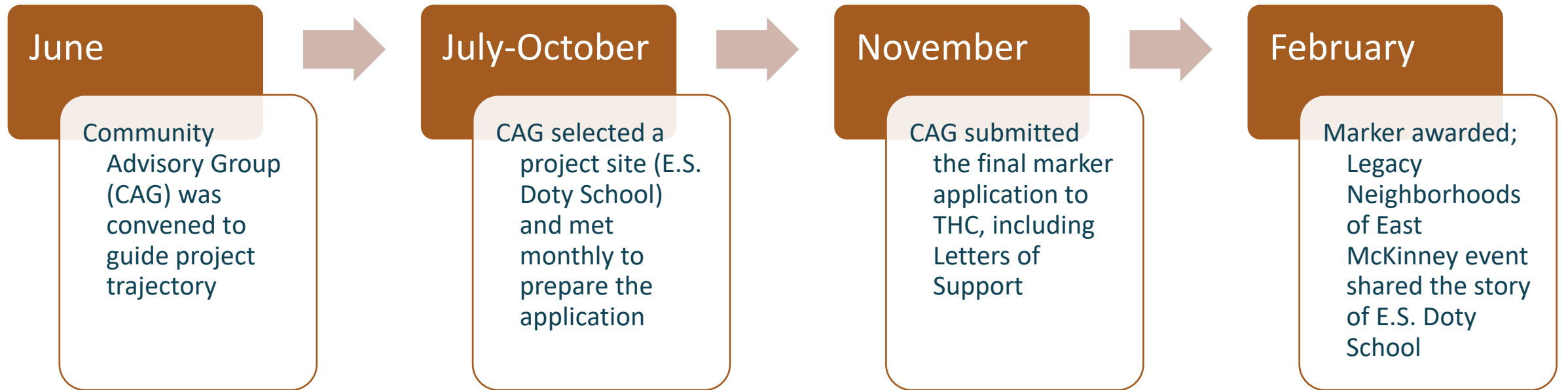
- Community guidance and support is vital
- United by a shared passion for preserving and uplifting the history of East McKinney’s Legacy neighborhoods
- The CAG responsibilities included:
  - naming the project
  - selecting a marker subject
  - helping craft the marker narrative with citations
  - **providing letters of support on behalf of their organizations**
  - soliciting additional letters of support, if desired
  - sharing the mission of Undertold McKinney

# Project Background – Undertold McKinney Pilot Project Success



- Notified of award in February of this year
- THC is crafting the inscription and fabricating the marker
- Installation is anticipated in **Spring 2027** – a public unveiling ceremony will mark the occasion

# 2025 Pilot Project Recap



## Black History Month – The Legacy Neighborhoods of East McKinney event



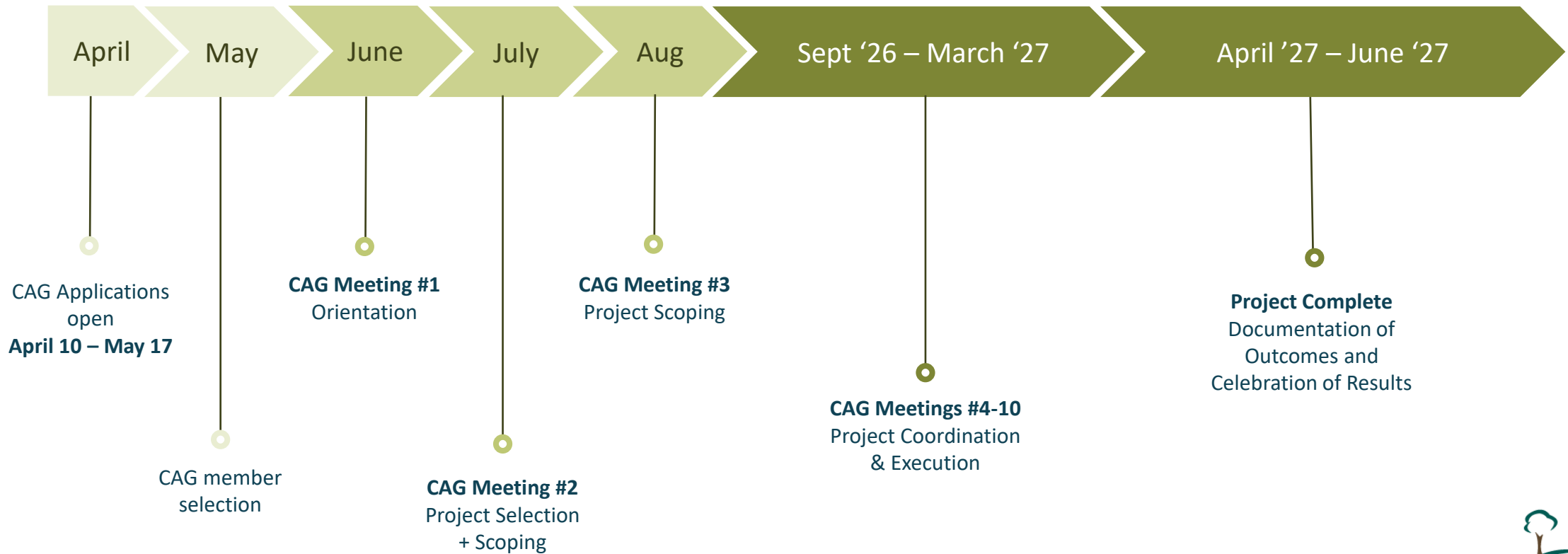
- Shared the story of E.S. Doty School with the whole community
- Celebrated in our shared success of being awarded a marker
- Honored the legacy of East McKinney, and the love and care its residents have displayed for generations
- Event recording can be viewed at: [McKinneyTexas.org/Undertold](https://McKinneyTexas.org/Undertold)

