View and share input on updated streetscape designs.

All Annotations sorted chronologically

As of August 15, 2016, 9:12 AM



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As of August 15, 2016, 9:12 AM, this forum had:

Attendees: 676
All Annotations and Comments: 330
Hours of Public Comment: 15.1

This topic started on August 2, 2016, 3:00 PM. This topic ended on August 15, 2016, 8:34 AM.

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annotations attached to the annotation section 'Angled Parking - Jerome to Fitzhugh'

Name not shown (registered)

August 12, 2016, 5:54 PM

While angled parking will provide a larger total parking count, I think the potential drawbacks include increased congestion of vehicular traffic because it temporarily blocks the roadway as cars back out. It also is difficult for drivers to navigate, and can be unsafe for bicycle riders.

Name not shown (registered)

August 12, 2016, 5:48 PM

While angled parking does provide more spaces in the downtown, it could potentially congest vehicular traffic during peak travel times or large events in the downtown. I also feel that angled parking can be difficult to navigate.

Name not shown (unverified)

August 12, 2016, 4:34 PM

I'm not a fan of angled parking. As vehicular traffic increases downtown angled parking will congest the drive lane as cars back out. Its difficult for drivers to safely back out of these spaces particularly the elderly. I also think its dangerous for bicycles.

Name not available (unclaimed)

August 12, 2016, 2:36 PM

Agree that adding extra parking spaces in the area will be of benefit.

Name not shown (registered)

August 12, 2016, 1:22 PM

Angled parking in front of the Santa House is fine. I think it should also be in front of the church, if traffic patterns allow it.

Name not shown (registered)

August 12, 2016, 12:24 PM

Streetlights shown do not look good with our major iconic building in downtown Midland, the courthouse. HH Dow paid for the architect to design it, with murals representing the history of Midland. And the Santa House next door is so loved. Please consider streetlights that blend with these lovely early 1900's buildings!

Lyn Frazier (registered)

August 11, 2016, 2:56 PM

I like this proposal.

John Kelley (registered)

August 10, 2016, 1:56 PM

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Good way to provide additional parking spaces. The existing extra-wide eastbound lane provides the additional width necessary while maintaining the left turn lane.

Ken Pederson (registered)

August 10, 2016, 10:51 AM

This is a good idea that will benefit both church & Santa house visitors

Name not shown (registered)

August 10, 2016, 9:13 AM

angle parking is better for retail, the parallel parking is better for the restaurants ...

Ann Beck (registered)

August 10, 2016, 8:06 AM

I like it as it will add parking spaces along Main Street and with the new Courthouse entrance it is a great way to add parking.

1 comment

Name not shown (registered) August 10, 2016, 9:17 AM

Great..

Name not available (unclaimed)

August 10, 2016, 7:13 AM

Yes, more parking is needed and the little bit of sidewalk you lose will be worth it to the community.

Name not shown (registered)

August 9, 2016, 2:27 PM

Great use of the space to accommodate more parking.

Daniel Buzzell (registered)

August 9, 2016, 2:18 PM

The outlawn of the Santa House has plenty of space as it is, so i think adding more parking is great here. I like this change.

Name not shown (registered)

August 9, 2016, 11:07 AM

Good idea. Angled parking here provides for more parking spaces, but I question why the change on the other side of the street (in front of the Strosacker bldg) to parallel? There are no restaurants or retail in that block.

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1 comment

Selina Tisdale (registered) August 9, 2016, 12:16 PM

The parallel is actually in front of the First United Methodist Church and is proposed to remain parallel as it currently exists.

April Kelly-Wright (registered)

August 6, 2016, 11:49 AM

While I understand the angled parking provides more parking spaces, so does it provide for horrible visibility on backing out. Given most people have larger vehicles you can simply not see what you're backing out into. So long as the parallel spaces are somewhat generous, this could be the safer option.

Name not shown (registered)

August 5, 2016, 9:10 PM

In general I'm not a fan of angled parking along Main Street, but on this block I think it works.

Christy Foust (registered)

August 5, 2016, 5:06 PM

yes, angled parking here would help.

Name not shown (registered)

August 5, 2016, 4:22 PM

I like the idea of putting angle parking there. I am terrible at parallel parking so this helps:)

Name not available (unclaimed)

August 5, 2016, 4:19 PM

I like it. This is a place where we need more parking and have no other use for the sidewalk space.

Robert Vogel (registered)

August 5, 2016, 10:53 AM

this is a comment that I want my name shown next to

Name not available (unclaimed)

August 2, 2016, 3:41 PM

Love it!

Name not shown (registered)

August 2, 2016, 3:08 PM

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hv hgc hkhngjh

2 comments

Name not shown (registered) August 5, 2016, 9:34 PM

I wholeheartedly agree;)

Greg Rogers (registered) August 10, 2016, 7:33 AM

From a safety perspective maybe you want to think about reversing the angles so people back into the space, that way they're not backing out into traffic. Traverse City does this.

View and share input on updated streetscape designs.

annotations attached to the annotation section 'Share your thoughts - West Main Street'

Name not available (unclaimed)

August 12, 2016, 5:03 PM

This is a good idea to add more parking although it is not very close to the retail and dining blocks.

Name not shown (registered)

August 12, 2016, 4:31 PM

I think that the trees that are in place are beautiful and do not need to be torn out and replaced. I understand that some may be removed to adjust spacing but unnecessarily tear out viable trees is not a good idea.

Name not shown (registered)

August 12, 2016, 10:58 AM

Like added parallel parking here. No need for more sidewalk in front of courthouse.

Please know... Downtown Midland has plenty of parking... during events, parking lots are not full... many people do not want to walk more than two blocks.

Name not available (unclaimed)

August 12, 2016, 8:51 AM

I like the idea of more angled parking. If parallel parking is increased I will just stop shopping in the downtown area. Also, I do not see the value of a drop off area.

Name not available (unclaimed)

August 12, 2016, 8:48 AM

I like the idea of more angled parking. If there is more parallel parking provided then I will just stop shopping in the downtown area. Not sure I see the value of a drop off area.

Lyn Frazier (registered)

August 11, 2016, 3:11 PM

I like all of the design ideas presented here. I think it makes this area more amenable to many different uses.

Name not shown (registered)

August 11, 2016, 2:29 PM

I think the proposed design is great! I agree having more parking on these blocks is necessary.

Name not available (unclaimed)

August 11, 2016, 1:12 PM

View and share input on updated streetscape designs.

Downtown tends to be busy, so angled parking (allowing more parking) is always a better option. I'm not sure the drop off area is necessary - I'm assuming it's for the courthouse, but people enter from the back.

Name not shown (registered)

August 11, 2016, 8:38 AM

Angled parking is a good option at this location

Kevin Frazier (registered)

August 10, 2016, 7:32 PM

Additional parking at this end is great ---- no real need that I see to add additional sidewalk area in this block

Name not shown (registered)

August 10, 2016, 4:51 PM

I am a lifetime Midland resident, and a former downtown business owner. I was active in the MDBA when the currant street plan was developed. I have concerns with the whole project: The concept seems aimed at increasing pedestrian areas, but at the same time eliminating the parking spaces, so the pedestrians can't actually park their vehicles there. I have been downtown many times, and have seen ALL available spots filled. Why eliminate roughly 50% of the parking?

Also, as we all know, most people dislike parallel parking because it is difficult compared to angle parking. One major goal, when the currant plan was developed, was to INCREASE parking. This plan goes in the opposite direction.

Another concern......I have heard that the traffic lights at Main and Ashman and Main and Rodd are to be eliminated in favor of four way stops. This would also eliminate the pedestrian cross walk signs, so you effectively eliminate an important safety measure for pedestrians. People crossing the street have no clear time to cross, and their safety is at the discretion of the drivers at the four way stop. We all know that many drivers have no clue about the rules of a four way stop.

Other than these concerns, I am sure it will be very pretty.

Name not shown (registered)

August 10, 2016, 1:05 PM

This is a good & functional design. Parking is a primary asset re: the courthouse, Santa House, & church.

Name not shown (registered)

August 10, 2016, 12:01 PM

This is fine. Like angle parking.

Name not shown (registered)

August 9, 2016, 5:46 PM

Any way you dress up the downtown area will be nice but if you don't provide enough parking it will be all for

View and share input on updated streetscape designs.

nothing. As much as you want to make this area walking friendly if you limit parking it will hurt the business. Parralel parking will be more difficult for people to patronize local business

Name not shown (registered)

August 9, 2016, 1:55 PM

I like this solution because I think it does not impede any of the functions that are already there. This is a busy part of downtown with parking serving the church, foundations, Memorial, the Zn.

Name not shown (registered)

August 9, 2016, 11:51 AM

This is my least favorite design approach. Personally, if creating a walking destination area, the other options more directly address.

Name not shown (registered)

August 9, 2016, 9:05 AM

Jerome to Fitzhugh has an access drive that is not shown between the Santa House and the Courthouse. The main entrance to the Courthouse will be east of the intersection. The turnout, as shown, will be directly in front of the historic Courthouse entry doors... however they cannot be used for access. The new construction will be east of the turnout, and will likely be unseen at that location because it is set back off the street beyond the current front plane of the Courthouse. Also, planting trees at the Veterans Memorial bump-out will block the view of residents who participate in Memorial and Veterans Day activities.

2 comments

Name not shown (registered) August 9, 2016, 10:54 AM

In the 1st title paragraph, "Proposed Design Concept - West Main St" it notes "...but compromises sidewalk space for outdoor dining, retail display..." Since there is no dining or retail in this block that is a moot point.

