

WELCOME!

Community Open House
& Planning Workshop 2



Agenda



- Introductions
- Background Information
- Project Schedule
- Why is this Important?
- Summary of Public Comments
- Concepts
- Questions & Comments

Background Information

- Current Strategic Planning Project inspired action
- Mayor appointed a Task Force to review previous plans and develop a new community beautification plan
- RFP and selection of our team
- Public involvement important 1st step

Community Involvement Opportunities & Schedule

- May 1st Workshop & Open House
 - Survey and feedback forms
- Valdez Design Studio... May 2nd
- Presentation and Comments... Thursday, 2-4pm
- Information on City of Valdez website
- Concept Plan Presentation to City Council on June 18th... stay tuned for upcoming announcements
- Public Comment Period: June 19 – July 3

Project Products



- Concept Plans
- Preliminary Design of selected elements
- Cost estimates
- Projects/Actions that can be implemented over time
- Transition Assistance

Why is Urban Design/Beautification Important?

- It's all about *“Placemaking”*
- Improves Community Attitudes
- Attraction/Retention of Youth & Residents
- Quality of Life
- Economic Development
- Tourism



Valdez is a Winter City...how can we make the most of this opportunity?



Vibrant Winter Cities....

- Embrace winter and promote a “winter culture”!
- Are authentic
- Accessible...vehicles, pedestrians and other modes
- Maintenance/Snow Management
- Appropriate design for the climate
- Light public spaces and buildings
- Use snow as a resource
- Bring nature into the city
- Develop exciting public spaces

Summary of Public Comments

Pedestrian and Vehicular Circulation

Egan Drive

- Speed reduction
- Blvd edge treatment
- Sense of arrival/gateway
- Integrated bike lane
- Pedestrian safety & connections...in all seasons
- Lighting upgrade
- Pedestrian & bike connections to trails



Recreation

- Year round trail connections (bike, ski, ski, snowshoe) to harbor, waterfront, and mountains
- Open space connections
- More trees
- Improved signage and Wayfinding
- Ruth Pond – great example of positive community action –need more like it!
- Community garden/greenhouses



The Valdez “Look”

- Rustic
- Bright, natural colors!
- Streetscape:
 - Planters/sculptural elements
 - Landscape/seating areas
- Lighting: mix of styles
- Gateways/signage: rustic style
- Snow gauge
- Snow sculptures and slides
- Lighted trees

Destinations



- Cozier downtown
- Outdoor city center/town square – “winter park”
- Improve Richardson Hwy approach – signage
- Major destinations:
 - Harbor
 - Downtown
 - Allison Point
 - Civic Center
 - City Hall, police, fire
 - College
 - Hospital
 - Library
 - Museums: College, City, Annex
 - Neighborhoods
 - Old Town
- Individual character – Overall Connection

Themes to Consider

- Mountains
- Sea Life
- Nautical
- Wildlife
- Heritage
- Old Town
- Gold Rush
- Alaskana
- Winter & Snow
- Mix themes to create interest

Valdez Inspirational Image Likes



- Snow gauge
- Special lighting treatments
- Using snow for fun and art
- Neighborhood and downtown gateways
- Vertical lighting and visuals
- Firepit
- Landscape seating areas
- Use of color
- Rustic architecture
- Community gardens
- Separated pathways
- Rain gardens

Valdez Inspirational Image Dislikes



- Snow storage areas
- Modern or abstract design elements
- Buildings with too much metal roof visible

