



Plan showing proposed downtown street improvements.

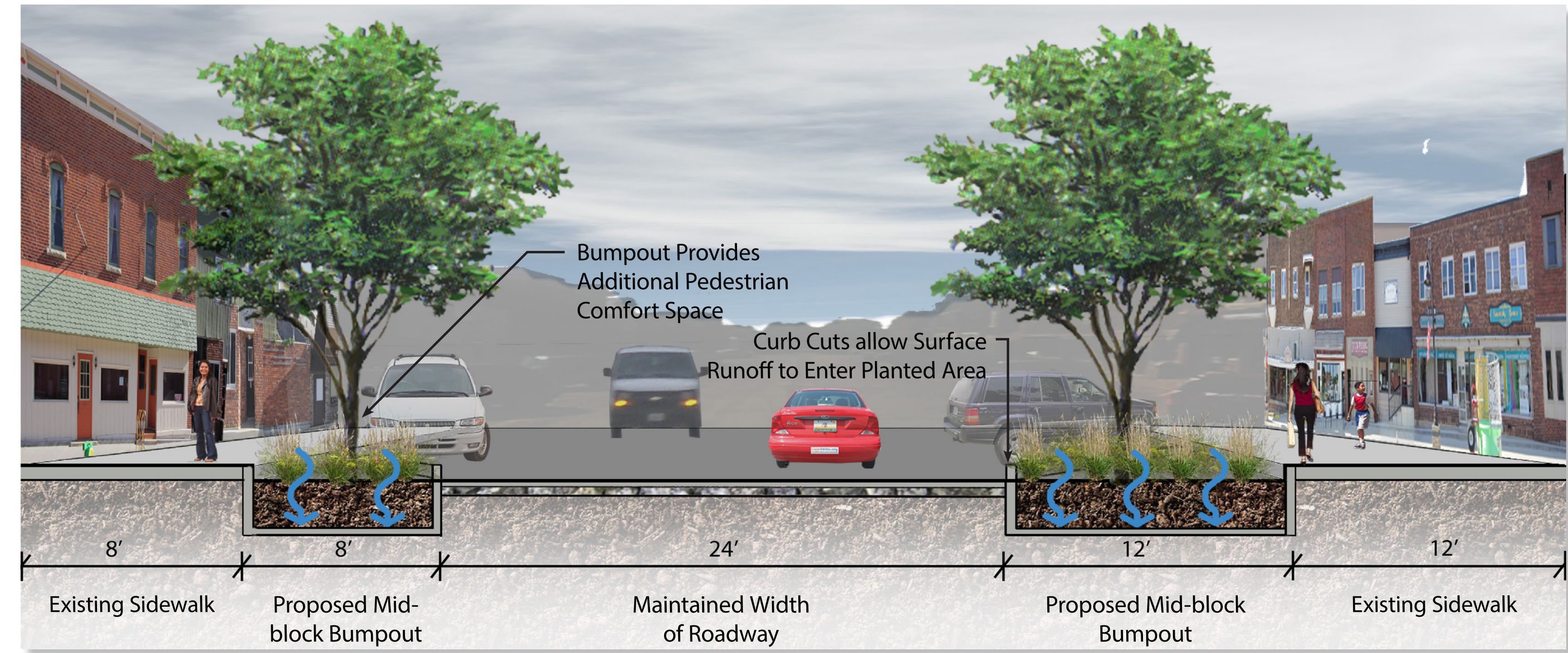
### Downtown Improvement Plan

Downtown is the core identity of Monona but is currently very isolated and harsh, with very few plantings and mostly hardscape. The steering committee established the goal to make downtown more inviting and comfortable to residents and visitors.

The city of Monona is uniquely situated at the top of three watersheds: the Yellow River, Bloody Run, and Silver Creek, all which lead to the Mississippi River. Monona is the start of a cleaner watershed while promoting water catchment, infiltration, and improved water quality.

Downtown is particularly important because it has the most impervious surface and is the high point defining the watersheds north and east of

town. In conjunction with Monona's existing bumpouts on Main Street, proposed bumpouts, or curb extensions, allow stormwater to be filtered by plant material and infiltrated in the the groundwater supply. Unlike Monona's current bumpouts on Main Street, with no curbing, curbs are specified on the proposed bumpouts. Curbing provides a buffer between pedestrian and vehicular traffic. Curb cuts allow water to flow into the plantings, minimizing pollutant runoff into waterways. In the bumpouts, plants are selected for drought tolerance to benefit the downtown space with greenery, color, and diversity. A select number of bumpouts have space to accommodate additional trees plantings making the street a comfortable place for pedestrians. A minimal amount of parking stalls are lost with the proposed bumpouts.



Section A to A' looking west on Center Street showing proposed bumpouts for stormwater management.

# Monona

## Downtown Improvements Plan

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Iowa Department of Transportation Trees Forever ISU Landscape Architecture Extension ISU Extension Community and Economic Development

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