Name not shown (registered) August 10, 2016, 1:16 PM

The angled parking is great here as it adds spaces and options for those who don't want/like to parallel park. The drop-off area is a great idea, as long as it is indicated as being such.

Name not available (unclaimed)

August 2, 2016, 2:58 PM

This is a great idea.

Feedback: Share your input on updated streetscape design plans View and share input on updated streetscape designs.

annotations attached to the annotation section 'Drop-Off Area - Fitzhugh Street'

Name not available (unclaimed) drop off area seems like a good idea to me	August 12, 2016, 10:53 PM
Name not shown (registered) Having an area dedicated for drop off will help to alleviate congestion.	August 12, 2016, 5:59 PM
Name not shown (registered) Very nice idea	August 12, 2016, 4:24 PM
Name not shown (registered) This is a great idea and a safe one!	August 12, 2016, 1:15 PM
Lyn Frazier (registered) A drop-off area will be very convenient in this area.	August 11, 2016, 3:02 PM
John Kelley (registered) Would this be designed large enough for the Santa house trolley to make a stop?	August 10, 2016, 2:04 PM
Ann Beck (registered) This will be great for the new Courthouse entrance.	August 10, 2016, 8:09 AM
Name not available (unclaimed) Think this would be more valuable as parking spaces vs. a drop off space.	August 10, 2016, 7:14 AM
Name not shown (registered) More visible pedestrian signs would benefit this spot so drivers recognize the actua	August 9, 2016, 2:29 PM al intended use.

All Annotations sorted chronologically As of August 15, 2016, 9:12 AM

Daniel Buzzell (registered)

August 9, 2016, 2:24 PM

View and share input on updated streetscape designs.

I've got 3 young kids, so I like having a spot to drop off near the Santa House, even though I only use it once a year. If it turned into even more parking I would not be heart broken.

Name not shown (registered)

August 5, 2016, 9:13 PM

This is already in place, right? I really like the concept of drop off locations along Main Street, but honestly I've never noticed this feature before. I'm looking at a Google StreetView image right now and it's a very clear feature that I've just missed over the years. Maybe add some small signage?

View and share input on updated streetscape designs.

annotations attached to the annotation section 'Angled Parking - Fitzhugh to Gordon'

Name not available (unclaimed)

August 12, 2016, 9:43 PM

In the downtown area the angled parking at this end would provide the additional parking needed to compensate for the reduced number of spaces due to the proposed parallel parking.

Name not shown (registered)

August 12, 2016, 6:01 PM

I think angled parking can cause traffic congestion and be dangerous for bicycles.

Name not shown (registered)

August 10, 2016, 12:03 PM

Ideal location to beef up parking

Ann Beck (registered)

August 10, 2016, 8:10 AM

This is the perfect place for additional parking spots.

Daniel Buzzell (registered)

August 9, 2016, 2:25 PM

I agree that this is a good section of main to focus on parking given the types of buildings and businesses there.

Name not available (unclaimed)

August 6, 2016, 4:22 PM

Parallel parking better for business and outside dining

Name not shown (registered)

August 6, 2016, 6:38 AM

This is a good section of Main Street to convert to angled parking.

1 comment

John Kelley (registered) August 10, 2016, 2:08 PM

Note that angled parking is provided on both sides along this block under existing conditions as well.

Name not shown (registered)

August 5, 2016, 9:16 PM

Feedback: Share your input on updated streetscape design plans	
View and share input on updated streetscape designs.	

This seems like a good idea to keep the angled parking in place for this block. After this block, though, I'm a big proponent of increasing the sidewalk area and converting to parallel parking on Main Street.

View and share input on updated streetscape designs.

annotations attached to the annotation section 'Share your thoughts - Festival Block #1'

Name not shown (registered)

August 12, 2016, 10:18 PM

Don't like the change to parallel parking.

Name not available (unclaimed)

August 12, 2016, 5:09 PM

This plan more than cuts the parking in half on these blocks, and creates overwide sidewalks. There have not been any examples of towns with sidewalks this size - just rather misleading drawings where narrower sidewalks are made to look boring with blank storefronts. i think sidewalks this size will look empty rather than busy and fun.

Name not shown (registered)

August 12, 2016, 4:36 PM

You are forgetting that this is Michigan. Curbs are important in handling the snow and during the water runoff from the spring thaw. Please do not take out already viable trees.

Nick Sarafolean (registered)

August 12, 2016, 2:33 PM

I'm not necessarily a fan of taking out so much of the angled parking. A great number of people go out of their way to avoid parallel parking because of the increased difficulty of it. In a sense, it may be counterproductive to the intent of making downtown a gathering place. There's no interest in gathering if it isn't convenient to get there and park easily. Other options should be explored and looked at before making the switch from angle parking to parallel parking for these several blocks.

2 comments

Name not shown (registered) August 12, 2016, 4:31 PM

I agree, I hate the parallel parking. The designers keep saying "there is plenty of parking" downtown, I don't agree. They must be using old data or they are saying that to sell their design. We need to design this for 365 days per year not just 30 days of "festivals", and parallel parking loses too many spots.

Name not shown (registered) August 12, 2016, 6:54 PM

Stores will suffer in the winter if we remove angled parking convenience is important when it's cold Which is more than half of the year. I get we want improvements for summer but let's not forget that's only a short percentage of the year

Name not shown (registered)

August 12, 2016, 11:15 AM

I think the huge amount of money spent on making downtown 'festival friendly' is a waste. All around the

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country, vibrant downtowns have curbs, no seating/ firepits at corners, no differently colored sidewalks... Look at the most charming, active downtown in Michigan, Harbor Springs. Bubbling downtown, which has skinny sidewalks, curbs. They are spending money on a small independent film theatre right in downtown, which will bring residents to eat, shop... all year long. Not just the 20-30 days of festivals. Many retail stores do not like festival events in downtown Midland... no parking / access for regular customers, the event attenders do not come to shop. Restaurants benefit, not the other retail shops we need to support!

Let us focus money and design on 365 days a year energizing, not just festivals.

Lyn Frazier (registered)

August 11, 2016, 3:26 PM

I'm excited by the possibilities this design gives.

Name not shown (registered)

August 11, 2016, 2:39 PM

I love the design! I think making downtown easier and more inviting for pedestrians and special events would be a big improvement to our city. This proposal goes a long way to making it a reality.

Name not available (unclaimed)

August 11, 2016, 1:14 PM

Parking downtown is already a nightmare. Parallel parking is taking away parking spaces and, honestly, we don't need the festival intersections. We do fine with blocking off sections of streets for activities.

Name not available (unclaimed)

August 11, 2016, 1:03 PM

First of all, my compliments that you are using Ace Hardware as part of your festivities. Have been so concerned you'd close them down and may be another drinking joint would take it's place. Now my suggestion for Main Street, more important than anything I'v seen on the review is to have a statue on Main Street area.

Kevin Frazier (registered)

August 10, 2016, 7:35 PM

I am not in favor of having parallel parking in this area --- tremendous kerfuffle!

I like having additional sidewalk area, though. Have angle parking on ONE side only to give the additional space?

Name not shown (registered)

August 10, 2016, 1:18 PM

This looks nice & functional. I support all changes except the 4-way stops in lieu of traffic lights.

Name not shown (registered)

August 10, 2016, 8:25 AM

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I dislike the change from the angled parking to parallel parking, I believe that it will cause many parking problems as it reduces the amount of spaces in the downtown area. Also I am very disappointed to see the removal of the traffic lights at key, busy intersections. I feel that it will only cause problems for drivers and potentially accidents with pedestrians. There are already times that if the lights were not there you wouldn't be able to even turn onto Main Street or go through it. For example during the farmer's market and on weekends in general.

2 comments

Name not shown (registered) August 10, 2016, 12:28 PM

The design is functional and welcoming. It fits well with the need to increase public spaces, and encourage outdoor dining and events. The parallel parking is great,, giving added space for pedestrians. There is ample parking in downtown, one only need walk a block at most to reach any destination from a parking space. Midland has much easier parking than any city I've ever lived in (and a little exercise never hurt anyone).

Name not available (unclaimed) August 11, 2016, 3:44 PM

If you are mildy handicapped, such as I, with a cane and MS, a little exercise is this weather or cold weather is a big deal. I could rarely find a parking space when needed in this part of Main St. and parallel parking would only make it worse.

Name not available (unclaimed)

August 10, 2016, 7:34 AM

I like the festival block design - providing less parking spaces but more space for people on the sidewalks/outdoor dining. If you utilize this design, it would be great if there could be a couple additional parking lots to accommodate the reduction in parking spots on Main Street.

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annotations attached to the annotation section 'Gathering Place Intersection - Ashman Street'

Bill Kirksey (registered)

August 12, 2016, 8:22 PM

Ashman & Main is the busiest intersection downtown. My comment is about this intersection, but more importantly about the scope of this effort in general. A lot of great input and thought has gone into this effort, resulting in some fantastic (narrow scope) improvement ideas. From my perspective, it's premature for me to give you the feedback requested as I (we) don't see a related long term downtown plan and it hasn't been discussed, as I understand it. It seems we're working on "redecorating" downtown, instead of "developing" downtown for the future.