Overall Town Plan

Urban Design & City Beautification Project

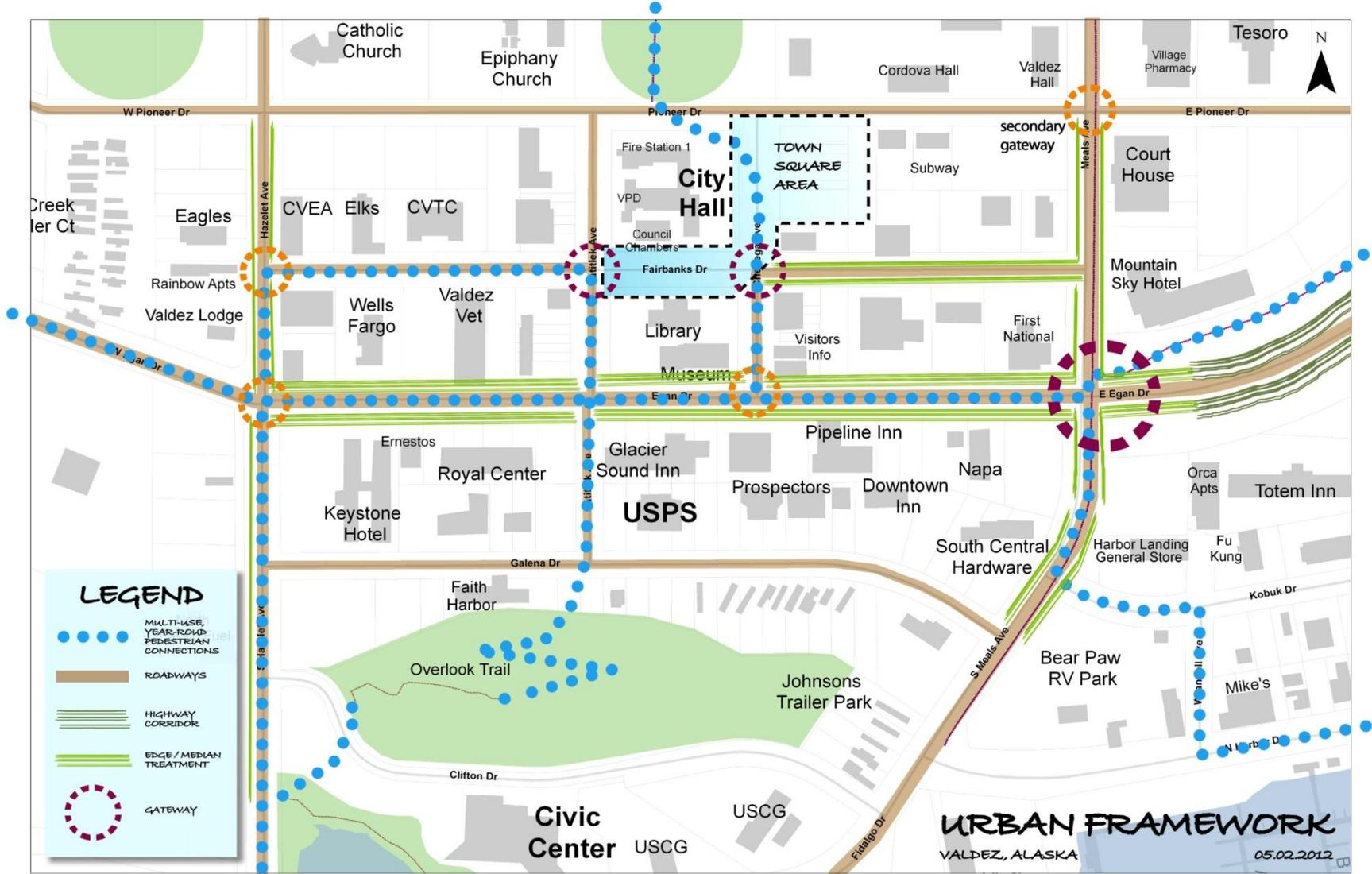
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Urban Framework Plan

Urban Design & City Beautification Project

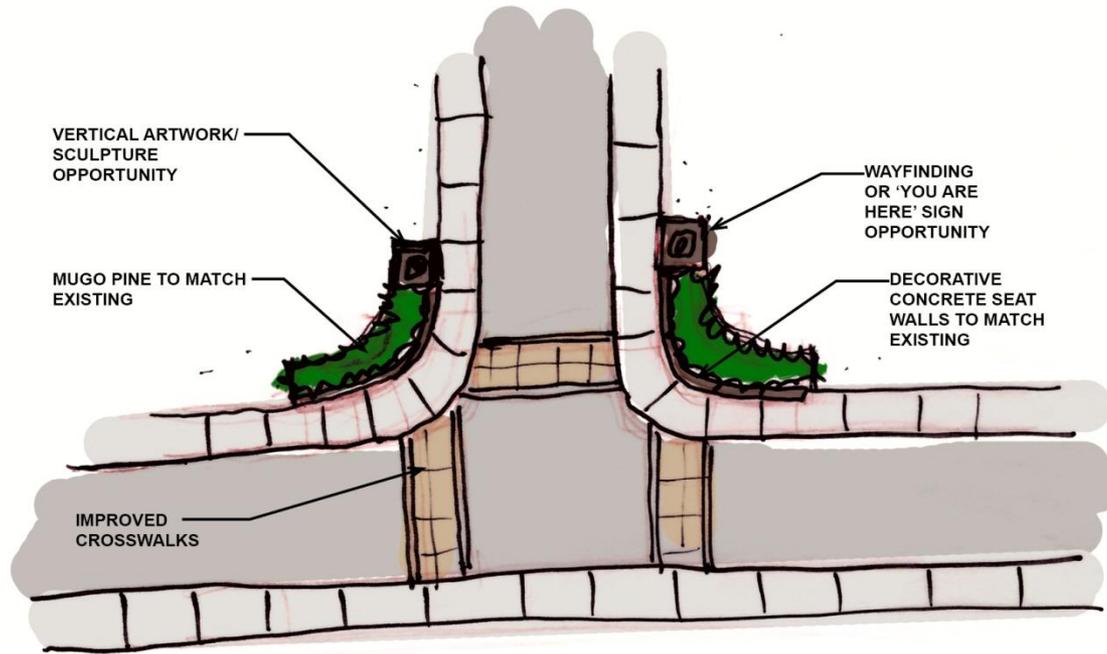
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Downtown Ideas

