



Department of Planning & Community & Economic Development

Planning Division

Heather Stouder, Director

215 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. Ste 017

P.O. Box 2985

Madison, Wisconsin 53701-2985

Phone: (608) 266-4635

Fax (608) 266-6377

www.cityofmadison.com

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State Street 2024 Pedestrian Mall

The City of Madison is experimenting with a Pedestrian Mall on the 400-600 blocks of State Street this Summer. In 2023, the Common Council directed City staff to create a temporary pedestrian mall in those blocks and initial designs were presented at a public meeting in December 2023.

What is it?

The pedestrian mall experiment is a six-month trial that examines how State Street could work when it is closed to all traffic and used as a public space. Given its temporary nature, it will not include permanent physical changes to the street, but will include benches, planters, public art, street painting and other amenities to create a destination and drive more activity in these blocks for residents, customers, employees and visitors. The City of Madison is partnering with the Madison's Central Business Improvement District (BID) to coordinate events in these blocks throughout the summer.

Will the street be closed to vehicles?

Yes and No. To make the space more friendly towards people, there is a need to limit vehicular access when more people are there. However, there will be at least some time every day when delivery and service vehicles are allowed. Based on business survey response data and pedestrian activity trends in the area, we are now considering two options for closure times during the week (Monday-Friday): starting at 11:30 am or starting at 3:00 pm. On the weekend, there appears to be fewer conflicts and higher activity levels so an earlier street closure starting at 10:00 am is being considered. During the closure periods, the street will be closed to all private vehicles with very limited exceptions and vehicles will need to use cross streets for access and deliveries. A decision will be made on the specific hours by early April and will be posted at the State Street website below. The City will also coordinate with the BID and Greater State Street Business Association to get the word out to their members and email lists.

What will it look like?

Concept images showing overall ideas and drawings with planned furniture placement are on the back of this sheet. The City has also engaged local artists to create a variety of pavement paintings and street art stencils to give a lively and colorful canvas for all of the summer's activities.

When will this start and end?

The City's intent is to begin the pedestrian mall experiment in time for the University of Wisconsin graduation weekend on May 10th. The anticipated end is late October. After that, the City will evaluate the success of the experiment, including surveys with business and property owners, to determine if the pedestrian mall should be made more permanent.

I have questions. Who do I talk to?

Dan McAuliffe

City of Madison Planning Division

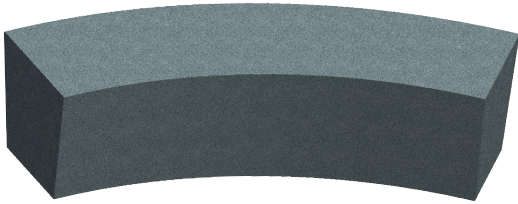
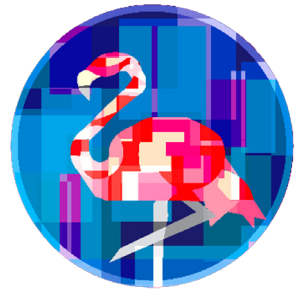
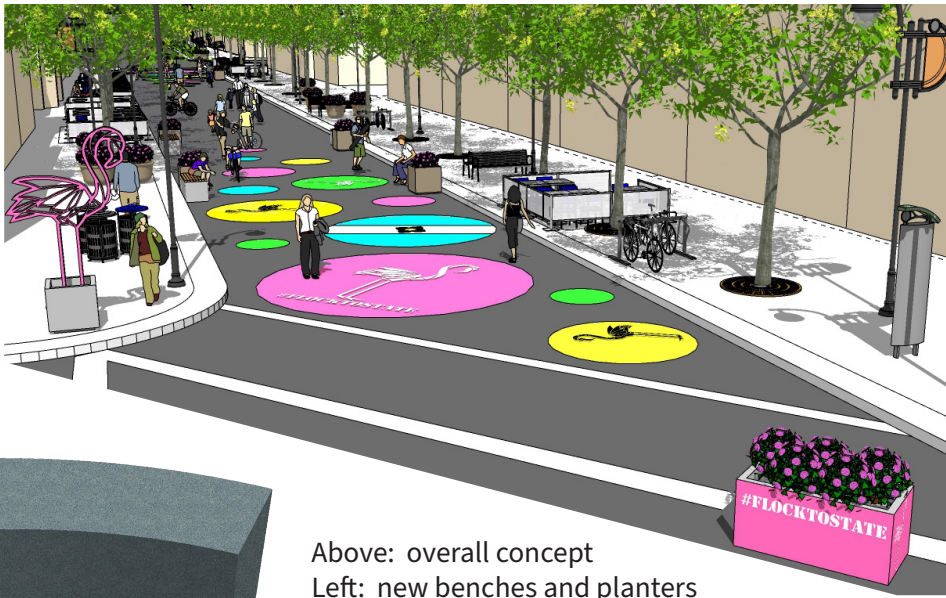
dmcauliffe@cityofmadison.com