Some related questions for developing downtown might be:

- (1) What are the improvement plans for traffic, access the Tridge riverfront area and related parking? This area parking could be better utilized for downtown access. I've done some thinking about this and believe there are some routing improvement opportunities, that could make a big difference to Tridge access and downtown traffic.
- (2) We've been told M-DOT is yet to report on some downtown streets. It would seem these recommendations might have a positive impact on the deliverables for this effort if incorporated.
- (3) As presented, these plans only seem to address downtown Midland 2016 needs and wants. What is the downtown Midland vision in 5 to 15 years. Is this plan as proposed, compatible with the future and will it be a good long term investment?
- (4) Biking is a common element discussed in the downtown plan. Does the proposed plan have an integration plan with the present and future city wide bike routing that truly promotes access and safe biking?

Thanks for your efforts and for asking for resident input.

Name not shown (registered)

August 12, 2016, 6:19 PM

I think this intersection looks great. I am happy to see more landscaping, different paving materials, and lots of benches.

John Kelley (registered)

August 12, 2016, 3:35 PM

Skeptical at first, but the idea of removing the signal seems to be growing on me. As long as the traffic counts factor in future developments downtown - including residential. It's a huge advantage gaining the additional space from removing the left turn lane.

Name not shown (registered)

August 12, 2016, 11:26 AM

I question whether people will sit on benches so close to cars.

Absolutely love removing traffic lights, replacing with stop signs. Have read that just simply replacing traffic

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lights with stop signs increases pedestrian friendly downtowns! Also, I have witnessed many cars speeding up at a yellow light... very dangerous for all. I support slowing down speeds in downtown Midland!

Lyn Frazier (registered)

August 11, 2016, 3:25 PM

This design makes downtown a destination!

Ann Beck (registered)

August 10, 2016, 8:15 AM

This will help a lot with events and make it much more usable space.

Name not shown (registered)

August 9, 2016, 12:16 PM

This is the current "it" intersection is downtown and it will only increase in desirability once the SSP mixed-use building is completed. Designing this intersection to be a gathering place for people first and for vehicles second will only increase it's desirability. This intersection has the potential to be the location where people meet to start their downtown experience e.g. "let's meet at the water feature or fire place and then figure out where to grab a bit to eat".

1 comment

Name not shown (registered) August 10, 2016, 12:07 PM

Yes! You took the words right out of my mouth

Name not shown (registered)

August 9, 2016, 10:58 AM

Looks very nice!

Name not available (unclaimed)

July 29, 2016, 3:09 PM

Will Traffic continue to move?

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annotations attached to the annotation section 'Parallel Parking - Gordon to Ashman'

Name not available (unclaimed)

August 12, 2016, 10:49 PM

I do not care for parallel parking for two reasons 1.) waste of space, 2.) difficult for elderly people, I know you want to cater to the young, but there are considerable numbers of retirees in this town.

Name not shown (registered)

August 12, 2016, 6:16 PM

I prefer parallel parking to angled parking. I am happy to see increased sidewalk space for outdoor dining and landscaping. A downtown environment is more about walking than driving and dense parking.

Name not shown (registered)

August 12, 2016, 4:37 PM

Consider how you will handle handicapped parking.

Name not available (unclaimed)

August 12, 2016, 4:02 PM

I'm worried about the safety of no curbs. It will be easy for parking cars to run into things or people.

Name not available (unclaimed)

August 12, 2016, 10:25 AM

fewer parking spots and more difficult parking.

Lyn Frazier (registered)

August 11, 2016, 3:21 PM

I'm not a fan of parallel parking because I find it hard to do. However, I love this design. It opens things up for so many opportunities downtown. I can find parking elsewhere if I don't want to try the parallel parking.

Name not shown (registered)

August 11, 2016, 2:44 PM

I have no problems with parallel parking. I'm in favor of the extra space it allows for walking and dining on the sidewalk areas.

Name not shown (registered)

August 9, 2016, 12:12 PM

Increasing the pedestrian walking space in this block will be huge, especially on the north side of the street with Pizza Sam's and Cherry Berry and the other great stores. This block is very busy with pedestrians - especially

View and share input on updated streetscape designs.

people waiting for the pizza take-out - and added walking space (and added outdoor seating space) will be a great addition!

Name not shown (registered)

August 6, 2016, 6:42 AM

Increasing the sidewalk space is a great idea and would really make downtown more of a destination.

Name not shown (registered)

August 5, 2016, 9:22 PM

I'm a big fan of the expanded sidewalks in this area

Name not available (unclaimed)

August 5, 2016, 4:22 PM

Reduce parking in front of the block of Pizza Sam's? That seems like a poor decision.

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annotations attached to the annotation section 'Festival Intersection - Gordon Street'

Name not shown (registered)

August 12, 2016, 6:06 PM

I like the treatment of the intersection with a different paving material. I also like that the parking has been reduced away from the intersection. I like the use of bollards at the boundary between the road and sidewalk. I also find the different paving and areas for greenbelt an attractive design solution.

Name not shown (registered)

August 12, 2016, 3:44 PM

The impact on parking was supposed to be only 6 spaces lost. If you remove the parallel parking for festivals, a time when there should be more people traveling to Main street, where would those additional cars be expected to park? What about disabled folks, or those who have trouble walking? If they have to park further away and walk, or wheel in, it might deter them from partaking in the festivities. -Otherwise I love the idea.

John Kelley (registered)

August 12, 2016, 3:28 PM

This will be great for festivals in which the City closes down the street for a stage or tent set up. Also like the extra space for events that don't require street closure.

Lyn Frazier (registered)

August 11, 2016, 3:15 PM

I like the openness of this style.

Name not shown (registered)

August 11, 2016, 1:49 PM

Fully support, this type of space along with public art or other features such as gas fire pit etc are distinctive and support events and casual gathering

Name not shown (registered)

August 10, 2016, 1:16 PM

- 1. Where will the snow go when the street is plowed? It appears these corners leave little room for vehicles.
- 2. Concerned about the sight lines of vehicles. It appears the driver of the car on the right of the image would not be able to see a vehicle stopped on Main St. to his left, particularly if there are people & planters, & trees. What about driver sight lines if snow is piled on corners?
- 3. Traffic lights at the Ashman & Rodd intersections on Main St need to stay, for safety and convenience. The Main St. renovation is intended to bring scores of people to events. No one wants to be the seventh, eighth, or 12th vehicle in line through a 4-way stop.

View and share input on updated streetscape designs.

1 comment

Name not shown (registered) August 11, 2016, 1:52 PM

Remove the traffic lights..they are redundant and unnecessarily hold traffic...stops signs will keep a steady flow of vehicles and pedestrians

Name not shown (registered)

August 10, 2016, 12:05 PM

Love what this type of intersection provides in terms of community gathering spaces on the corners!

Ken Pederson (registered)

August 10, 2016, 11:01 AM

I view this whole idea of "festival oriented design" with heavy skepticism. Downtown needs to first, function well for retail year-round. The designers are looking to spend millions of tax-payer or foundation money to cater to maybe 20 days per year. I see no evidence of these design ideas that help with winter conditions. Downtown functions fine as a festival site when traffic is blocked - there is no value to most of the proposed changes.

Name not available (unclaimed)

August 10, 2016, 10:11 AM

Love this idea n think it will be a very useful part of the area.

Ann Beck (registered)

August 10, 2016, 8:14 AM

Love it. Great way to include the entire length of Main St.

Daniel Buzzell (registered)

August 9, 2016, 3:09 PM

I have mixed feelings about the placement of the festival intersections. It sort of feels like the festival intersections should be switched with the gathering intersections. I would want to fill festival intersections with pedestrians during the events. This way vehicles will either cross at Ashman and/or McDonald, right in the middle of the event, or you loose your festival intersections to cross traffic if Ashman and McDonald are blocked off for the event.

However, I'd love to see events pushing further down main in both directions and having 2 spaced out focal points could be great for that even if traffic is cutting across the events at Ashman and McDonald.

Name not shown (registered)

August 9, 2016, 2:38 PM

Is it possible to make this a 4-way stop for traffic? The intersection always feels unsafe when making the turn onto Main street from Gordon (both directions) especially when all the parking along Main is full.

Name not shown (registered)

August 9, 2016, 12:10 PM

View and share input on updated streetscape designs.

This a great idea for this corner as it starts the festival street a block over from the downtown's busiest intersection for pedestrians (and vehicles). Main Street should cater to people first and vehicles second. The festival street will do just that.

Name not available (unclaimed) Love this	August 6, 2016, 4:24 PM
Name not shown (registered) I like this a lot	August 5, 2016, 9:17 PM
Name not shown (registered) Sample	August 2, 2016, 3:07 PM

View and share input on updated streetscape designs.

annotations attached to the annotation section 'Festival-Style Block #3'

Name not shown (registered)

August 12, 2016, 11:35 AM

I feel money spent on 'festival blocks' is being spent incorrectly. Curbless sidewalks, different colored sidewalks, event spaces. This is a \$7 million dollar estimate, and a sizable part is going towards 20-30 days of events. I would rather see more of that discussion and money going towards increasing energy in downtown Midland 365 days a year. Harbor Springs (small Michigan town) is building a small independent film theatre in its downtown. Or a year-round small vendors market like Grand Rapids. Those would bring people to downtown. I just don't want us spending all the money available on items that won't give us a revitalized downtown. Love wider sidewalks, as that helps our current restaurants and retailers.

Name not shown (registered)

August 11, 2016, 4:27 PM

I like the Festive-style design of downtown. Having more pedestrian space including outdoor seating is desirable if we want our downtown to be a destination.

