



### 13.0 Executive Summary

Incorporated in 1896, the development of the town began to gain momentum in the 1900's and by 1910 several historic buildings were constructed. Among one of the first built was Mountain Home Carnegie Library, dedicated to the City in 1908. It is now one of several buildings listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Mountain Home consists of several historic buildings, many of which are now home to commercial businesses in the business district of the downtown area. Comprised of a multitude of historically significant buildings and sites, Mountain Home is brimming with character.<sup>1</sup> Holding the county seat since 1891, Mountain Home is the largest city in Elmore County. Strategically located in Elmore County and neighbors to Mountain Home Air Force Base, Mountain Home is culturally diverse, enriching the community. This creates a unique environment in which the cultivation of culture can flourish in a holistic manner.

Mountain Home aims to preserve its historical sites and resources, including the visual, performing, and literary arts and humanities. In the effort to maintain and promote the town's historic sites and cultural resources, Mountain Home has continued its focus on enhancing its character. The business district of the downtown area, home to historical buildings such as the Turner Hotel (Mellen Hotel), Ake, F. P., Building, and the Montgomery and Blunk Building (Mountain Home Yoga Center), will undergo a downtown revitalization to address the original and outdated infrastructure. Over the years, the downtown area has experienced minor updates, bringing it into the 21<sup>st</sup> century, but never a cohesive project.

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<sup>1</sup> John Hiler, "Mountain Home – Spotlight", *Idaho Magazine*, Online article, May 20, 2019  
<https://www.idahomagazine.com/article/mountain-home-spotlight/>

As the next decade proceeds, the City of Mountain Home looks to broaden the scope of work regarding cultural resources and historic sites. As planning and preservation meld, many of our existing cultural resources, art developments and installations, historical structures and gathering spaces will be recognized and protected, including creation and expansion.

## 13.1 Historical Background

Starting as only 320 acres, Mountain Home dates to the late 1800's. Jackson Street, dividing the South and North sections of Mountain Home, was named after Commodore Jackson of Rattlesnake Creek who filed for the acreage the town was built upon. By 1890, Elmore County was formed, and the agricultural scene became a prominent piece of Mountain Home. Although the town was known for its surrounding beauty, it served as an oasis in the desert and acted as a gateway to the mountains. The town was poised perfectly to serve as a strategic point on a major travel route across the state, much as it is today.

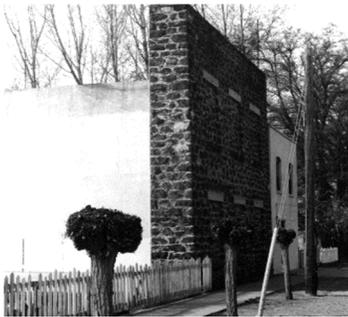
Sparking the diversity and growth in culture, the Basque immigrants were drawn to the town because of its infamy of being the second largest sheep shipping station in the Northwest. As the industry grew, adding mining and timber to the economy, the town began to grow significantly. The Army airfield, known today as Mountain Home Air Force Base, brought a variety of cultures to Mountain Home that have enriched the community.

With a thriving community, the 1950's were a time of building and evolving. Much of the original infrastructure still exists in the downtown core, where the town originated.<sup>2</sup>

## 13.2 Architectural Historical Sites

### 13.2.1 Ake, F. P., Building

The F. P. Ake Building is architecturally significant and one of two surviving facades among a series of eight storefronts. This well-preserved and restorable commercial building shows the simplicity and geometricization of the basically classic forms that Tourtellotte and Hummel Architecture was known for. The Ake building is nominated as the remnant of the series best retaining individual integrity of appearances.<sup>3</sup>



