

**NE Third Street Streetscape Plan
 Project Advisory Committee Meeting #1**

MEETING NOTES

15 February 2019

Prepared by: Matthew Arnold

Attendees (Project Advisory Committee):

Ossie Bladine, MURAC
 Kyle Faulk, MURAC
 Walt Gowell, MURAC
 Kelly McDonald, MURAC
 Cassie Sollars, MURAC
 Wendy Stassens, MURAC
 Marilyn Worrix, MURAC
 Kellie Menke, City Council
 Scott Hill, Mayor
 Jeff Towery, City Manager
 Jenny Berg, Downtown Association
 Gerry Hunter, Downtown Assoc.
 Brad James, Downtown Assoc.
 Sylla McClellan, Downtown Assoc.
 Ken Diener, Community Stakeholder
 Charles Hillestad, Community Stakeholder
 Steve Rupp, Community Stakeholder
 Rob Stephenson, Community Stakeholder

Attendees (Technical Advisory Committee):

Heather Richards, Planning
 Jamie Fleckenstein, Planning
 Mike Bissett, Engineering
 John Dietz, McMinnville Water & Light

The NE Third Street Streetscape Plan Project Advisory Committee met for the first time on 2/15/19 at the McMinnville Community Center. SERA's Matthew Arnold and Martin Glastra van Loon utilized a slideshow presentation to facilitate a conversation with Committee members. The following are thematic notes from the meeting; they are grouped by topic area and are not attributed to individual participants.

Overall Quality / Experience / Themes

- Preservation: focus on / enhance what's already here. Maintain the community's reverence for Downtown and the feelings it engenders
- This is McMinnville's "living room" – it has a sense of family / community
- Third Street should be like McMinnville – organic and authentic and quirky
 - There may not need to be a single "theme" for the street as a whole
- Openness to reconsidering Third Street's Classification as a Major Collector (remnant of when the street used to be a State Highway?)

Uses

- Restaurants are a key use

Cross-Section

- Potential to narrow travel lanes, widen sidewalks, and slow down traffic

Street Trees

- Existing trees provide Third Street's ambiance, and help to create a sense of enclosure

Sidewalks

- The condition of the sidewalks today presents an issue for walkability.

Signage

- "A-Frame" / sandwich-board signs are a clutter / mobility issue on sidewalks.
- Hopefully this project can lock in wayfinding signage
- We should question standard assumptions about all signage, including regulatory signs

Kiosks

- Mixed feelings about existing kiosks. Questions about who uses them and in what way.
- These could be used as a location for wayfinding signage

Lighting

- Street generally not lit well enough
- Suggestion for bollard lighting or "street-level" lighting
- Suggestion of LED lighting incorporated in furniture
- Question about lights that were 'sponsored' or 'donated' – general feeling that these should be preserved somehow, but perhaps they don't need to be kept on Third Street

Public Art

- General feeling that art should be included. This could even be modern art to stand in contrast to historic elements.

Mid-Block Crossings

- Locations/configurations present safety concerns

Buildings

- (Existing/historic) buildings are key, and the streetscape should complement them (as opposed to Alpine Avenue, which had little architectural character)

Special Events

- Should look to build in mechanism to close streets for festivals, etc. (e.g., Corvallis)

Gateways

- Third / Adams Intersection
 - Questions about how to connect Third Street to Library & City Park. (Concerns about some of the current, negative uses of City Park)
 - Both Adams and Baker should be considered gateways – given the one-way / N-S couplet
- Alternatively: perpendicular to the Adams/Baker couplet on Second and Fourth Streets, with Third Street integrally connected to City Park, creating a "Drive through a Park" experience.

Sponsorships, Commemorations, and Memorials

- There are many items (street lights, planters, etc.) that have plaques on them, and there is a question about how these should be honored and/or preserved

Other Areas of Downtown, etc.

- Side streets should also be given attention, as should alleys (and back doors). Consider Third Street in the context of the Downtown as a District.
 - Alleys and accessways to off-street parking should be well-lit
- Yamhill County owns significant property in Downtown; consolidation or relocation could free up significant land that could be (re)developed to the benefit of Downtown
- Perhaps the Third Street project could be somehow extended to 3-Mile, perhaps with a roundabout. Architectural and/or design elements could begin at 3-Mile and be most concentrated at intersections and in the core of Third Street