Name not shown (registered)

August 11, 2016, 2:41 PM

As with the other two "Festival-Style Blocks" I love the design! I think making downtown easier and more inviting for pedestrians and special events would be a big improvement to our city. This proposal goes a long way to making it a reality.

Name not shown (registered)

August 11, 2016, 12:21 PM

I guess I'm not understanding the concept of "gathering place intersections"?

Name not shown (registered)

August 10, 2016, 1:13 PM

Highly dislike the parallel parking for this block. Festivals are only available for a few months. We need the parking for shopping during the rest of the year. Festival and parallel parking would be better further east where the office buildings are.

1 comment

Name not shown (registered) August 12, 2016, 3:58 PM

I agree with all these comments and I also hate the parallel parking. The designers keep saying "there is plenty of parking downtown" is pure crazy... They are looking at textbook numbers or some study that isn't real just to sell their ideas and call it a "best practice".

Name not shown (registered)

August 10, 2016, 9:15 AM

View and share input on updated streetscape designs.

Will the seating remained fenced or still be available to those who serve alcohol?

Ann Beck (registered)

August 10, 2016, 8:19 AM

I like this design and how it carries through the entire length of Main St. Great concept!

Name not shown (registered)

August 9, 2016, 1:10 PM

While parking will be slightly reduced immediately in front of the store fronts the value added by having additional pedestrian walking space and space for outdoor dining is greater. Better public parking signage downtown could easily overcome the inconvenience of losing a few parking spaces on this block.

1 comment

Name not shown (registered) August 10, 2016, 9:17 AM

I agree the outdoor space value is greater than the loss of parking. However, the loss of parking is A LOT.....any way to add angle parking along the side streets?

Name not shown (registered)

August 9, 2016, 12:02 PM

I'm a huge fan of the festival style block and would welcome this concept throughout downtown!

Name not shown (registered)

August 9, 2016, 11:00 AM

Looks very nice! Great improvement for public space!

Name not available (unclaimed)

August 6, 2016, 4:27 PM

Great

View and share input on updated streetscape designs.

annotations attached to the annotation section 'Rain Garden on Main Street'

Name not available (unclaimed) August 12, 2016, 10:58 PM I don't see the value of the expense, let's not go overboard with the tax money at this time. August 12, 2016, 6:14 PM Name not shown (registered) I support this, its a great way to reduce and filter storm water runoff. John Kelley (registered) August 12, 2016, 3:30 PM Always a fan of environmentally friendly design! Name not shown (registered) August 12, 2016, 11:22 AM like rain garden, maybe this will spread throughout midland! Lyn Frazier (registered) August 11, 2016, 3:23 PM I really like the rain garden idea. We need to find ways to use rain water and prevent it from overpowering the sewer systems. Name not shown (registered) August 10, 2016, 12:08 PM rain garden is good idea Name not shown (registered) August 10, 2016, 12:08 PM This is a super cool concept. The more eco-friendly design elements that we can work into the upgrade of downtown the better! August 9, 2016, 2:06 PM Name not shown (registered) I support this idea.

April Kelly-Wright (registered)

August 6, 2016, 11:38 AM

View and share input on updated streetscape designs.

Brilliant.

Name not shown (registered)

August 5, 2016, 9:21 PM

Yes! I'd like to see more rain gardens all around the city. Can we use the ones downtown to promote a citywide effort? An example of a large scale community rain garden program is the 12,000 rain garden initiative in Puget Sound: http://www.12000raingardens.org/. It'd be great for the downtown rain gardens to be a conduit for more residential rain gardens.

View and share input on updated streetscape designs.

annotations attached to the annotation section 'New Trees and Planters'

Name not available (unclaimed)

August 12, 2016, 11:01 PM

please do not go overboard spending money, try to reuse the assets we have already invested in

Name not shown (registered)

August 12, 2016, 6:10 PM

I am happy to hear that new trees and planters are being considered. The existing trees along Main Street vary too much in size and species. I think creating a new unified concept for plantings and landscaping will be great way to unify the streetscape. I hope that flowering trees might be considered. Currently there is too much hardscape in this area and I think additional trees and planters will help quite a bit.

Nancy Barker (registered)

August 12, 2016, 4:50 PM

When I see "new trees" on any of the plans I worry very much. One of the true charms on Midland's Main Street, often commented upon by visitors, is the amazing impression and 'softening' of the trees which line Main Street. I'm aware they are a nuisance to some for several weeks a year. But think of that statement... several WEEKS a year. It takes literally a lifetime to replace mature trees. I'm just not at all convinced the trade off is worth it. There is very nice 'new' planting in front of The H Hotel, for example. But it does not do for the eye what the 'green belt' in the blocks beyond do. Sorry; I am very worried about this. Cutting down trees is always a 'last resort' in my book.

Lyn Frazier (registered)

August 11, 2016, 3:18 PM

I'm glad there are plans to continue to have planters and trees downtown. When I heard it is nearing time to replace trees, it made it easier for me to accept changing the downtown streetscape. I wanted the openness without losing the trees. This way gives us the ability to accomplish both things.

Name not shown (registered)

August 11, 2016, 8:51 AM

Be sure to get input from the city horticulturist - the present downtown displays are extraordinary!

Name not shown (registered)

August 10, 2016, 1:16 PM

Trees and gardens are what makes our downtown charming. Glad to see emphasis on them.

Name not shown (registered)

August 10, 2016, 11:59 AM

View and share input on updated streetscape designs.

Love the idea of changing up the landscaping while still putting a nice emphasis on planters/trees/etc. More efficient use of the sidewalk space while still keeping downtown beautiful

Bill Barker (registered)

August 6, 2016, 1:31 PM

Many years are invested in the present trees, why put in new trees and then wait for thirty years for them to be effectiv?. Nancy and I spent two weeks in Europe in July and consistently noted the use of trees to improve "downtowns" very effectively.

View and share input on updated streetscape designs.

annotations attached to the annotation section 'Share your thoughts - Festival Block #3'

Lyn Frazier (registered)

August 11, 2016, 3:49 PM

I like it!

Name not shown (registered)

August 11, 2016, 2:42 PM

I love the design! I think making downtown easier and more inviting for pedestrians and special events would be a big improvement to our city. This proposal goes a long way to making it a reality.

Kevin Frazier (registered)

August 10, 2016, 7:43 PM

Way too much parallel parking --- people I have talked to about this see parallel parking as a huge deterrent to traveling downtown!

People want to have more sidewalk space AND more parking --- YET, all the parking down by the river and in the parking garage are too far away because no one wants to walk ---- This redesign must address diametrically opposed issues. AND it will be change. Heaven forbid anything change.

Has any thought gone into making Main Street a one way, with Larkin being one way the opposite direction. Having angle parking on ONE side of each of the streets.

I LIKE the removal of the traffic signals. Rarely (i.e. NEVER) have I been downtown when I felt the need to have a traffic signal to get safely across the street. Post signage at all crosswalks that driver 'Must stop for pedestrians' --- works well in Traverse City ---- a MUCH busier and vibrant downtown.

Name not shown (registered)

August 10, 2016, 1:23 PM

- 1. Concerns about corners re: sight lines and lack of traffic signals as previously stated.
- 2. Really like the bike racks & the standing tables.

Name not shown (registered)

August 10, 2016, 12:47 PM

Highly dislike the parallel parking on this block. Consider moving it to the block where the office buildings are. Festivals are only held in summer and we could use the parking for shopping in the winter months.

Name not available (unclaimed)

August 10, 2016, 7:36 AM

I love the design. Great to have more outdoor seating!

Name not shown (registered)

August 9, 2016, 10:47 AM

View and share input on updated streetscape designs.

Love the whole design, including the parallel parking addition. As a sidewalk diner, I don't want someone's headlights shining in my face while eating, nor do I want to watch someone attempt to back in up to my dinner plate.

View and share input on updated streetscape designs.

annotations attached to the annotation section 'Festival-Style Block - McDonald to Rodd'

Lyn Frazier (registered)

August 11, 2016, 3:47 PM

I like the festival design. We definitely need more space for dining, etc. I've stated before I don't like to parallel park but I'll park elsewhere. What about no parking in this area?

Brian Stark (registered)

August 11, 2016, 10:03 AM

I believe this is the best option and most other cities are making there downtown more open and even cutting off all traffic. But, it will not work if there is not better non-motorized routes for people to bike or walk to downtown, such as fixing the terrible idea to allow on-street parking on biking lanes on Ashman. This would allow for less congestion and need for parking spaces.

Name not shown (registered)

August 11, 2016, 9:03 AM

Lets do it - parking should NOT be the guiding subject to improve downtown.

Name not shown (registered)

August 10, 2016, 12:14 PM

Highly dislike the parallel parking in this block. Festivals can only be held in the summer time and we need the parking during the winter to shop in the stores. I Despise parallel parking and will not (cannot) do it. Do festival stuff on blocks with the office buildings where we do not shop!

1 comment

Name not shown (registered) August 10, 2016, 1:37 PM

It's important to note that the curbless street is of more benefit to festivals and events than the parallel parking. Parallel parking (over angled parking) provides nearly 10 additional feet of sidewalk space to accommodate outdoor dining, outdoor retail opportunities, aesthetics and pedestrians comfortably. Angled parking is much deeper and eats into sidewalk space. Parallel parking is also more friendly for outdoor dining experiences (instead of looking at the bug-filled grill of someone's car). The extra sidewalk space provides for a comfortable cushion between cars and outdoor dining space as well.