### 13.2.2 Pedro Anchustegui, Pelota Court

Pedro Anchustegui's Pelota Court is the finest existing outdoor pelota court in Idaho, comprised of a two-sided structure constructed of local lava rock. Basque immigrants came to the Northwest in the late 1800's to early 1900's and enjoyed recreational activities such as dancing and Pelota, a form of handball. The Pedro Anchustegui Pelota Court is the only outdoor court remaining in the state of Idaho.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>2</sup> "Mountain Home, ID Chamber of Commerce", *Town Square Publications*, Online Article, May 20, 2019 <http://local.townsquarepublications.com/idaho/mountainhome/chamber05.html>

<sup>3</sup> "Inventory Sheet for Group Nominations", *Idaho State Historical Society*, Online, May 21, 2019 [https://history.idaho.gov/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/Ake\\_F.P.\\_Building\\_82000337.pdf](https://history.idaho.gov/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/Ake_F.P._Building_82000337.pdf) Photo by Patricia Wright, 1980

<sup>4</sup> "National Register of Historic Places Inventory – Nomination Form", *Idaho State Historical Society*, Online, May 21, 2019 [https://history.idaho.gov/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/Anchustegui\\_Pedro\\_Pelota\\_Court\\_78001060.pdf](https://history.idaho.gov/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/Anchustegui_Pedro_Pelota_Court_78001060.pdf) Photo by Arthur A. Hart, 1974

### 13.2.3 Elmore County Courthouse

The Elmore County Courthouse—retaining its original monumental massing and full Neoclassical style features—was constructed in 1916. The County was originally created by the Idaho legislature in 1889. In 1891 Mountain Home was named county seat of Elmore County. Until the courthouse was constructed, county offices were in rentals and later in a schoolhouse. Due to a bond election as a result of popular support for construction, the courthouse was made possible and after its completion, allowed the county offices to move into a space designed for their use.<sup>5</sup>



### 13.2.4 Montgomery Blunk Building

Built around the turn of the century the Montgomery Blunk Building was a well-frequented retail business, selling items ranging from underwear to explosives. It was also a grade center for the cattle and sheep industry, being well-known as a central service point. Buyers came worldwide to bid on wool and the Montgomery Blunk Building was among the largest warehouses

for wool buying and shipping centers in the country. This large space was also used for the Masons and Odd Fellows meetings, the location of the first National Bank, a canvas shop for covered wagons and more.<sup>6</sup>

### 13.2.5 Mountain Home Carnegie Library

The unaltered Carnegie Library was significant in its time for its social and humanitarian associations. The advent of a Carnegie Library was a cultural watershed for the town and the building was a center for club meetings and community activities related to learning and the arts. In 1907, the Library Board petitioned the Andrew Carnegie Foundation for \$6,000 to construct a building. November 19, 1908, the building was dedicated to the City. By 1915, the library hosted a collection of 1,511, had a collection of 400 card-carrying patrons and had an annual book budget of \$900, funded by the City Council. Presently, the Carnegie Library is home to the Mountain Home Historical Society.<sup>7</sup>



<sup>5</sup> "Inventory Sheet for Group Nominations", *Idaho State Historical Society*, Online, May 21, 2019 [https://history.idaho.gov/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/Mountain\\_Home\\_Baptist\\_Church\\_82000341.pdf](https://history.idaho.gov/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/Mountain_Home_Baptist_Church_82000341.pdf) Photo by Brian Atterbery, March 9, 1987

<sup>6</sup> "Mountain Home Historical Tours – Full Movie", *YouTube*, Walking History Tours, September 7, 2017, Online, May 21, 2019 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LMIao2MCPWM&feature=youtu.be>

<sup>7</sup> "National Register of Historic Places Inventory – Nomination Form", *Idaho State Historical Society*, Online, May 21, 2019 [https://history.idaho.gov/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/Mountain\\_Home\\_Carnegie\\_Library\\_78001061.pdf](https://history.idaho.gov/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/Mountain_Home_Carnegie_Library_78001061.pdf) Photo by J. M. Neil, 1976



