



Draft Heritage Resources Management Strategy summary

Working towards effective management of heritage at municipal level

What is this about?

The draft Heritage Resources Management Strategy shows how the City of Cape Town (the City) plans to manage heritage resources at municipal level, through the implementation of mechanisms provided for in the National Heritage Resources Act (NHRA, Act 25 of 1999).

Why do we need this Strategy?

The NHRA (1999) and the Cultural Heritage Strategy for the City (2005) are both more than 20 years old. Since then, Cape Town has grown and changed.

The draft Strategy aims to:

- Address legislative inefficiencies associated with the dual application (NHRA and City processes) that lead to administrative inefficiencies, inconsistencies and unnecessary delays.
- Better integrate heritage management into municipal planning processes.
- Implement the appropriate level of protection for heritage resources worthy of conservation.
- Leverage heritage as a driver for economic growth, social value, and climate resilience.

Why is this important?

Heritage is not only about the past. It contributes to social cohesion, supports local economies, and shapes how we live in the future.

The draft Strategy is aligned with relevant national and provincial legislation and supports the City's broader planning and development objectives.

Who can give comments?

Anyone can comment on the draft Strategy, including:

- Public institutions and heritage authorities
- Heritage organisations, researchers and community groups
- Developers, property owners and built environment professionals
- Residents, businesses and interested members of the public

Have your say

Your input will help decide how the City protects and manages its heritage for current and future generations.

Comment period: 17 August to 17 September 2026