City of Littleton Downtown Streetscape Capstone 2020

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Main Street

Study Area

In the near future, Denver Water will be coming to Downtown Littleton to replace aging water infrastructure. This process involves ripping up the existing concrete and replacing it. The City of Littleton seized this as an opportunity to reimagine what Downtown could look like and requested help from the University of Colorado Denver’s Capstone program. In the spring semester of 2020, Jon and Gabby worked with Littleton to develop design recommendations to complete their Capstone project.

Influential Plans

- Future land use patterns and allocation should promote the established character of each neighborhood
- Multimodal transportation improvements should promote connectivity and accessibility for all users
- Main Street and Alamo Avenue are key assets in the Downtown area

Study Area Location

City of Littleton Location

Context Map

Study Area Overview

City of Littleton Boundary

Main Street Study Area

Alamo Avenue Study Area

Background

The final recommendations are located between South Curtice Street and South Nevada Street. The reason for this is because there are a number of pinch points, uneven pavement and other obstacles located throughout the sidewalks. In addition to this, the area has a high number of restaurants, bars and small shops. Studies have shown that if spaces are created near a shopping area there is a higher probability that pedestrians will want to purchase something.

During the existing conditions phase, the project team developed issue maps that showed parcel types, pinch points and other areas of constraints.

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Main Street Existing Conditions

Pedestrian Movement

- Snow storage
- Tree alignment
- Pinch points
- Uneven pavement

Final Design Recommendations

Pedestrian Movement

- Snow storage
- Tree alignment
- Pinch points
- Uneven pavement

Curb Extension

- Snow storage
- Tree alignment
- Pinch points
- Uneven pavement

Temporary

Temporary curb extensions create a space that can be used by pedestrians or cars depending on the time of day and needs of the community.

Permanent

Creating permanent curb extensions is a long-term design change that creates a space that can be used at anytime.

Raised Intersection

Raised intersections create a soft, slow-speed crossing and public space of minor intersections.

With Trees

Realigning the trees creates a natural barrier between the street and sidewalk. Trees placed closer to the street have been proven to act as a natural safety mechanism for speeding cars.

No Trees

Removing the trees allows the historic architecture to be more visible.

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