### 13.2.6 Mountain Home High School

In 1925, the first public school in Mountain Home, a clapboard, side-gabled building serving all grades, was deemed deficient. The high school student body was large enough to warrant its own structure. Later that year, an election was held to vote on the issuance of a bond for a new high school building and to repair the existing grammar school; it passed easily. With a groundbreaking in June of 1926, the school was completed and occupied early 1927 and served as a high school until 1953.<sup>8</sup>

### 13.2.7 Mountain Home Hotel

Commonly referred to as the Bengoechea Hotel, this three-story brick, commercial building represents the seemingly ubiquitous influence of the Second Renaissance Revival and Romanesque Revival styles, modestly scaled for Idaho towns during the early 1900s. The Mountain Home Hotel is historically significant largely due to the association with the Basque community. The hotel was the enterprise of a Basque immigrant, Joe Bengoechea, who built the structure to board Basque shepherders.<sup>9</sup>



### 13.2.8 St. James Episcopal Church

Reminiscent of the Gothic style English country church, the St. James Episcopal Church is one of the first buildings built in Mountain Home. After a fire in 1895, the unique Hazel Bobo apse window was the only remnant salvaged from the original 1888 frame. The St. James Episcopal Church is a community landmark with both the interior and exterior retaining their original integrities. This structure is the oldest brick ecclesiastical building in Mountain Home and one of the oldest brick churches in the state.<sup>10</sup>

### 13.2.9 Turner Hotel

In 1883, W. J. Turner bought the first five lots from the railroad's townsite company and erected the first building, known as the Turner House, Mountain Home's first hotel. In 1889 and 1900, Turner built his second hotel near the original Turner House, now known as the Mellen Hotel, after the purchase by Thomas Mellen in 1913. The Turner Building is one of Mountain Home's few commercial buildings to survive, relatively unaltered from the turn of the century.<sup>11</sup>



<sup>8</sup> "National Register of Historic Places Registration Form", *Idaho State Historical Society*, Online, May 21, 2019 [https://history.idaho.gov/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/Mountain\\_Home\\_High\\_School\\_91000988.pdf](https://history.idaho.gov/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/Mountain_Home_High_School_91000988.pdf) Photo taken by Elizabeth Egleston, January 23, 1991

<sup>9</sup> "National Register of Historic Places Registration Form", *Idaho State Historical Society*, Online, May 21, 2019 [https://history.idaho.gov/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/Mountain\\_Home\\_Hotel\\_82000385.pdf](https://history.idaho.gov/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/Mountain_Home_Hotel_82000385.pdf) Photo by Wikimedia Commons Free Media Repository <https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:BengoecheaHotel.jpg>

<sup>10</sup> "National Register of Historic Places Registration Form", *Idaho State Historical Society*, Online, May 21, 2019 [https://history.idaho.gov/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/St.\\_James\\_Episcopal\\_Church\\_77000460.pdf](https://history.idaho.gov/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/St._James_Episcopal_Church_77000460.pdf) Photo by J. M. Neil, 1975

<sup>11</sup> "National Register of Historic Places Registration Form", *Idaho State Historical Society*, Online, May 21, 2019 [https://history.idaho.gov/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/Turner\\_Hotel\\_84001124.pdf](https://history.idaho.gov/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/Turner_Hotel_84001124.pdf) Photo by MHHS64.org

## 13.3 Historical Parks

### 13.3.1 Mountain View Cemetery

David Dodge, one of the city’s prominent citizens, lived, worked and raised a family in Mountain Home. After his death in 1962, his final wish was granted by local government officials: to donate his land for the city’s present cemetery. David Dodge knew a cemetery was necessary to accommodate a growing community and city leaders cleared additional land to expand the cemetery with the condition of granting 10 cemetery lots for Dodge’s heirs and descendants. The cemetery has burials dating as far back as 1828, 47 years prior to Dodge donating the land in 1885.<sup>12</sup>