## Goals Going Into Year 2

- Grow community participation
- Invite creativity and innovation
- Build support for historic preservation



# 2026-2027 Project Plan



# Year 2 Program Changes

## Pilot Year (2025)

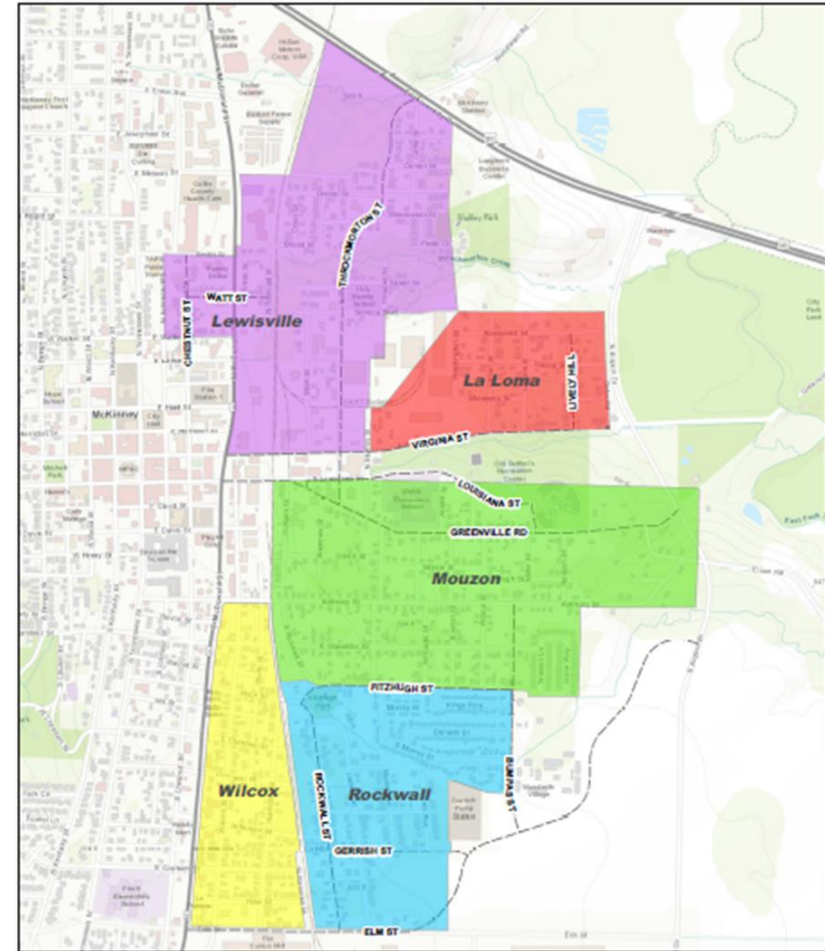
- CAG membership by invitation only
- 6-month program term
- Pre-defined project type

## Year 2 (2026-2027)

- Open applications to serve on the CAG
- 12-month program term
- Undefined project type

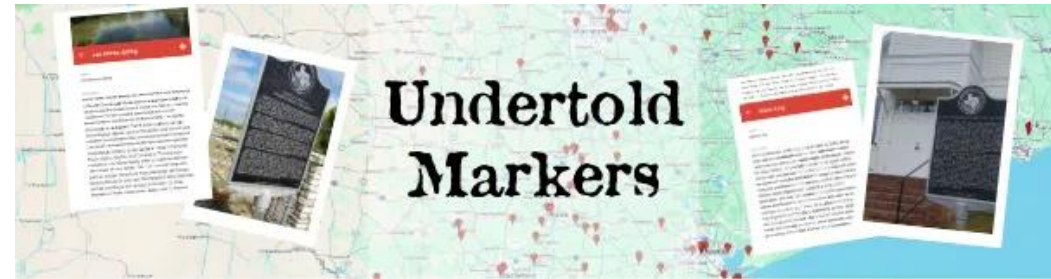
## Year 2 Project Considerations

1. Will it honor undertold histories of the Legacy Neighborhoods?
2. Is it historically relevant?
3. Does it encourage community support and offer opportunities for resident participation?
4. Will it have long-term impact and benefit?
5. Is it feasible with regard to time, cost, long-term maintenance, etc. ?
6. Will the final product support ongoing storytelling efforts?



# Potential Types of Projects

- Neighborhood Beautification
- Community History Event
- Community History Publication
- Neighborhood Art Project
- Undertold Marker Application
- Additional ideas as developed by the 2026 – 2027 CAG



# Year 2 Program Continuation

## Applications are open through May 17!

Help Celebrate and Preserve the History of  
**East McKinney's  
Legacy Neighborhoods**  
[Join the Undertold McKinney Advisory Group]

**Open to McKinney residents who:**

- Enjoy learning about East McKinney's history.
- Value the people, places, and traditions that make the Legacy Neighborhoods special.
- Care about preserving and sharing the unique stories of East McKinney for generations to come.

**We want to hear from you!**  
Learn more about the Community Advisory Group  
and apply at [McKinneyTexas.org/Undertold](https://McKinneyTexas.org/Undertold).

Apply by May 17

Scan for details

McKINNEY  
TEXAS  
Unique by nature.

For questions, email  
[Contact-Planning@mckinneytexas.org](mailto:Contact-Planning@mckinneytexas.org).

If you:

- Enjoy learning about McKinney's history
- Care about the diverse people, places, and traditions that make our community special
- Want to get involved with local historic preservation efforts

We want to hear from you!

Visit [McKinneyTexas.org/Undertold](https://McKinneyTexas.org/Undertold) to learn more and apply

Questions?