Ken Pederson (registered)

August 10, 2016, 11:15 AM

I cannot support eliminating two full blocks of parking to cater to occasional parties.

1 comment

View and share input on updated streetscape designs.

Name not shown (registered) August 10, 2016, 1:37 PM

It's important to note that the curbless street is of more benefit to festivals and events than the parallel parking. Parallel parking (over angled parking) provides nearly 10 additional feet of sidewalk space to accommodate outdoor dining, outdoor retail opportunities, aesthetics and pedestrians comfortably. Angled parking is much deeper and eats into sidewalk space. Parallel parking is also more friendly for outdoor dining experiences (instead of looking at the bug-filled grill of someone's car). The extra sidewalk space provides for a comfortable cushion between cars and outdoor dining space as well.

Name not shown (registered)

August 9, 2016, 1:13 PM

The festival street is brilliant. It appropriately prioritizes Main Street as a place for people first and vehicles second.

Name not shown (registered)

August 9, 2016, 11:10 AM

Very nice change!

View and share input on updated streetscape designs.

annotations attached to the annotation section 'Festival Intersection - Rodd Street'

Name not shown (registered)

August 12, 2016, 6:30 PM

I like the festival intersections. I hope that more event will occur in our downtown.

Name not shown (registered)

August 12, 2016, 11:43 AM

I do not think designing and spending money on festivals is wise, as they are 20-30 days of the year. Let us focus on energizing downtown Midland 365 days a year.

No need for curbless. Think of cars parking and hitting planters, or how safe are barriers for dividing cars and outside diners? I like wider sidewalks, lovely planters, remove traffic lights.

I think the street lights shown do not fit the style of the hundred year old buildings in downtown Midland that are so charming.

Name not shown (registered)

August 11, 2016, 8:53 AM

Interesting option - willing to give it a try

Name not shown (registered)

August 10, 2016, 12:22 PM

I like this concept.

Name not shown (registered)

August 9, 2016, 1:18 PM

Making this intersection the end punctuation of the festival blocks makes sense. The curbless areas will be appropriately designed for people first and vehicles second. Pedestrian crossings at this intersection should also be prioritized ahead of vehicles meaning pedestrian crossing signals and other types of traffic control should be used to make it as safe for pedestrians as possible.

Name not shown (registered)

August 9, 2016, 11:12 AM

Very nice! Fresh and green.

Christy Foust (registered)

August 5, 2016, 5:10 PM

This seems like an eyesore, How would this design help festivals?

View and share input on updated streetscape designs.

annotations attached to the annotation section 'Share your thoughts - East Main Street'

Name not available (unclaimed)

August 12, 2016, 10:02 PM

We like the design and think it should run down the whole street to East End. However, reduced parking is a concern. What about a parking garage?

Name not shown (registered)

August 12, 2016, 11:54 AM

Do not like curbless. If we are encourgaing pedestrian friendly downtown, and outdoor dining... why are we creating a safety issue for parking cars to hit pedestrians, babies in parked strollers, diners on the sidewalk? Curbless is for those 20 festivals. People undertand curbs, it is not the curb that is preventing any energy at festivals. Think of safety!

Also, I think rezoning would be of a huge help to downtown Midland. Zoning so we have retail and restaurants on first floor of buildings fronting Main Street. Offices or residences on the first floor in a downtown are considered dead zones in downtown revitalization.

Lyn Frazier (registered)

August 11, 2016, 3:54 PM

Looks good. The angled parking is useful here.

Name not shown (registered)

August 11, 2016, 2:47 PM

I'm glad angle parking is retained here and by the Courthouse. I think these two blocks are far enough from the main shopping/dining areas that its appropriate to use the space for parking.

Name not shown (registered)

August 10, 2016, 12:44 PM

I like the design very much. One question: where are the Dial a Ride stations? I would like to see marked stations at city hall and at the River Place Senior housing. Any future Plans For same?

Name not shown (registered)

August 10, 2016, 12:44 PM

This would be the area to do the festivals and parallel parking instead of where the retail stores are. . We do not need the extra parking for the office buildings here.

1 comment

View and share input on updated streetscape designs.

Name not shown (registered) August 10, 2016, 1:39 PM

Parallel parking (over angled parking) benefits retail and restaurants by providing nearly 10 additional feet of sidewalk space to accommodate outdoor dining, outdoor retail opportunities, aesthetics and pedestrians comfortably. Angled parking is much deeper and eats into sidewalk space. Parallel parking is also more friendly for outdoor dining experiences (instead of looking at the bug-filled grill of someone's car). The extra sidewalk space provides for a comfortable cushion between cars and outdoor dining space as well.

Name not shown (registered)

August 10, 2016, 12:14 PM

Lots to love about this design element, especially the "trees in grates with rain garden" section as well as the "green gateway". Would love to see a design concept of the green gateway!

Name not shown (registered)

August 10, 2016, 9:35 AM

Will the tables and chairs be removable? If anchored down, no flexibility. If they have to be locked up every night, laborious. And if they are to be removable, does the city or downtown have an area they can be stashed for the winter? Will the chairs and tables get dings, dents, metal scratched if they are handled or stacked frequently - which is ok as long as there is a budget that will replace them every now and then?

Daniel Buzzell (registered)

August 9, 2016, 3:16 PM

Is Cronkright St. mislabeled?

Name not shown (registered)

August 9, 2016, 1:25 PM

Glad to see the angled parking retained along these two blocks. Given the uses in this location, it appears appropriate to sacrifice additional pedestrian area for retained vehicle parking.

View and share input on updated streetscape designs.

annotations attached to the annotation section 'Parallel Parking - McDonald to Rodd'

Name not available (unclaimed)

August 12, 2016, 6:36 PM

I do not like the change in parking. Parking can already be hard to find at certain times a day. I believe the change will just make that a bigger issue. Not only would it limit the amount of spaces, but I can imagine that people trying to park in the proposed manner would end up blocking traffic a bit and causing unnecessary congestion.

Name not shown (registered)

August 12, 2016, 6:26 PM

I am happy to see the change to parallel parking, its a more successful urban solution. I like the expanded sidewalk with a green buffer against the cars and that the width of the sidewalk is broken down with trees and plantings.

Name not shown (registered)

August 11, 2016, 2:53 PM

No to parallel parking. It's currently difficult to find parking near my granddaughter's music studio. We are there four evenings each week. It's difficult for me to walk far to accompany her. I'm not there for the food or the shopping. Right now there is only one store with congestion on the sidewalk, only during the summer and ice cream season.

Name not available (unclaimed)

August 11, 2016, 2:48 PM

I am downtown on this block 4 evenings a week. Parallel parking will truly be a headache. Already it's difficult to park there. I am not there to shop or eat but to deliver student to music studio and wait for an hour. It's difficult for me to walk far to accompany her to her lessons.

Name not shown (registered)

August 11, 2016, 2:45 PM

I have no problems with parallel parking. I'm in favor of the extra space it allows for walking and dining on the sidewalk areas.

Name not shown (registered)

August 10, 2016, 12:25 PM

Highly dislike parallel parking on this block. Festivals are only viable during the summer. People need to be able to park here during the winter months to shop in the stores. Festivals and parallel parking can be in the area where the office buildings are further down Main Street. I cannot and will not parallel park.

Name not shown (registered)

August 9, 2016, 1:15 PM

View and share input on updated streetscape designs.

While there will be a small learning curve involved by adding additional parallel parking on Main Street, especially in this busy block, the benefits of having additional pedestrian space for people to walk and for people to dine outdoors vastly outweighs any of the perceived negatives.

1 comment

Name not shown (registered) August 11, 2016, 1:56 PM

Expanded sidewalks made possible through parallel parking provides lots of use options, more open atmosphere etc. With in a few years all cars will have self parking capability..need to get over the parallel parking concerns.

Name not shown (registered)

August 9, 2016, 11:01 AM

Looks very nice!

Name not shown (registered)

August 5, 2016, 9:26 PM

Love the parallel parking and expanding sidewalks. I'm looking forward to dining outdoors here.

Christy Foust (registered)

August 5, 2016, 5:08 PM

NO on the parallel parking. Take out one of the buildings for parking, before you suggest parallel parking in midland.

View and share input on updated streetscape designs.

annotations attached to the annotation section 'Parking and Sidewalks - Design #1'

Nancy Barker (registered)

August 12, 2016, 5:02 PM

Is lighting in the trees planned? Seems as though that is needed and would lend the atmosphere that is being sought for downtown activity.

Name not shown (registered)

August 12, 2016, 12:01 PM

Please keep curbs.

Safety of one parking car injuring a diner, parked stroller, or planter.

Personal safety not worth the curbless benefit for the 'festival days.'

Love increased width of sidewalk for outdoor dining and gathering.

Name not shown (registered)

August 11, 2016, 12:41 PM

Where are the Bike spots going to be located? additionally, younger generations are more likely to use more non-motorized transportation, so to attract young talent to area we need to start thinking of future generations. Midland needs to develop downtown with less parking and more attractions. For the older generation, why not make parking on main street more focused on them and making more handicapped spaces.

Name not shown (registered)

August 10, 2016, 1:26 PM

This is a pretty design. Very happy about the options for so much greenery. Suggest that tables are moved closer to buildings, both to enhance service from eateries, and to move diners away from cars.

2 comments

Name not shown (registered) August 12, 2016, 3:46 PM

Keep a significant degree of plantings, flowers and trees but move away from raised boxes that impede pedestrian use and use grates and smaller, longer running rectangular planting areas. Like rain garden, water run off capture ideas. Build more sustainability concepts into the overall plan.

