

Downtown Streetscape Project Updates

Community Meeting
August 22, 2024

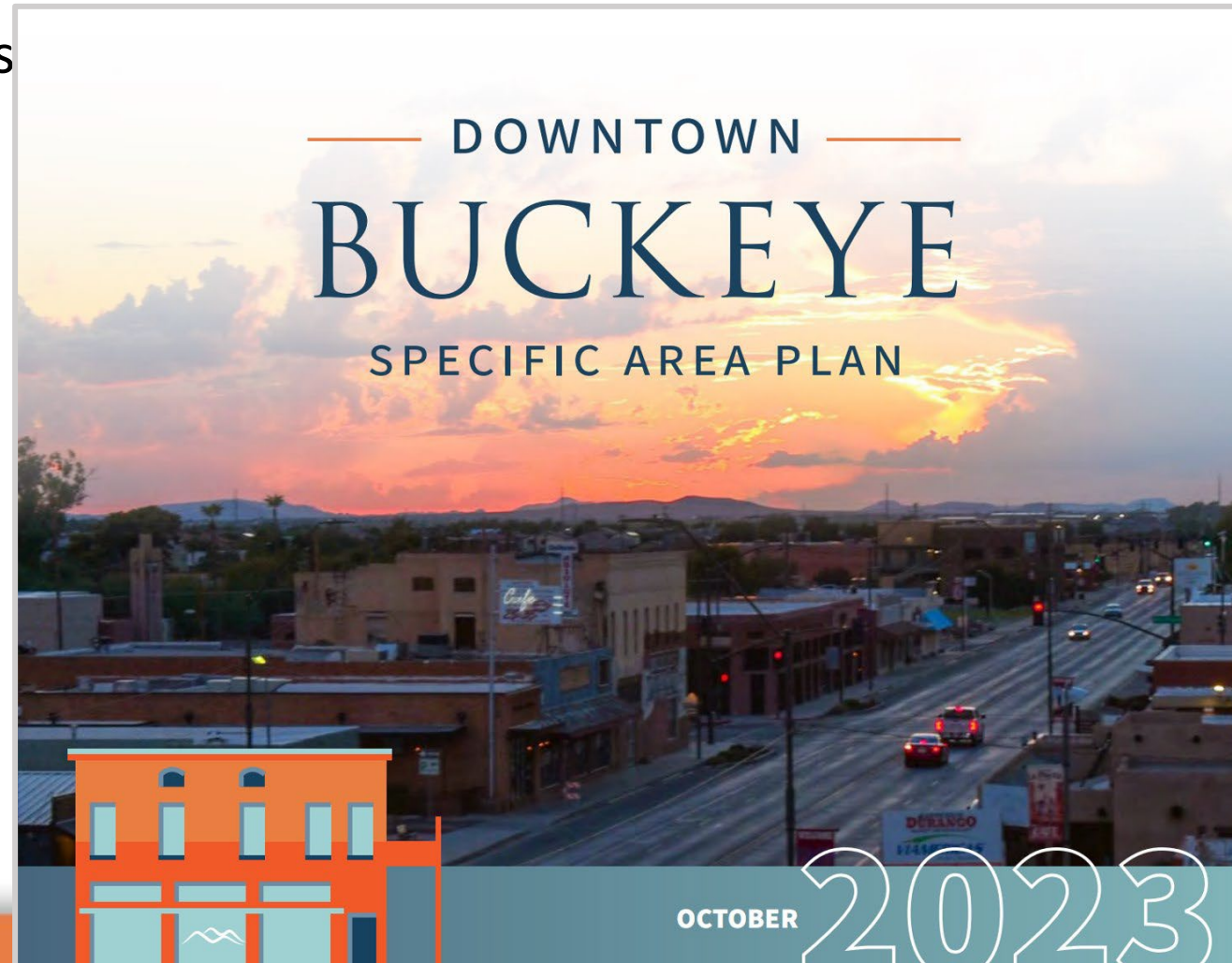


AGENDA

- Overview of Downtown Specific Area Plan (DSAP)
- Phases of Monroe Avenue improvements
 - Stage 1 – Restriping and Reconfiguration of City Hall Parking Lot
 - Stage 2 – Landscape and Parklet Demonstration Project
 - Stage 3 – Interim Landscape Improvements
 - Stage 4 – Drainage and Fiber Improvements
 - Stage 5 – Permanent Improvements - Full Street Reconstruction
- Frequently Asked Questions
- Next Steps
- Breakout to Stations

What is the Downtown Specific Area Plan?

