

STREETSCAPE AND PUBLIC OPEN SPACE

DESIGN GUIDELINES

- SS1** Maintain original curbing whenever possible. Any replacement should use historic materials. If replacement with original materials is not technically or economically feasible, a substitute material may be used if it duplicates the color, texture, and visual appearance of the original.
- SS2** Restore and reuse historic paving materials, such as brick and hexagonal pavers and limestone curbing, whenever possible.
- SS3** Retain historic circulation patterns, gateways, entrances, artwork, and street furniture, wherever they are character-defining features, especially in pedestrian courts.
- SS4** Limit the installation of street furniture, such as street lights, garbage cans, bus shelters, telephone booths, and kiosks, to avoid overly-cluttered streetscapes. Street furniture should be durable, easy to maintain, and of a simple traditional design that is not falsely historical. If reproduction fixtures are desired for elements such as benches and streetlights, their design should be based upon historic precedent as established by photographic or pictorial evidence.
- SS5** Do not carry out excavations or regrading adjacent to a historic building or site, which could cause the foundation to shift or destroy significant archeological resources.
- SS6** Use understated fixtures when installing any type of exterior lighting. Fixtures should not become a focal point.
- SS7** Use high-pressure sodium or metal-halide lights to create a soft illumination where site or streetscape lighting is desired.



Streetscape elements, such as benches, planters, and lighting standards, can create pleasant public spaces if well-designed. This scene shows city residents enjoying West Main Street's recent improvements.

- SS8** Canopy street trees help define the streetscape and should be retained unless they pose a safety hazard. Removal of trees within or immediately adjacent to a public right-of-way or within public open spaces requires review unless directed by the city arborist in cases of emergency or for other reasons of public safety.
- SS9** Enhance established street tree patterns by planting additional trees along public rights-of-way and on private property. Select native deciduous species as canopy trees or trees appropriate to the period and character of the district. Consult with the city forester to determine what tree species are suitable for placement near overhead wires.
- SS10** Take the health and shape of trees into account when pruning. Overpruning should be avoided.
- SS11** Install public utility lines underground whenever possible.