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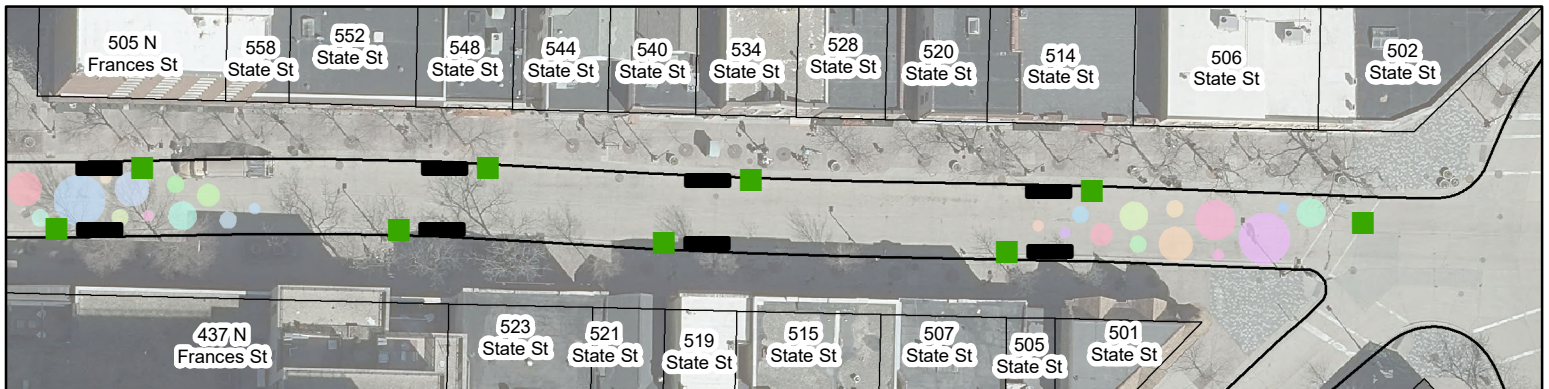
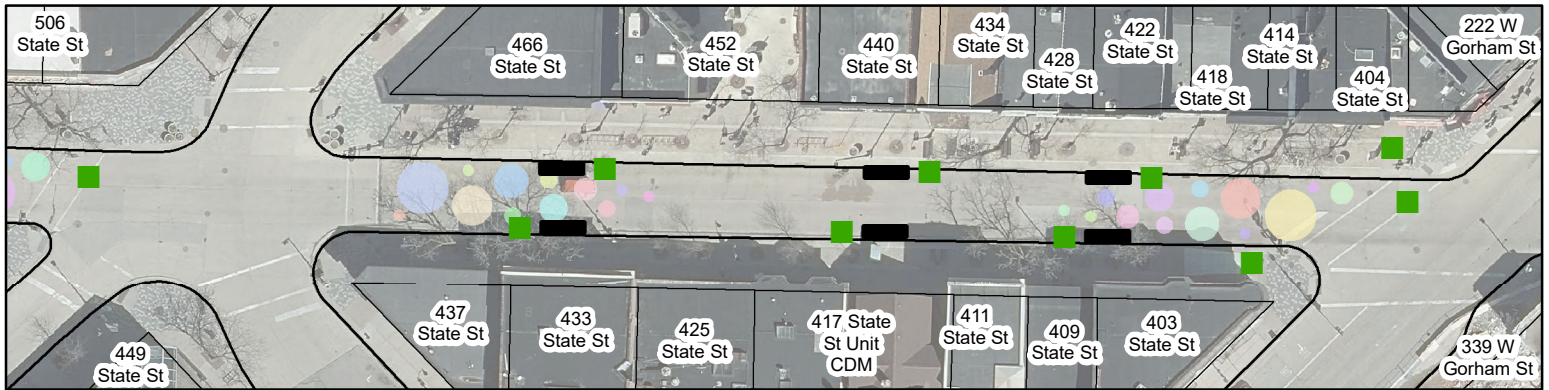
<https://www.cityofmadison.com/dpced/planning/state-street-2024/3915/>

State Street website





Above: overall concept
 Left: new benches and planters
 Right: street painting murals
 Below: general furniture placement



Benches
 Planters

 Street Painting Area