Strongly assess the potential to secure steam heat from MCV and or Dow to melt snow and ice in winter. Include public art and gas fireplaces to features of the street corners.

Nancy Barker (registered) August 12, 2016, 5:09 PM

I'd agree with many of the comments above. Use of home-grown technology could make Main St. a showplace for area industry expertise. Public art attracts everyone, young and older. Great thoughts! (The raised planters do not bother me because they are so spectacular thanks to our City Horticulturist... but I have heard others mention the challenge.) Also related to several of the drawings above, the number of trees looks very sparse...and there is not much unity in the facades of our downtown businesses. So 'opening them up' visually

View and share input on updated streetscape designs.

might or might not be an improvement; might exchange one perceived 'problem' for another.

Name not shown (registered)

August 10, 2016, 1:24 PM

lots of dining space, but not much parking/walking space. Do we need that much dining space for the 3 months of the year that outdoor dining is usable?

1 comment

Name not shown (registered) August 11, 2016, 1:59 PM

Looks like space could be used for more than dining...street performances, sidewalk sales, kiosk vendors etc. Great to have this kind of flexibility in the design.

Name not shown (registered)

August 10, 2016, 9:10 AM

Are there going to be umbrellas with seating? Being next to the road will increase the heat factor- and then the hot sun on top- makes for a toasty lunch:)

Ann Beck (registered)

August 10, 2016, 8:31 AM

Love it!

Name not shown (registered)

August 9, 2016, 11:13 AM

I like it!

Name not shown (registered)

August 9, 2016, 9:37 AM

There is so much to like. Thanks for encouraging input.

Are we lighting the intersections adequately?

Name not shown (registered)

August 6, 2016, 9:41 AM

It seems like you ought to do away with the first parallel parking spots closest to the gathering tables (just the first one at each side, not the whole row). The cars facing away from the tables will be shooting exhaust right on people when the drivers start them up. The cars facing toward the tables are so close they could easily hit the tables if the driver made a small error.

1 comment

View and share input on updated streetscape designs.

Name not shown (registered) August 9, 2016, 12:01 PM

There is much to like! Only area of concern for me is there seems to be a conflict usage with regard to parking and dining. Is table layout flexible? Do we need parking spots adjacent to tables? Just an idea.

View and share input on updated streetscape designs.

annotations attached to the annotation section 'Parking and Sidewalks - Design #3'

Lyn Frazier (registered)

August 11, 2016, 4:00 PM

I don't like brick sidewalks. I'd prefer colored concrete or other surfaces.

Name not shown (registered)

August 10, 2016, 12:51 PM

It looks a bit congested to me. I thought the idea was to make walking less obstructed. Also the outdoor dining is only available during a few months of the year so losing the parking and taking up so much of the sidewalk seems a bit excessive. A few less tables??

Name not shown (registered)

August 9, 2016, 9:12 AM

It'll be beautiful from May to September if you want to eat on the sidewalk. From October to April it looks like a whole lot of surface area that cannot be plowed with a truck. This will become labor intensive, and potentially a slip/fall risk increase simply because of the doubling or tripling of the area involved. I would hope that someone has actually put a pencil to paper to determine the increased maintenance costs... and who will be expected to cover those costs.

2 comments

Name not shown (registered) August 10, 2016, 9:29 AM

Agreed! Any way to block off the dining areas during the winter and only have along the store frontages plowed? It would give an area to push/house snow....although you will have to avoid piling salted snow in the planting beds!!!!

Name not shown (registered) August 10, 2016, 12:52 PM

There are many events during the winter (think the whole Christmas/NewYear) where the wide sidewalks will be functional and asthetically pleasing. The small snow plows, made for city sidewalks, are easy enough to move the snow.

View and share input on updated streetscape designs.

annotations attached to the annotation section 'Sidewalk Use - Design'

Name not shown (registered)

August 12, 2016, 3:37 PM

Parallel parking adds sidewalk space for multiple programming uses....mixing this with diagonal parking in adjacent blocks provides for a balance of adequate parking and improved pedestrian space.

Name not shown (registered)

August 12, 2016, 12:16 PM

These lights look stark to me. I thought we were trying to make downtown Midland more welcoming. I think street lights should blend with all the building styles in downtown Midland. The building with the largest presence is the Courthouse, then the H Hotel. I like the lights chosen on Ashman Street. They go with several styles, blend in... not making a statement of their own. And they cast good light. I didnt choose them, but good job to whoever did!

Love the plantings!

Lyn Frazier (registered)

August 11, 2016, 4:13 PM

The designs are beautiful. This is politically incorrect but I'm tired of the whining about parallel parking. The studies show there is plenty of parking in the downtown area. Are we so lazy we can't walk a block? I understand a great need for Handicapped parking but the rest of us can enjoy the beautiful landscaping and sitting areas as we walk to our destination.

Name not shown (registered)

August 11, 2016, 9:14 AM

We paid for the experts to give us the best advice to improve downtown - let's make sure we get public input, but you can't please everyone all the time. The designers appear to have done an excellent job in their recommendations.

Name not shown (registered)

August 10, 2016, 10:20 PM

Back to parallel parking? Where are the people to enjoy this space going to park? I thought this was changed years ago to create more parking we still need more parking and now we are going back to less... What is it you are trying to achieve here? This feels like a down town dining, entertainment and party spot, is that what you are trying to create?.

Name not shown (registered)

August 10, 2016, 1:26 PM

Shade for the tables? If you are replacing the trees, you will need to shade the tables until the trees grow or no

View and share input on updated streetscape designs.

one will want to use them.

Name not shown (registered)

August 10, 2016, 9:13 AM

When the cars start their engines, any exhaust going to fog onto those enjoying the tables?

Name not shown (registered)

August 9, 2016, 1:39 PM

I like the design overall as it adds pedestrian space and outdoor dining space. The festival, curbless street appears to be appropriately buffer the parked vehicles from the pedestrian space using a combination bollards and landscaping. The lighting appears appropriate because it lights the street and the pedestrian space, usually the pedestrian space is left out. Glad to see that a lot of landscaping areas will be included.

Name not shown (registered)

August 9, 2016, 11:19 AM

This looks very inviting.

View and share input on updated streetscape designs.

annotations attached to the annotation section 'Parking - Design #1'

Name not shown (registered)

August 12, 2016, 6:42 PM

I like the parallel parking, its a more successful urban solution which will allow more area for landscaping, outdoor dining, and gathering spaces.

Name not shown (registered)

August 12, 2016, 11:59 AM

Please keep curbs all along Main Street!

Safety!

Parking cars can hit planters, people, dining, strollers parked.

One person injured is not worth the benefit of 'festival space.'

My previous town tried curbless, had one injury, then had to redo sidewalk and add back curbs.

Name not available (unclaimed)

August 11, 2016, 1:16 PM

Parallel parking is annoying and, honestly, you're going to lose a lot of parking (that downtown already doesn't have). Keep the angled parking - we need it!

Ken Pederson (registered)

August 10, 2016, 11:20 AM

I am not a fan of forcing people to parallel park along busy roadways. It takes most people twice as long to execute the maneuver as to use angle parking, impeding the flow of traffic, and wastes parking spaces.

Name not available (unclaimed)

August 10, 2016, 7:20 AM

Don't like this parallel parking concept. Not enough restaurants utilize outdoor dining plus it's only useable 3-4 months out of the year. Parking space is more valuable here.

Name not shown (registered)

August 9, 2016, 11:11 AM

I like this idea!

Name not shown (registered)

August 6, 2016, 6:44 AM

The parallel parking, especially when combined with the outdoor dining really give a roomy and fun look to Main Street. I am a huge fan of the total design.

Name not shown (registered)

August 5, 2016, 9:29 PM

View and share input on updated streetscape designs.

This looks great!!!

Name not shown (registered)

August 5, 2016, 10:57 AM

this is a comment that I don't want my name shown next to. I'm concerned about offending my friend.

View and share input on updated streetscape designs.

annotations attached to the annotation section 'Sidewalk Use - Design #1'

Name not shown (registered)

August 12, 2016, 6:43 PM

I like the increased sidewalk area. I am happy to see the design concepts integrate outdoor dining, festival style sidewalks, and additional areas for landscaping.

Lyn Frazier (registered)

August 11, 2016, 3:58 PM

I think we need more sidewalk space for outdoor seating. I like the widened pedestrian areas.

Name not shown (registered)

August 11, 2016, 8:45 AM

Any way to increase the sidewalk area is a plus. You need to balance the area of pedestrian walking with the placement of outdoor seating - should it be next to the storefront or next to the traffic. I'm not sure which is better.

Bob Huckins (registered)

August 10, 2016, 10:08 AM

I do like the additional sidewalk space that is created but I would rather have the tables closer to the business that they are associated with. I don't like the idea of being that close to the traffic to eat or drink.

Name not shown (unverified)

August 10, 2016, 8:22 AM

I love the additional space for walking and outdoor dining. However, how many months is outdoor dining available in this area given cold temperatures or snow? Will this area make snow removal more costly or difficult?

Greg Rogers (registered)

August 10, 2016, 7:39 AM

I would not be a big fan of having a table right next to where someone is trying to parallel park. I would want some type of buffer.

Name not shown (registered)

August 9, 2016, 1:27 PM

I really like the additional sidewalk space that is attained by changing the parking to parallel. Additional sidewalk space will allow for more pedestrian walking area and for more potential for restaurants to have outdoor seating.

