



Downtown

The downtown corridor of Madrid lies a few blocks west of Highway 17 and just south of Highway 210, making it an easily accessible area for vehicular traffic. The High Trestle Trail borders downtown to the south. Except for a few businesses, the area lacks amenities to attract cyclists and pedestrians to inhabit downtown for longer than a short stay. This design proposes streetscape improvements that make the downtown corridor more desirable through pedestrian lighting, street trees, plantings, sidewalk enhancements, furnishings, and safety improvements at the intersections.

Due to the limited right-of-way through the downtown, this design encourages cyclists to use the road while traveling through the area. Instead of the typical "sharrow" markings, indicating the designation of a shared street, this design uses abstracted coal pieces painted onto the concrete. These icons reference back to the rich history of coal mining in the region, and as a uniting thread to the iconic High Trestle Trail bridge without overtly referencing the cribbing. The icons follow the business loop, guiding cyclists through the downtown and showing where they will rejoin the trail. This design could shift to incorporate icons on both sides of the road to account for both directions of bicycle traffic, if desired.

continued on Board 6b



Sharrow example



Looking in more detail, the streetscape elements become more visible and speak to the emphasis of the pedestrian experience. At the intersections along 2nd Street, the curb bumps out to the width of the parallel parking to create shorter distances for pedestrians to cross the street. This curb would be rolled to still allow larger vehicles to safely turn. Street trees would be planted at corners of these bump-outs to create shade and improve the scenic quality of downtown. These trees would need to be adequately maintained to allow for safe lines of sight. Sitting areas are created throughout the downtown, such as in the pocket park at the corner of 2nd Street and State Street.

In this design, the pocket park is enhanced through multiple improvements to make it a pleasurable, accessible space that contributes to the downtown. Additional paving has been added to allow for easier gathering in this space. Festoon lighting above the plaza creates a unique character in the space that is reminiscent of the industrial and railroad history.

continued on Board 6c



Example of a pedestrian-focused streetscape



Example of a historical mural



The design team looked at building upon the existing parklet to create a destination for photos and small gatherings that would promote activity within the downtown corridor. A mural reflecting the history of Madrid would be the backdrop to an industrial-themed plaza that continues the connection to Madrid's mining past. Lighting will make the space more inviting and active during more hours of the day. The pedestrian lights were selected as an homage to Madrid's railroad history, utilizing a mixture of steel and wood and having a design reflective of railroad power support poles. The festoon lights are reminiscent of the power lines above historic railroads. The visibility of this location on the intersection of 2nd and State Streets will immediately attract residents and visitors, and thus help bring more vehicular and pedestrian traffic into downtown.

Additional downtown streetscape improvements are visible through this perspective. The pedestrian lighting could have banners. The bump-outs shown reduce the crossing distance on the street, while also making pedestrians more visible at crossings. Perennial plantings and street trees at the bump-outs soften the streetscape. The proposed plantings would be a hardy species tolerant of winter roadway salt, and low-growing to maintain clear visibility for drivers.



Existing view of downtown looking southwest

Madrid Downtown

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