### 13.3.2 Carl Miller Park

Carl Ansel Miller, the first soldier from Mountain Home to be killed in the “Great War” (WWI), died while trying to save a fallen comrade. Distraught by the news of Carl’s sacrifice, his hometown community of Mountain Home was adamant in honoring his actions. Within the year of his death, Mountain Home let out bids for the purchase of \$10,000 in bonds to finance the establishment of Carl Miller Park. After the formation of a park board, including five commissioners, the work had begun. Landscaping, infrastructure and maintenance was put in place and in November 1961, the town gathered to pay tribute to the man the park was built in memory of and officially install the sign.<sup>13</sup>

### 13.3.3 Richard Aguirre Park

In 1961, it evident that a new park was necessary for some time and announced that a new, twelve-acre city park would be added to Mountain Home. Then Mayor Gridley proposed that the park be named after Richard Aguirre, a local hero who died in WWII after an attack. A bond was passed by the citizens of Mountain Home resulting in the swimming pool to be built and recreation equipment to be installed.<sup>14</sup>



<sup>12</sup> “A look into Mountain Home’s past”, *Mountain Home News*, October 12, 2011, Online article, May 22, 2019 <https://www.mountainhomenews.com/story/1772844.html> Photo by City of Mountain Home

<sup>13</sup> Tomas Hiler, “HI-Liting Mountain Home”, *Elmore County Press*, Online article, May 21, 2019 <http://www.elmorecountypress.com/Hi-Liting%20Mtn%20Home.htm> Photo by City of Mountain Home

<sup>14</sup> Tomas Hiler, “HI-Liting Mountain Home”, *Elmore County Press*, Online article, May 21, 2019 <http://www.elmorecountypress.com/Hi-Liting%20Mtn%20Home.htm> Photo by City of Mountain Home



### 13.3.4 Railroad Park

The Oregon Short Line began construction of a railroad in 1881. Completed in late 1884, the line angled in a northwestern direction through Pocatello, Mountain Home and Caldwell. Commodore William Jackson laid claim to 320 acres parallel to the survey markers for the planned railroad tracks and sold the previously owned Rattlesnake Station to other investors. Mountain Home Postmaster Jule Hager purchased

a residential lot and moved the Mountain Home Post Office's letters and documents from the Rattlesnake Station to Roscoe Smith's drugstore and reopened the post office. The first train rolled into town in 1883, using the name of the post office where they delivered mail and railroad authorities built a train depot that they named Mountain Home.<sup>15</sup>



### Exhibit 13-1 Mountain Home Historic Sites

No.	Building Name	Known As	Historic Sites	Date	Registered
1	1st National Bank	Advanced Modern Skin Care & Tattoo Clinic	260 N. Main Street	1910	x
2	Ake, F. P., Building		160-72 Main Street	1916	1982
3	Anchustegui, Pedro, Pelota Court	Pelota Court	W. 2nd Street N.	1908	1978
4	Blunk Home	Residence	545 E. Jackson	1909	x
5	Boarding House	Mi Casa	125 N. 2nd E. Street	1910	x
6	Carl Miller Park	Carl Miller Park	N. 10th E. Street	1961	x
7	Catholic Rectory	Catholic Rectory	125 N. 4th E. Street	1920	x
8	Citizens Limited Bank	Dilly Deli	205 E. 2nd N. Street	1895	x
9	Dr. Mary Bearby Home	Residence	460 E. 2nd N. Street	1899	x
10	Elmore County Courthouse	Elmore County Courthouse	150 S. 4th E.	1916-1937	1987
11	Father Lobell House	Residence	125 4th Street E.	1921	1982
12	J.H. Garret Residence	Residence	215 S. 3rd E. Street	1906	x
13	Jackson-Prentice Home	Residence	585 E. Jackson	x	x
14	Judge Cowan Home	Tracy Real Estate	375 N. 3rd E. Street	1905	x
15	KwikCurb Diner	Highway 30 Burger	850 S. 3rd W.	1955	2010