- Downtown Specific Area Plan (DSAP) was approved on October 3, 2023
 - The approved document guides land uses, design, public infrastructure and transportation projects, economic development strategies, branding, and much, much more.
 - Includes short-term (1-3 year), mid-term (4-7 year) and long-term (8+ year) projects to implement the community vision.



Public's Role in the Creating the DSAP



OUTREACH RESULTS



4,000+ recipients signed up for the DSAP Newsletter



1,952 property owners within downtown notified via mailing of all public meetings



865 DSAP Survey Responses



440 Open House Participants



90+ person stakeholder group consisting of business owners, students, residents, property owners and potential developers.



40+ DSAP related social media posts:
• Over 11,000 engagements and 77,000 accounts reached



14 Engagement Events, including:
• Four stakeholder group working meetings
• Two Public Open Houses
• Two Planning and Zoning Commission Workshops
• Two City Council Workshops
• Stakeholder 1 on 1 Meetings
• Buckeye Youth Council Workshop
• City Council tour of Chandler & Gilbert



- The approved plan reflects the feedback we received during the extensive public process; the ideas within the plan are the community's ideas!

Example of Implementation Items

- Develop a consensus-built Downtown Buckeye branding plan (short-term)
 - Create a downtown public art program (mid-term)
 - Actively prepare for future downtown parking needs (mid-term)
 - Design and construct the recommended roadway, streetscape, and gateway improvements (short-term to mid-term)
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- Review full DSAP document with list of all implementation items (29 in total) at www.buckeyeaz.gov/business/development-services/downtown-area-specific-plan

DSAP Vision for Monroe Avenue

FIGURE 4.4 MONROE AVENUE
TYPICAL SECTION



Note: Figure 4.4 assumes a 6-inch curb and 18" gutter on both sides of roadway.

6'	4'	6'	4'	8'	12'	12'	8'	4'	6'	6'
Amenity Zone	Landscape Buffer	Sidewalk	Parkway	Parklet/Parallel Parking	Travel Lane	Travel Lane	Parklet/Parallel Parking	Parkway	Sidewalk	Amenity Zone

- Lane reduction
- Parallel parking and/or parklet lanes
- Wide sidewalks and amenity zones
- Enhanced landscape and shade ideas

Why not build the full improvements now?

Benefits of City's Approach:

- Allows the City to monitor how the road will function and tweak design of the permanent roadway and streetscape improvements to address any observed issues
- Demonstrates City's commitment towards achieving the shared downtown vision identified in the DSAP while the significant funding that will be necessary for the permanent improvements is identified and the improvements can be designed
- The demonstration and interim phases provide an immediate realization of the themes and concepts developed by the thousands of DSAP process participants, in particular the prioritization of pedestrian safety
- Allows us to preserve and enhance the character of Monroe Avenue, protecting that vision in the event State statute is revised to disallow lane reductions

Stage 1: MONROE RESTRIPING

Complete

- Remove a layer of asphalt and current pavement marking and seal cracks
- New designated truck route established
- Speed limit reduced
- Seal coat street
- Repaint pavement markings
- Restriping of Monroe Ave. to two lane road
- Additional parallel parking added
- Designated driveway access striped
- Painting of Parklet zones; no parking in this area
- Crosswalk reconstruction