Name not shown (registered)

August 5, 2016, 9:30 PM

Feedback: Share your input on updated streetscape design plans	
View and share input on updated streetscape designs.	
I'm really looking forward to eating outside downtown!	

View and share input on updated streetscape designs.

annotations attached to the annotation section 'Intersection - Design #1'

Name not shown (registered)

August 12, 2016, 6:45 PM

I like the concept for the intersections, they are much more successful than what exists today.

Name not available (unclaimed)

August 10, 2016, 7:18 AM

Looks nice and would be a great addition to the downtown area

Name not shown (registered)

August 9, 2016, 1:29 PM

I like the curbless portion that faces into the block with the small curb buffering the intersection. The landscaping areas seem appropriately sized and placed. Glad to see there will be a spot for the great horticulture to be continued on Main Street, especially at the intersections.

View and share input on updated streetscape designs.

annotations attached to the annotation section 'Sidewalk Use Design'

Name not shown (registered)

August 12, 2016, 6:50 PM

I don't mind pavers as long as they are inlayed in concrete rather than sand. I hope that the stamped concrete will not fail as quickly as the install at the East End.

I think maximizing areas for outdoor dining is important for downtown. I also like the clear pedestrian area against the buildings

Ken Pederson (registered)

August 10, 2016, 11:22 AM

This is great for restaurants, but does nothing for retail merchants. What do you plan to do with the tables and chairs over the winter? If permanent fixtures, they will sure be a pain for snow removal.

2 comments

Name not shown (registered) August 10, 2016, 1:32 PM

Yes, agreed. Some of these illustrations seem to have too many tables. Tables are a great idea, and a popular one. Perhaps we don't need quite so many, or perhaps not on each side of every block.

Name not available (unclaimed) August 12, 2016, 5:24 AM

It's Michigan, outdoor dining is limited because of the weather, I believe there is too much emphasis put on this. Also, I hope they remove the big concrete structures around the plants. It restricts pedestrian traffic, only a couple individuals can comfortably walk down the sidewalks.

Name not shown (registered)

August 5, 2016, 9:32 PM

I like it!

View and share input on updated streetscape designs.

annotations attached to the annotation section 'Sidewalk Use - Landscape Elements'

Name not shown (registered)

August 12, 2016, 6:47 PM

I like the green buffer adjacent to the parking, it helps to soften the edge of the street.

April Kelly-Wright (registered)

August 6, 2016, 11:41 AM

This is how the sidewalks were set up in the city I grew up in. They were especially profitable for the restaurants downtown and a much anticipated activity for warmer weather. People of all ages enjoyed eating outdoors and gathering there.

Name not shown (registered)

August 5, 2016, 9:31 PM

These rain garden accents are a wonderful idea

View and share input on updated streetscape designs.

annotations attached to the annotation section 'Sidewalk Use - Street View'

Name not shown (registered)

August 12, 2016, 6:46 PM

Not sure I want to sit directly adjacent to cars, but I appreciate that there is variety in the design.

Name not shown (registered)

August 12, 2016, 3:51 PM

I love the idea of non-conventional seating.

Name not shown (registered)

August 9, 2016, 1:32 PM

I like the curbless street approach. It will be great for the numerous festivals that seem to be growing in attendance. I think the vehicles are appropriately buffered for the outdoor seating with the landscaping and the bollards.

View and share input on updated streetscape designs.

annotations attached to the annotation section 'Sidewalk Use - Design #3'

Name not shown (registered)

August 12, 2016, 3:50 PM

I love the benches. I would consider most to be "3 people wide". When you have a stroller there isn't a place to stop with the kids. I would usually stop and keep the stroller in front of me, which blocks the walk way. If there were "2 people wide" benches, in the same space of a "3 people" bench, a stroller could be pushed up next to the bench, and not take up so much room. Same for folks in wheel chairs. They could set next to their companions without being out in the walk ways.

Name not shown (registered)

August 12, 2016, 12:09 PM

I support no pavers.

Ken Pederson (registered)

August 10, 2016, 11:25 AM

Getting rid of the pavers is a great idea.

Name not shown (registered)

August 9, 2016, 1:36 PM

I like the accommodation of additional outdoor seating and for pedestrians walking by.

View and share input on updated streetscape designs.

annotations attached to the annotation section 'Streetscape - Design Elements'

Name not shown (registered)

August 12, 2016, 7:00 PM

I think decorative lighting is an important component in a streetscape design, there are many styles of fixtures that would be an improvement to what exists today downtown. I prefer a green buffer against the parking, but appreciate there is some variety in the design. I like all of the additional landscaping incorporated into the streetscape. I hope that a variety of benches are used in the final street scape and we don't end up with the same unsightly bench that exists today. I think it would be great to incorporate some sculptural seating like those offered from forms and surfaces. I hope that sculptural bike racks and trash receptacles will also be considered.

Sculptural elements will help create some pop and interest along main street while breaking up the scale.

Name not shown (registered)

August 12, 2016, 12:08 PM

I like light fixtures that are up and down Ashman Street. They seem to harmonize with several styles which are all important to Midland... our iconic Courthouse (that architect was hired and paid by HH Dow), H Hotel, Presbyterian Church, and the Larkin Building and other older buildings in downtown Midland! They look warm and friendly, not cold and stark. And they cast a good amount of light.

Name not shown (registered)

August 11, 2016, 2:49 PM

I like the inspiration drawn from other designs around town and Dow architecture.

Name not shown (registered)

August 11, 2016, 9:10 AM

Yes!

Name not shown (registered)

August 10, 2016, 1:35 PM

The light designs are fantastic, and very much in the style of Midland. The baskets will be lovely; a great idea. Midland does a good job with maintaining flowers & pots, etc. downtown.

Name not shown (registered)

August 10, 2016, 12:16 PM

I think everybody who's commented on here so far has touched on pretty much every aspect that comes to mind for this element in a positive way. I agree with all of them and would love to see more updated, uniform lighting as well as better/more public options for disposing of trash, recycling and compostable items in their own respective bins

View and share input on updated streetscape designs.

1 comment

Name not shown (registered) August 10, 2016, 1:22 PM

I agree with both the uniform lighting throughout the district and increased trash receptacles.

Ken Pederson (registered)

August 10, 2016, 11:23 AM

Uniform, updated lighting throughout downtown is a great idea.

Tonya Kadaj (registered)

August 10, 2016, 5:22 AM

I have always been disappointed in the absence of recycling receptacles around Midland and especially along Main Street. This is one area that Midland really seems to be "behind the times". It may seem frivolous to some but it is something that I always notice in trendy or up and coming cities. A lot of places even separate garbage, recycle, and compost from each other. Midland has a lot of growing to do in areas like this.

1 comment

Name not available (unclaimed) August 10, 2016, 9:35 AM

I agree that recycling receptacles are needed downtown on the streets. The design for the streetscape should include provisions for these to be placed in logical areas next to regular garbage.

Name not shown (registered)

August 9, 2016, 1:34 PM

I agree with the warm lighting comment. I like the lighting proposed with the hanging baskets. Light makes a space more inviting! The more light appropriately placed and attractively designed, as shown, the better.

April Kelly-Wright (registered)

August 6, 2016, 11:46 AM

The addition of floral arrangements in both hanging and sidewalk side are lovely aesthetically. How will watering and maintenance be handled?

Name not shown (registered)

August 6, 2016, 9:44 AM

Please consider warm lights (LED or whatever) rather than cool. They are more attractive, and with more people living downtown, the blue tone of cool lights coming in their windows would be unhealthy for sleep. http://www.health.harvard.edu/staying-healthy/blue-light-has-a-dark-side

View and share input on updated streetscape designs.

annotations attached to the annotation section 'Sidewalk Use - Street View #2'

Jon Athey (registered)

August 10, 2016, 9:24 AM

Any plans for fountains or some other water feature?

Name not shown (registered)

August 9, 2016, 1:36 PM

I think the vehicles that are parked appear to be appropriately buffered from pedestrians and people dining outdoors by the bollards and the landscaping features.

View and share input on updated streetscape designs.

annotations attached to the annotation section 'Veterans Memorial'

Name not shown (registered)

August 12, 2016, 6:00 PM

I like that the angled parking doesn't extend all the way to the corner, it will also provide more visibility for the vets memorial

Name not shown (registered)

August 12, 2016, 11:07 AM

Like making vet memorial more prominent with nomcurb here.

Lyn Frazier (registered)

August 11, 2016, 3:08 PM

I really like this look for the area. It brings more attention to it and allows more opportunities for ceremonies and celebrations. This is excellent

John Kelley (registered)

August 10, 2016, 2:11 PM

Great use of space!

Name not shown (registered)

August 10, 2016, 12:02 PM

Great idea! Love the curbless approach

Ann Beck (registered)

August 10, 2016, 8:11 AM

Great upgrade.

Daniel Buzzell (registered)

August 9, 2016, 2:28 PM

I like the added space for ceremonies and going curbless should be great for wheel chairs and walkers.

Name not shown (registered)

August 9, 2016, 12:07 PM

I like the curbless approach as I think it will provide much easier accessibility to the Memorial for all types of people. Punctuating this corner will give better visibility to this great asset on Main Street.

Name not shown (registered)

August 6, 2016, 10:24 AM

Feedback: Share your input on updated streetscape design plans	
View and share input on updated streetscape designs.	
I think it's great that there will be more room to do more ceremonial stuff here at the Vets Memorial	

http://www.peakdemocracy.com/3878

View and share input on updated streetscape designs.

annotations attached to the annotation section 'Gathering Place Intersection - Townsend St.'