<sup>15</sup> "City of Mountain Home", *Association of Idaho Cities*, Leon Duce, May 20, 2015, Online article, May 21, 2019 <https://idahocities.org/news/232741/City-of-Mountain-Home.htm> Photo by City of Mountain Home and ElmoreCountyPress.com

No.	Building Name	Known As	Historic Sites	Date	Registered
16	Longfellow Home	Residence	395 E. 2nd S. Street	1901	x
17	Masonic Hall	Frankie's Burges	270 N. Main Street	1910	x
18	Mather Residence	Upper Cut	495 N. 3rd E. Street	1907	x
19	Montgomery Blunk Building	Mountain Home Yoga Center	290 N. Main Street	1920	x
20	Mountain Home Baptist Church	Christian & Baptist Church	265 N. 4th E.	1908	1982
21	Mountain Home High School	Bennett Mountain High School	550 E. Jackson	1926-1927	1991
22	Mountain Home Hotel	Bengoechea Block	195 N. 2nd Street. W.	1910	1982
23	Mountain View Cemetery	Mountain View Cemetery	N. 18th E. Street	1962	x
24	Mountain Home Carnegie Library	Mountain Home Museum	180 S. 3rd Street E.	1908	1978
25	N/A	Residence	310 9th E.	1920	x
26	Pinkston Livery	Residence	335 W. Jackson	1908	x
27	Railroad Bridge	Highway 30 Railroad Bridge	Railroad Underpass	1936	x
28	Railroad Depot	Railroad Park	N. Main Street	1883	x
29	Residence	Residence	132 N. 4th E Street	1900	x
30	Richard Aguirre Park	Richard Aguirre Park	N. 5th E. Street	1961	x
31	Royal Club	Mighty Munchkins	210 N. Main Street	x	x
32	St. James Episcopal Church	St. James Episcopal Church	305 N. 3rd Street E.	1895	1977
33	Turner Hotel	Mellen Hotel	140-170 E. Jackson/105-115 N. 2nd E.	1899-1900	1984
34	Veltex Station	Love Abiding Church	190 N. Main Street	1920	x
35	Wicho Building	Jennie's Boutique	204 N. Main Street	x	x

\*Registered sites sourced from the Idaho State Historical Society

## 13.4 Historic Business District

The downtown business district is historically significant to the very foundation Mountain Home was built upon. With many of the originating buildings constructed in or near the downtown area, it has acted as a historical and cultural hub for the city. Although many of the buildings were erected in the early 1900's in the area that is known today as downtown, no real infrastructure was placed until the 1950's. The downtown area is comprised of a wide mixture of architecture, including the Spanish Mission style and contemporary one-story buildings. These buildings provide a historic heritage that the community protects, preserves and promotes.<sup>16</sup>

<sup>16</sup> Planmakers, "Mountain Home Downtown Revitalization Plan 2000", May 21, 2019

### 13.4.1 Downtown Revitalization

The Downtown Revitalization Plan of 2000, a refinement of the 1981 plan, worked to showcase the history deeply rooted within the downtown. As the \$12 million Railroad Underpass Project planned by the Idaho Transportation Department was brought forth, it was inevitable that there would be a large impact to the pedestrian environment. Historically, the cultivation of a pedestrian-friendly environment is necessary for a family shopping area. For this reason, the DIG-IT Committee, City of Mountain Home and Mountain Home Chamber of Commerce dedicated aspects of the 2000 Plan that would alleviate and protect the pedestrian environment.<sup>17</sup>

To reduce these conflicts, streetscape and crosswalk improvements were proposed. Other projects that called for enhancements in the downtown area were bicycle and pedestrian improvements to serve the Mountain Home Middle School. These efforts were put forth with the goal of making Mountain Home's central retail area more appealing for the pedestrian and to restore its former glory as a prime commercial destination.<sup>18</sup>