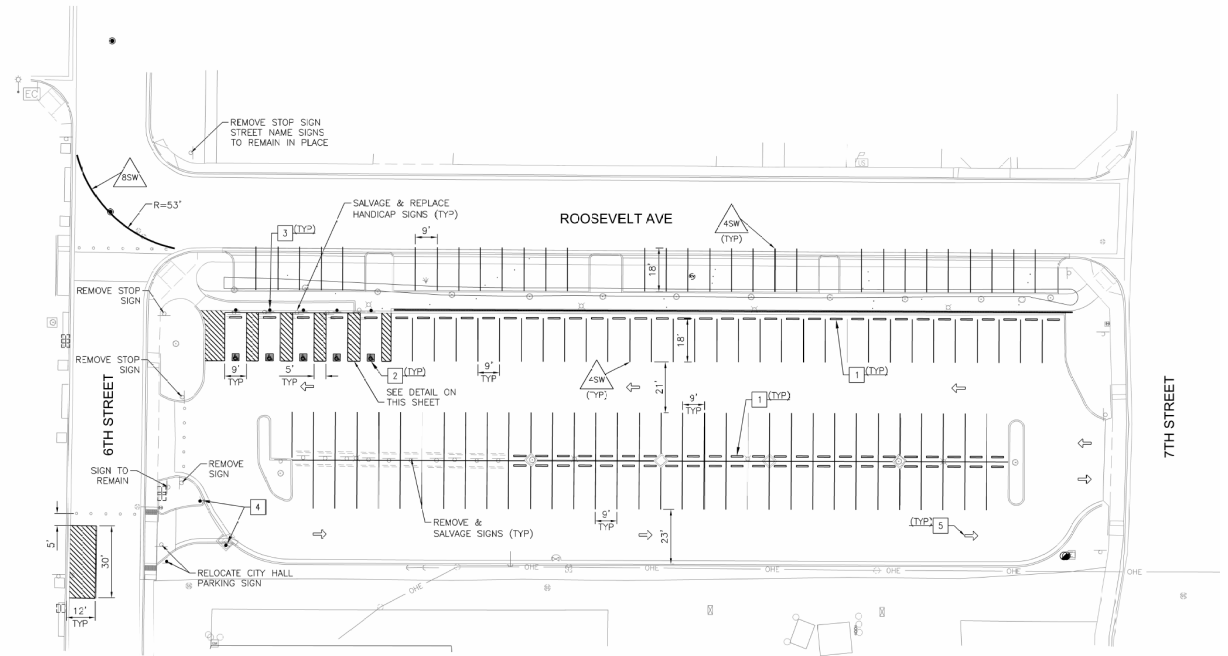
In Process

- Punch List Touch-Ups and minor additions (e.g. “T” delineators) expected to be complete 30-60 days