Name not shown (registered)

August 12, 2016, 6:33 PM

I am happy to see another area for additional gathering downtown. I think the concept is successful.

John Kelley (registered)

August 12, 2016, 3:52 PM

This will be a great addition to the area. Townsend has become a very neat strip of businesses with Ranchero's, Mr Moustache, Michigan Brew Supply, Good to Go, and Crepes Et Amis. This stretch of storefronts should be accentuated as much as possible. How about a fire pit!?

Name not shown (registered)

August 10, 2016, 12:33 PM

Like this idea.

Name not shown (registered)

August 9, 2016, 1:23 PM

Having a gathering location at this intersection will create a gateway for the thriving businesses just up the street on Townsend. It will also create a waiting space for people wanting to dine at the Mexican restaurant on this corner in case they need to wait for a table during the busy times.

View and share input on updated streetscape designs.

annotations attached to the annotation section 'Angled Parking - Townsend to Cronkright'

Name not shown (registered)

August 12, 2016, 6:32 PM

Please consider parallel parking.

Name not shown (registered)

August 11, 2016, 8:58 AM

Parking seems to be the "hot button" for most people. We need to change people's view of downtown parking - for example, parking at the mall requires longer walks to stores than almost any spot downtown. Good luck with that!

Name not shown (registered)

August 10, 2016, 12:35 PM

If you have to do parallel parking, this is the place for it. Office buildings where we do not shop.

Name not shown (registered)

August 9, 2016, 11:18 AM

Good idea. This provides more parking spaces.

View and share input on updated streetscape designs.

annotations attached to the annotation section 'Tree Grates with Rain Garden'

Name not shown (registered)

August 12, 2016, 4:41 PM

Tree grates are a bad idea where we need to salt the pavement in the winter. The salt will go down into the grates and kill the trees. Raised planter keep the trees alive.

John Kelley (registered)

August 12, 2016, 3:45 PM

Tree grates will be much more functional (pedestrian friendly) in comparison to the existing raised planters. They eliminate the barrier that currently exists between most parking spots and the walkable sidewalk area.

Name not shown (registered)

August 11, 2016, 9:05 AM

Great idea.

Ken Pederson (registered)

August 10, 2016, 11:12 AM

What about the impact of salt use during the winter? Again, this is a nice design for Atlanta or Dallas where there is rarely salt used for snow removal. The designers have clearly never walked downtown during the winter and seen the amount of rock salt that would now be funneled onto the trees and beds. Taking away the curbs will only make this situation worse. Also, it would be a pity to destroy the beautiful trees that are there now just to start over with saplings.

Name not available (unclaimed)

August 10, 2016, 10:15 AM

excellent design

Name not shown (registered)

August 9, 2016, 11:03 AM

I like it! Will help the trees survive by providing more moisture from rain.

Name not shown (registered)

August 5, 2016, 9:27 PM

Yes!!!

Robert Vogel (registered)

August 5, 2016, 10:56 AM

Feedback: Share your input on updated streetscape design plans	
View and share input on updated streetscape designs.	
This is another comment that I want my name shown next to.	

View and share input on updated streetscape designs.

annotations attached to the annotation section 'Angled Parking - Rodd to Townsend'

Name not shown (registered)

August 12, 2016, 6:31 PM

I think you should consider parallel parking in this area.

Name not shown (registered)

August 10, 2016, 12:32 PM

please consider switching blocks with the parallel parking here in front of the office buildings where we do not shop. Otherwise I like the rain gardens and trees. Don't want to lose our beautiful gardens downtown.

Name not shown (registered)

August 9, 2016, 11:16 AM

Good idea.

View and share input on updated streetscape designs.

annotations attached to the annotation section 'Drop-Off Area - Riverside Place'

Name not shown (registered)

August 12, 2016, 6:37 PM

I don't really see the value in this piece.

Name not shown (registered)

August 9, 2016, 1:21 PM

Glad to see this is proposed to be retained. This drop off locations gets a lot of use by people going to and from Riverside Place.

Name not shown (registered)

August 9, 2016, 11:17 AM

Page 64 of 68

Good idea. Folks who reside here need this.

View and share input on updated streetscape designs.

annotations attached to the annotation section 'Festival-Style Block - Ashman to McDonald'

Name not shown (registered)

August 12, 2016, 6:23 PM

I like the expanded sidewalks with defined spaces for seating. I am happy to see a green belt along the parking to provide a buffer between the parking and sidewalk.

John Kelley (registered)

August 12, 2016, 3:38 PM

I love the tables between the walkable area and the parking. These will come in handy during festivals I'm sure!

Name not shown (registered)

August 12, 2016, 11:41 AM

Like expanded sidewalks. Theres lots of parking within 3 blocks of here.

Do not like curbless. No need for it, and even with planters and barriers, a curb serves a safety function for cars to stop short of planters and pedestrians and people dining on sidewalks!

I have been to dozens of downtowns with curbs, who have dynamic festivals.

Please think of safety!

Name not shown (registered)

August 10, 2016, 12:37 PM

Please consider moving the festival block to the block with the office buildings where we do not need the parking so much for shopping. Festivals are only held during the summer and we shop all winter.

Ken Pederson (registered)

August 10, 2016, 11:16 AM

Getting rid of the pavers to make downtown easier for those with limited mobility is a great idea.

Ann Beck (registered)

August 10, 2016, 8:17 AM

I like the addition of space for walking and for outdoor seating.

Name not available (unclaimed)

August 10, 2016, 7:17 AM

There is already plenty of sidewalk space in this area, why would you expand this when most restaurants don't utilize outdoor dining anyhow. Parking is more important than the expanded sidewalk space.

Name not shown (registered)

August 9, 2016, 12:21 PM

View and share input on updated streetscape designs.

The festival-styled street is great and properly designs this area for people first and then vehicles second. Increasing the sidewalk space in this block will better cater to pedestrians walking from merchant to merchant and allow for increased outdoor seating. It will be great to have more outdoor seating at Diamond Jim's and to allow for Oscar's to add some if they're interested.

1 comment

Name not shown (registered) August 10, 2016, 12:10 PM

Well said!

Name not available (unclaimed)

August 6, 2016, 4:26 PM

Again love it

Name not shown (registered)

August 5, 2016, 9:25 PM

I like the added sidewalk here and the festival-style blocks look nice

Name not shown (registered)

August 5, 2016, 4:34 PM

A wider sidewalk would be nice. I know that when I walk downtown. I am always dodging in and around people, tables, displays and planters.

http://www.peakdemocracy.com/3878

View and share input on updated streetscape designs.

annotations attached to the annotation section 'Gathering Place Intersection - McDonald Street'

Name not shown (registered)

August 12, 2016, 7:04 PM

I think an outdoor fireplace would be fantastic. I also think an outdoor giant chess or checker board would be something fun for families.

John Kelley (registered)

August 12, 2016, 3:41 PM

No problem removing the traffic signal here. Usually sit through the red light queue and no one goes through along McDonald. I like all the elements, but especially excited about the fire pits if they end up being incorporated. Makes the cold weather downtown experience that much more enjoyable!

Name not shown (registered)

August 12, 2016, 11:37 AM

Definitely like replacing traffic light with stop sign.

I think seating at intersection will never be used. Money wasted.

Ken Pederson (registered)

August 10, 2016, 11:05 AM

Parking is at a premium in downtown, any decrease in parking is not acceptable. It seems inappropriate to design for the very limited times "socializing in the middle of the street" would be valuable

Name not shown (registered)

August 9, 2016, 2:16 PM

This is the busiest part of Main Street (retail, restaurants). Parking is in great demand. I have watched that corner daily for 15 years. Most drivers do not like parallel parking. And it does reduce the number of spots available. I do not believe that this is the ideal intersection for gathering, outdoor seating etc. It is a busy intersection and planning should accommodate those requirements. Are Midlanders big on outdoor seating anyway? I do not see a lot of people on the existing benches. People will sit in outdoor café-restaurant patios, but only on ideal days: never when its hot, when it rains, when its windy, when there are bugs. How many ideal days are there? And those summer days, ideal or not go by very quickly. In addition, many Midlanders spent their leisure time up north during summer months. What about the rest of the year? Who will enjoy the outdoors in January?

View and share input on updated streetscape designs.

annotations attached to the annotation section 'Green Gateway'

Name not shown (registered)

August 12, 2016, 6:40 PM

I think permanent vertical sculptures and landscaping are a great way to signify the entrance to downtown. Perhaps this should be a bookend on the west end of main street.

John Kelley (registered)

August 12, 2016, 3:58 PM

I think that more than a "gateway" we should look at it as a green corridor connection to the east end, which I the elements proposed are perfect for anyways... Can we extend the project limits to widen the sidewalk underneath the Poseyville bridge? During the weekdays there are a lot of pedestrians going back and forth for lunch.

Name not shown (registered)

August 12, 2016, 3:46 PM

I would like to see the East End incorporated, rather than segregated by the gateway.

Name not shown (registered)

August 11, 2016, 2:01 PM

Would like to see all of the downtown renovation include environmentally sustainable natural planting areas, rain gardens, water run off management etc.

Name not shown (registered)

August 9, 2016, 11:21 AM

I don't see an illustration for this proposal, so have no idea what it will look like. :p

Name not shown (registered)

August 5, 2016, 9:28 PM

This will be nice to dress this intersection up a bit