Since then, minor projects to update the downtown's infrastructure have occurred in the downtown area, but no cohesive plan or upgrade has taken place. The City Council approved an updated and comprehensive downtown master plan. Slated to take place over the course of three years, 2019-2021, the Downtown Improvement Project aims to fix neglected and substandard infrastructure, original to the town. This project, encouraged by the 2008 Comprehensive Plan, adopted by City Council, will not only address the aged infrastructure original to the town, but will act as a catalyst to reinvigorate the commercial district, spurring new businesses and the health and viability of existing businesses. As the city works in its right of way for local improvement of the downtown area, the Imagine Mountain Home Committee continues to work with local downtown businesses to improve their facades and further encourage the promotion of architecturally and historically significant buildings in the downtown area.



### 13.4.2 Community Canvas of MoHo

In 2016, Community Canvas of MoHo—a public art campaign of the Mountain Home Arts Council—was established by Brenda Raub, Eric Tautfest and Amber Cobos. This initiative was funded in large part through the support of the City, Idaho Waste Systems, Urban Renewal Agency of Mountain Home, Elmore Development LLC, Big Sky Rentals and other local businesses and local donors. As result of this project, the downtown alleys have been cleaned up and painted 110 original murals, spanning five blocks. This has since created



a destination community attraction and a significant cultural resource for both residents and visitors. Approximately 25 additional murals are planned for 2019 and on an annual basis going forward.<sup>19</sup>

<sup>17</sup> Planmakers, "Mountain Home Downtown Revitalization Plan 2000", May 21, 2019

<sup>18</sup> Planmakers, "Mountain Home Downtown Revitalization Plan 2000", May 21, 2019

<sup>19</sup> Photos by Community Canvas of MoHo

## 13.5 Cultural Sites

### 13.5.1 Basque Park

Between 1890 and 1925, a majority of the Basque population immigrated to the Mountain Home and Boise area. In their time not tending herds of sheep, men would come to town, living in Basque boarding houses like the one built by Josefa Anchustegui. The Anchustegui family owned the boarding house for Basques, the Basque Hotel and the fronton, also known as a pelota court.<sup>20</sup>



Although the Basques had been in Mountain Home for some time, it wasn't until 1960 that a Basque club was formed, starting as a fraternal, philanthropic and social organization. This organization was known for the two activities it held throughout the year; the Shepherders' Ball and the Basque Picnic.

In 1984, the Basque Hotel, located across the street near the courts (The Anchustegui Hotel), burned down and the land and fronton were donated to the club. The grounds of the former hotel were then converted to a small park across the street from the fronton. During the 1990's

the club saw many changes such as the inclusion of women, being named Euskal Lagunak, joining the North American Basque Organizations (NABO) and purchasing more land for future expansions.

In the 2000 Downtown Revitalization Plan, it was recommended that the City of Mountain and the community support improvements to the Basque Cultural District, a two-block area surrounding the Bengoechea Hotel and Pelota Court.<sup>21</sup> Meanwhile, the Basque club renovated the fronton, saw an addition of a Basque scenic mural, a restored Karro Kampo and a wall with the ikurrina, or Basque flag, on one side and Eskal Herria map on the other. They also expanded their site to include a facility next to the park called the Etxea, currently used for monthly board meetings, coffee hour and workspace.<sup>22</sup>

Many social and cultural events have been added throughout the years. A festival is held at the Basque Park annually to celebrate the Basque culture. This has become a cherished event for all of Elmore County, Basque roots or not. The club has also offered Euskara classes for children, Korrika 5k runs, Paint and Sip events and an annual Mus tournament, now in its 8<sup>th</sup> year.

The Basque community, for being a small club, has accomplished many philanthropic endeavors. The club's main philanthropy has always been a scholarship for local graduating seniors. For years, the club regularly gives to local Girls and Boys State students, Hallissey Basketball Tournament, youth recreation teams and Golf for a Cause, an event for Leukimia and Lymphoma awareness. The club is also supportive of Basque youth wishing to be involved in Boiseko Gazteak and Udaleku programs.

