

STATE STREET DESIGN: PHASE I

PUBLIC PRESENTATION & MEETING NO. 2

13.NOV.03

(rev. 1)

Streetlights

- Banner lights – these LED lights should be lit 3-inches apart around each banner – if all are lit on each banner rather than a twinkle effect, I think it would look like part of the Las Vegas Strip!
- Area and pedestrian lights – I love them, the shape of poles and bulbs is wonderful and the black metal is a great choice.
- I do not agree with those who are not happy with proposed bulbs for these lights. I think as one looks down State Street there will be a good combination of the amber, white and twinkle lights.
- I also do not feel that the 25' to 30' area or 14' pedestrian heights will be a detriment to the after dark dining, cocktails or coffee at the sidewalk cafes. Safety, as you know, comes first.
- New light fixtures/graphic signage is great!
- Make sure lighting does not pollute the night sky. Save money and have light only where needed.
- Lights are too bright and have glare – detracts from the street ambiance – orientation not over seating area.
- Lights are way too high. People live here! They don't need to have their bedrooms flooded with light all night. Cut wattage and overall lighting by ½ after midnight Sunday through Thursday; after 2:15 a.m. Friday-Saturday. All lights must not exceed heights of 4-feet over first floors. All lights must be full cut-off.
- Banner and bracket are overpowering. Too much – artificial with LED.

Graphic Identity/Wayfinding

- Love the graphics and the idea of all of these: graphic identifiers, icon system, public wayfinding system and map guides!
- Color coding of banners is critical to retain, helps visitors understand the street and locations.
- Public wayfinding systems need work – where to park, how many spaces left in ramp.
- 100 Block designation at corners good – no inner banners.
- Create “off State”, i.e. expand the State Street experience to lateral and parallel streets through (a) ped-scale signage to shops, pubs, restaurants, etc. on nearby streets.

Trees/Flowers

- Love the green tinted planters! We need these and flowers – they are good for the soul and will certainly enhance the ambiance of State Street. I disagree with the man who was concerned about the bees. Humans not properly disposing of garbage are what draws the

bees – don't blame the flowers. Also, some of the outside café vendors did have to artfully design traps in appropriate places around the outside fencing, etc. They could all be asked to have bee traps.

- Existing honeylocust trees are not that attractive. Too many trees overpower the true urban essence of the street (trees clustered on street corners/no trees in 2 of 6 blocks).
- Flowers were a real bee problem this year.

Public Art

- First – don't move any trees for public art – trees are one of the most wonderful forms of public art! I hope citizens will have a chance to vote on the final design of the art. The Carroll Street cul-de-sac and space between Veterans and Children's Museums are so important to the overall "picture" of this important space so close to our beautiful Capitol.
- Please keep the Children's Museum in mind for possible collaboration on public art projects, etc.
- Public art vandal-resistant – permanent-substantial.

Paving Materials

- I am more concerned about safety (not falling on slippery pavement) than the aesthetics. I did like the big photo of the regular sidewalk aggregate on display. The special design pavement tiles should be of the roughest surface to reduce slipperiness. I find many of the current pavements on State Street treacherous when wet, snowy or after snow blower leaves a thin layer of ice on the surface. I don't want to fall!
- Are you still using the engraved sidewalks or art, and if so, what is the timeline? There are concerns with carving in public, so can sidewalk pieces be done off-site?

Bus Shelters/Buses

- I have lived in Madison and taken the bus for 44 years. I hope to refute the negative attitude about the shelters in Overture area held by Bob D'Angelo and others.
- Eliminate diesel buses from State Street.
- In the dreamy future I would like to see electric buses on State Street like in the Pacific Northwest.