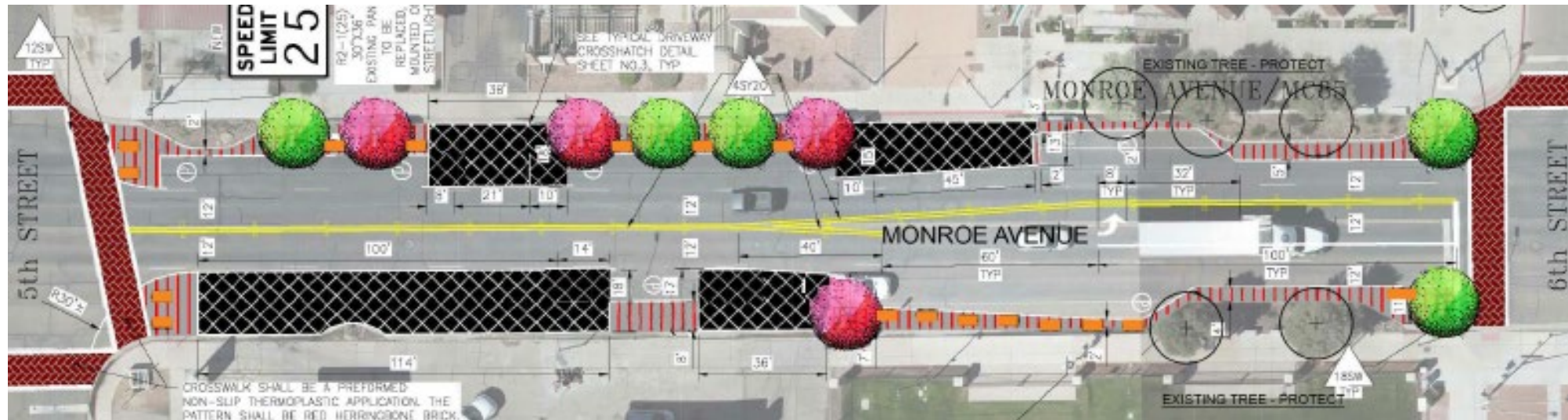
Stage 1: CITY HALL EAST PARKING LOT

- Adding 34 parking stalls, which includes parking along Roosevelt Street
- Installing additional access off 6th Street
- Opportunity to add/remove bollards to close 6th Street in support of special events, elections, etc.
- Anticipated Completion: End of August



Stage 2: LANDSCAPE DEMONSTRATION

- From 5th Street to 6th Street on both north and south sides of Monroe
- Offers a sneak preview of what interim improvements could look like
- Timeline: Trees and Planters installed by mid-October



Stage 2: LANDSCAPE DEMONSTRATION



EXISTING CONDITION



PROPOSED CONDITION

MATERIAL BOARD - VISUAL PHOTO SIMULATION



Harrington Planning + Design
landscape architecture environmental planning urban design

Monroe Avenue Concepts V 1.0
Buckeye, AZ - 08.12.24

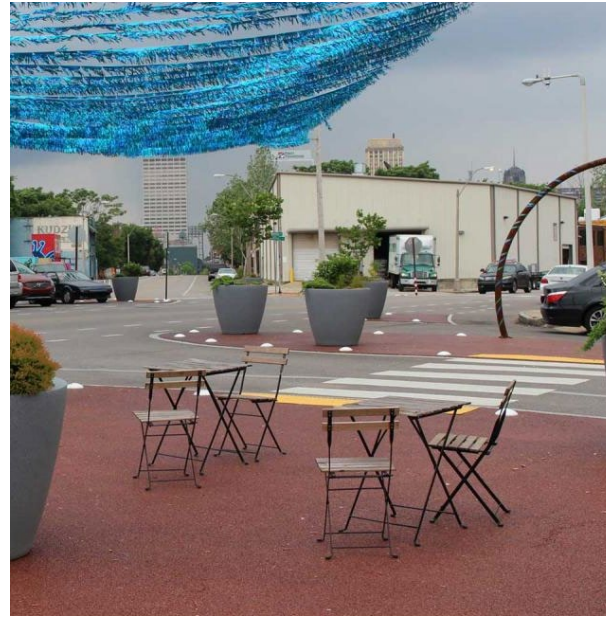


STAGE 2: WHAT IS THE “PARKLET LANE”?

The parklet lane is a flexible space that can be used for landscaping (in the form of potted trees and planters) or utilized by an adjacent business as an extension of their premises, for example for use by a restaurant as additional outdoor seating during periods of good weather, or by use by a retailer for displaying merchandise to pedestrians walking in downtown.



Examples of Parklet Lanes Elsewhere



Demonstration Project Parklet



The Parklet's modular, bolt-together design means it ships and stores flat.

Sturdy, steel railings separate users from traffic.

Meets most deck building codes.

Threshold closes gap to curb

Durable all-weather decking

Leveling feet under platform keep the Parklet level with the curb for greater accessibility and safety while allowing water to drain freely.



Powder Coat:



Bronze



Stage 3: INTERIM LANDSCAPE

- Full length of project area along Monroe; more refined than demonstration project
- Consultant will present several options for plant material and planters/pots at a community workshop; public will have input into preferred option
- Interim landscape to be installed in phases and remain in place until permanent improvements are made (reconstruction of Monroe, wider sidewalks, etc.)