<sup>20</sup> "Mountain Home Basque Fronton", *Idaho Heritage*, Online article, May 22, 2019 [http://idahoheritage.org/assets/popups/sw/sw\\_basque.html](http://idahoheritage.org/assets/popups/sw/sw_basque.html)

<sup>21</sup> Planmakers, "Mountain Home Downtown Revitalization Plan 2000", May 21, 2019

<sup>22</sup> Gloria Totoricaguena Egurrola, "'Fronton Festa': The Renovation of the Mountain Home, Idaho Anchustegui Fronton", *Euskonews & Media*, Online article, May 22, 2019 <http://www.euskonews.eus/0202zbk/kosmo20202en.html> Photo by Euskal Lagunak

**GOAL: Raise public awareness and knowledge of historic resources, the community's heritage and preservation concerns.**

Objective: Encourage activities and events which celebrate historic characteristics throughout the city.

Action Item: Continue partnerships with Mountain Home Historical Society, Desert Mountain Visitor's Center and Chamber of Commerce to facilitate Historical Walking Tours.

Action Item: Partner with Imagine Mountain Home Committee for historical markers or plaques for historical sites in the downtown area and beyond.

**GOAL: Promote and preserve the community's historic buildings, sites and resources.**

Objective: Identify historic buildings that can be registered with the National Register of Historic Places.

Objective: Identify sites that should be recognized and preserved as historic sites and structures.

Action Item: Review the historic sites inventory of the downtown.

Action Item: Prepare a historic site inventory of older neighborhoods with historical significance.

Action Item: Support Elmore County's Certified Local Government Program.

Action Item: Explore funding opportunities through the Elmore County Certified Local Government Program.

**GOAL: Promote historic overlay zones in the downtown area.**

Objective: Define, identify and establish formal historic districts within the downtown area and older neighborhoods.

Objective: Encourage the preservation of historically significant buildings or sites in the downtown area.

Action Item: Revise or add codes and ordinances as part of the Downtown Improvement Project that encourage preservation or rehabilitation efforts within the downtown.

Action Item: Implement a preservation ordinance that serves to protect landmarks, historic sites or properties.

**GOAL: Rehabilitate historic or architecturally significant structures for continued commercial use and appropriate reuse.**

Objective: Use historic overlay zones and other protective measures along with historic preservation ordinance to guide or regulate the use or modification of significant historic buildings and sites in the downtown area.

Action Item: Encourage rehabilitation of existing structures.

Action Item: Encourage the remodeling of second stories into office or service spaces or residential dwelling units in the downtown area.

Action Item: Discourage “demolition due to neglect” of historic buildings.

Action Item: Explore federal historic tax credits to assist in the preservation of historic buildings.

### **GOAL: Create, preserve and expand Mountain Home’s cultural sites and facilities.**

Objective: Seek opportunities for expanding arts, humanities and cultural experiences and resources while respecting and maintaining the historical and architectural heritage.

Objective: Identify and capture opportunities for community gathering spaces, including both indoor and outdoor facilities.

Action Item: Support and celebrate cultural sites, activities and events, such as:

- a. Basque Cultural District;
- b. Basque Picnic;
- c. Community Canvas;
- d. Railroad Park;
- e. Elmore County Hispanic Organization; and
- f. Highland Games

Action Item: Support and encourage the development of future cultural sites and facilities.

- a. Cultural Center;
- b. Performing Arts Auditorium; and
- c. Designated park for Hispanic Culture District

Action Item: Encourage the development of future cultural events and activities for the benefit of the residents.

### **GOAL: Preserve, enhance and expand public works of art.**

Objective: Continue to support the expansion of Community Canvas of MoHo public art campaigns and other public art initiatives within the downtown and beyond.

Objective: Foster partnerships between arts, historical and cultural organizations.

Action Item: Utilize and support local artists during all phases of the downtown plan, from conception to implementation.

Action Item: Identify, explore and implement funding sources for the Arts.