Bicycles

- I want to make sure there is enough parking for bikes – all our staff and most customers use bikes – we should encourage that. Right now not enough parking.
- Cyclists would hate having to park in ramps and would lock to posts instead.
- Bike connectors running up the middle of the Mifflin dead end is necessary! Bicyclists are already doing this, it will continue. It is a small thing that can do a lot for promoting a State Street friendly mode of transport!
- Maintain pedestrians only at the top of West Mifflin Street at the Square. Allowing bikes to ride through that area would be hazardous.
- Have a bike lane connecting Mifflin Street to the Square!

- Bike access from Mifflin to Square – bike racks.
- Said the number of bike racks increasing but what does this mean in terms of actual bike spaces?
- Bike route on Mifflin Street.
- Provide bicycle parking in parking ramps.
- Bike racks – mounting plates could be anchored in the concrete that would allow the number of bike racks to be changed as needed in different seasons or when it would be better to have more (Ironman weekend) or less (Halloween).

Construction Plans/Phasing

- We are still very concerned about access to our restaurant next year, also dust and noise. We think the least the City can do is waive the sidewalk café license fee on the 100 Block next year. If the City really wants to see State Street flourish, please do something about rents and make the City do something about taxes. I have never seen so many empty stores on State Street! It is becoming too expensive for the businesses that have made State Street what it is!
- When will a timeline be available for construction phases? Concerned with visitor access to museum and program/event use at 30 on the Square during 2004.

Street Furniture

- ≥ Use dark green color for all fixtures rather than black color.
- ≥ Consistent color on light poles, sign standards, etc., bike racks, benches, grates.
- ≥ I didn't see any designs for public kiosks. These are a very important community asset. Right now there are not any on the 100 and 200 blocks (as well as around the Square too). These are very important to our civil society.
- ≥ Enough seating please. Being able to read on them at night would be good.
- ≥ I think it is wonderful how well the design of the tree grates, bike racks, trash bins, bus shelters, kiosks, newspaper racks, light poles compliment each other and to have them all black metal will effectively tie these structures together and none will stick out to detract from the general feeling of State Street.

General

- Pedestrian Mall in 100 Block of State Street – I hope this idea is dead forever!! For many reasons I am against this idea.
- New colored canvas awnings for some businesses? (will enhance architecture)
- State Street should be straight instead of existing curvature in some blocks.
- It seems it would be better if sidewalk cafes were next to buildings, not on curb. Pedestrians would not almost get hit by servers with trays of food. Diners would not have to sit 1-foot from buses.
- It is my understanding that the intention is to create a third lane on southbound Fairchild during special events, by bagging the parking meters on the east side of the street. **THIS IS UNACCEPTABLE!** There must be pedestrian bulb outs jutting into Fairchild to make the crossing shorter for pedestrians proceeding along State Street – both sides of Fairchild on the south side of State Street.

- Island at the top of State Street would create a hazard for the Crazylegs Run.
- Need maintenance and management plan now – with funding.
- Emphasize side streets – 1 block.
- Need low curb for future non-motor mall.
- Could you comment on traffic flow at corner with Fairchild?
- Scale – Realize that State Street works because of the human scale. State is being threatened and hemmed in by huge institutional structures such as Overture and the threatened Buckeye Ramp. As it stands, State can possibly squeak by with continued moderate success. But if more ramps go in and further institutionalization occurs, the magic, the scale will be lost.
- Graffiti will happen. Include materials that can easily be cleaned of it.
- What will the width of State Street be – and how does that compare with the current dimension? Why did you select the width – Fire Department, ADA?
- What is the curb height? Why?
- A few curved backless benches would allow a small group or family to sit together – or alternatively, allow individual pedestrians to sit more privately, the other way around.
- With the existing street upgrades of MLK Boulevard and proposed State Street design, the Capitol Square will need a lot of attention to become the kind of exciting urban space it deserves to be.
- The meetings I have attended have all been informative and detailed as much as possible.
- Wonderful, well thought-out project.
- Why is the street width in the 100 block proposed to be increased from the current 22-feet to 24-feet? *(rev.1)*