Stage 4: Storm Drain and Fiber

- Necessary storm drain improvements to help reduce storm impacts
- Construction entails replacing inlets and underground pipes; sidewalks are most affected
- The City is seeking grant funding to assist with drainage improvements; project timing dependent upon when grants are received
- We are evaluating other planned infrastructure investments such as new fiber lines to ensure we minimize construction periods
- We are evaluating phasing options to include whether the most substantive improvements could be completed with Stage 5 overhaul of Monroe



Stage 5: Reconstructed Monroe Avenue

- DSAP mid-term project timing
- City identifying funding
- Design may be tweaked based on how interim condition functions



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Outreach

Outreach and education to date:

- Project website
- Mailings to downtown property owners
- Ongoing use of social media and newsletters to announce project updates
- Digital message signs in downtown
- Door-to-door canvassing of businesses
- [Informational videos](#)

Planned outreach and education:

- Continuation of the methods above
- A-frame signs explaining changes
- Educational flyers for placement on windshields of incorrectly parked vehicles
- Future community meetings and opportunities for input

Frequently Asked Questions

- How will these improvements attract more people downtown?
- Will the reduction in lanes combined with new development in the downtown delay emergency response or cause traffic congestion?
- How does the reduction in street space impact city events held downtown?
- Doesn't the new truck route go through neighborhoods?
- Additional FAQ's on the downtown streetscape webpage

The Ultimate Vision

The ultimate vision for downtown Buckeye is for it to be a **great place** to live AND to visit, a **beautiful** area with trees and shade, **safety** for pedestrians and vehicles alike, with housing options, great **dining and retail** businesses, and **entertainment and cultural venues** that will **fill a void** and prevent Buckeye residents from needing to travel east to Avondale, Glendale or Phoenix when they are looking for something to do.

Now What?

- Disperse to stations to ask questions of City staff and to share feedback; all stations are identical
- Written feedback may be provided on comment cards
- See and experience landscape materials that will be part of demonstration project (outside along 6th Street)

THANKS FOR COMING!

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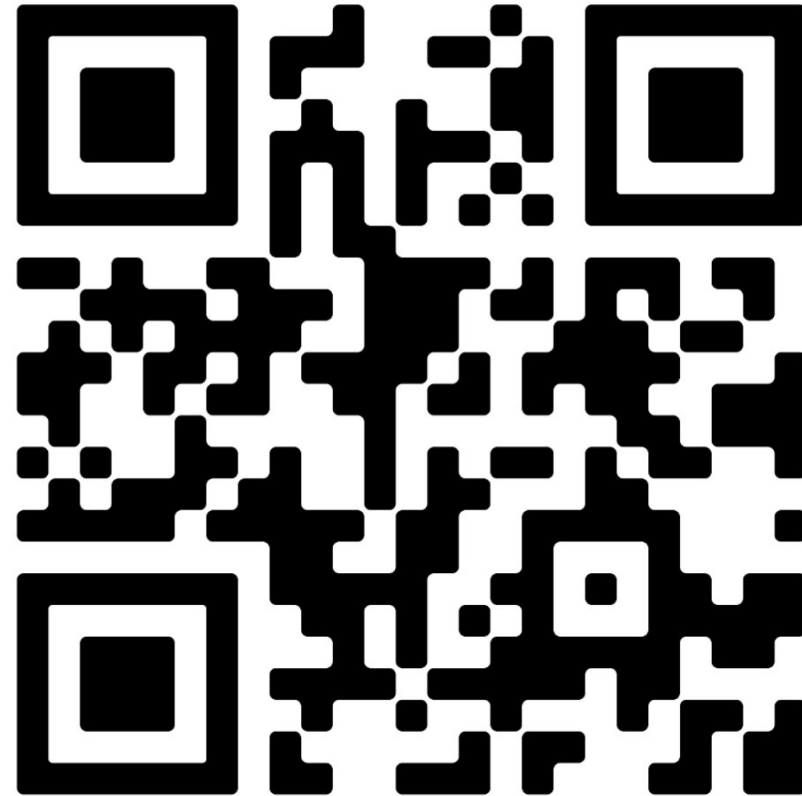
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Downtown Streetscape Website

New Truck Route



DOWNTOWN BUCKEYE
BUCKEYE, AZ STREETScape

CREATING OUR FUTURE

