



# NEWS RELEASE



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Irving's Heritage Park Named Finalist for Best Public Improvement Award**

**(IRVING, Texas)** – The City of Irving's [Heritage Park](#) was named as a finalist for a 2023 Texas Downtown (TXDT) Association President's Award in the category of Best Public Improvement for a city with a population of over 50,000 people.

In 2021, the City of Irving welcomed residents back to the park following a years-long renovation project that transformed the area from a 1-acre lot to a completely reimagined 2.9-acre space featuring new lighting, walking paths, restored historical buildings and a state-of-the-art entertainment stage with an enormous 15x20-foot LED screen. Residents provided input that helped shape the overall design, including a playground, food truck parking and meeting space for community groups. The park improvements provide an enhanced gathering space in the heart of downtown Irving where visitors can explore the city's past while celebrating new traditions.

"Heritage Park represents Irving's thriving culture and diversity while honoring the city's legacy," said Mayor Rick Stopfer. "Now expanded, the park has become a focal point for the city where several special events are held, from the signature Christmas Tree Lighting to live concerts and movie screenings throughout the year."

Irving was one of 114 entries that were submitted in 11 different categories from communities across the state. Winners will be announced on October 25 during the 2023 Downtown Conference in Nacogdoches.

For over 30 years the awards program, sponsored by TXDT, has recognized outstanding projects, places, and people of Texas downtowns. TXDT was established in 1985 to connect and serve communities that are committed to downtown vitality. The organization is an independent, statewide nonprofit that represents cities and towns of all sizes, economic development corporations, chambers of commerce, local associations, small businesses, and individuals. For more information visit [texasdowntown.org](http://texasdowntown.org) or contact Suzy Lawrence at [suzy@texasdowntown.org](mailto:suzy@texasdowntown.org).

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The City of Irving is home to 9 Fortune 500 corporate headquarters, over 8,500 businesses, four 18-hole championship golf courses and the DFW International Airport. Centrally located in the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex, Irving has a population of 256,000+ residents and is one of the most culturally diverse cities in the state and nation.