
Streetscape and Public Open Space

- SS1** Original street and alley limestone and granite curbing should be maintained whenever possible. If replacement is necessary, use historic materials or, if historic or original materials are not technically or economically feasible, a substitute material may be used if it duplicates the color, texture, and visual appearance of the original.
- SS2** Historic paving materials, such as brick, hexagonal pavers, cobblestones, or limestone curbing, should be protected, restored, and reused whenever possible. Street car rail lines should also be protected and restored.
- SS3** Historic circulation patterns, gateways, entrances, artwork, and street furniture should be retained wherever they are character-defining features, especially public pedestrian walkways (example: the “Chicken Steps”).
- SS4** Street furniture, including street lights, garbage cans, bus shelters, benches, and kiosks, should be minimized and clustered together. Placement should ensure safe pedestrian passage and traffic safety. 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 street lights, their design should be based upon historic precedent as established by photographic or pictorial evidence.
- SS5** Excavations, trenching, or re-grading adjacent to a building or site should be performed cautiously so as not to cause the foundation to shift or destroy significant archeological resources. Every reasonable effort shall be made to protect and preserve architectural resources affected by, or adjacent to, any project (example: utility line replacement).
- SS6** Street and alley lighting fixtures should be a simple traditional design that is not falsely historical and should not become a focal point.
- SS7** Energy-efficient lights should be used to create a soft illumination where public street and alley lighting is desired.
- SS8** Street trees help define the streetscape and should be planted, maintained and 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 Landmarks staff review unless directed by the city arborist in cases of emergency or for other reasons of public safety.
- SS9** Street tree patterns should be enhanced by planting additional trees along public rights-of-way and on private property. Consult the 2012 Frankfort Avenue Street Tree Master Plan (or most current revision), Landmarks staff, and the city arborist to determine the right tree for the right place. Street trees should be selected and placed so as upon maturity they do not obscure historic storefronts.
- SS10** The health and shape of trees should be taken into account when pruning. Consult the city arborist or reputable certified arborist for proper pruning guidelines to avoid over pruning and harmful pruning.
- SS11** Public utility lines should be installed underground whenever possible.