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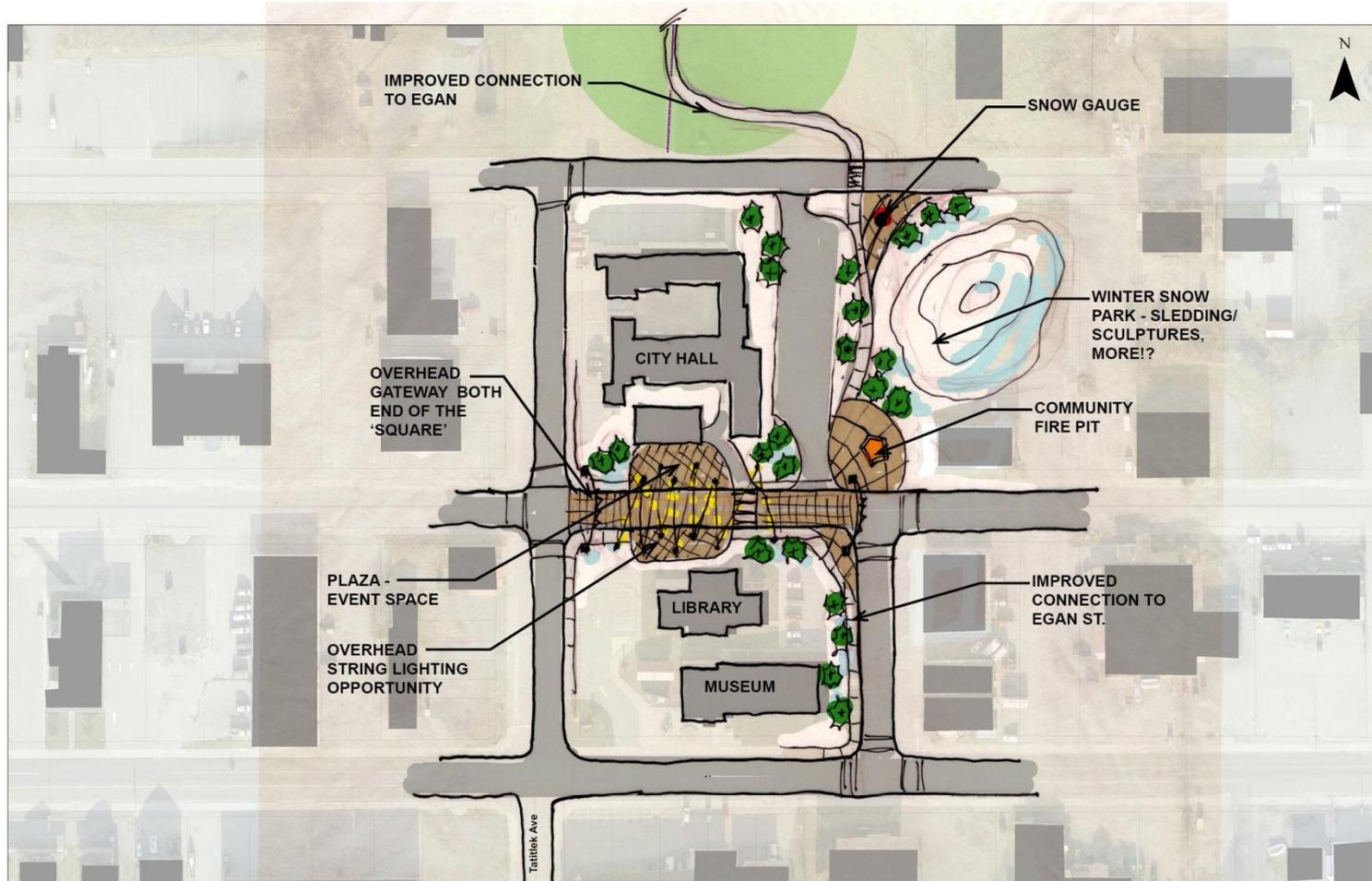
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TYPICAL CORNER TREATMENT AT SECONDARY GATEWAYS

Urban Design & City Beautification Project

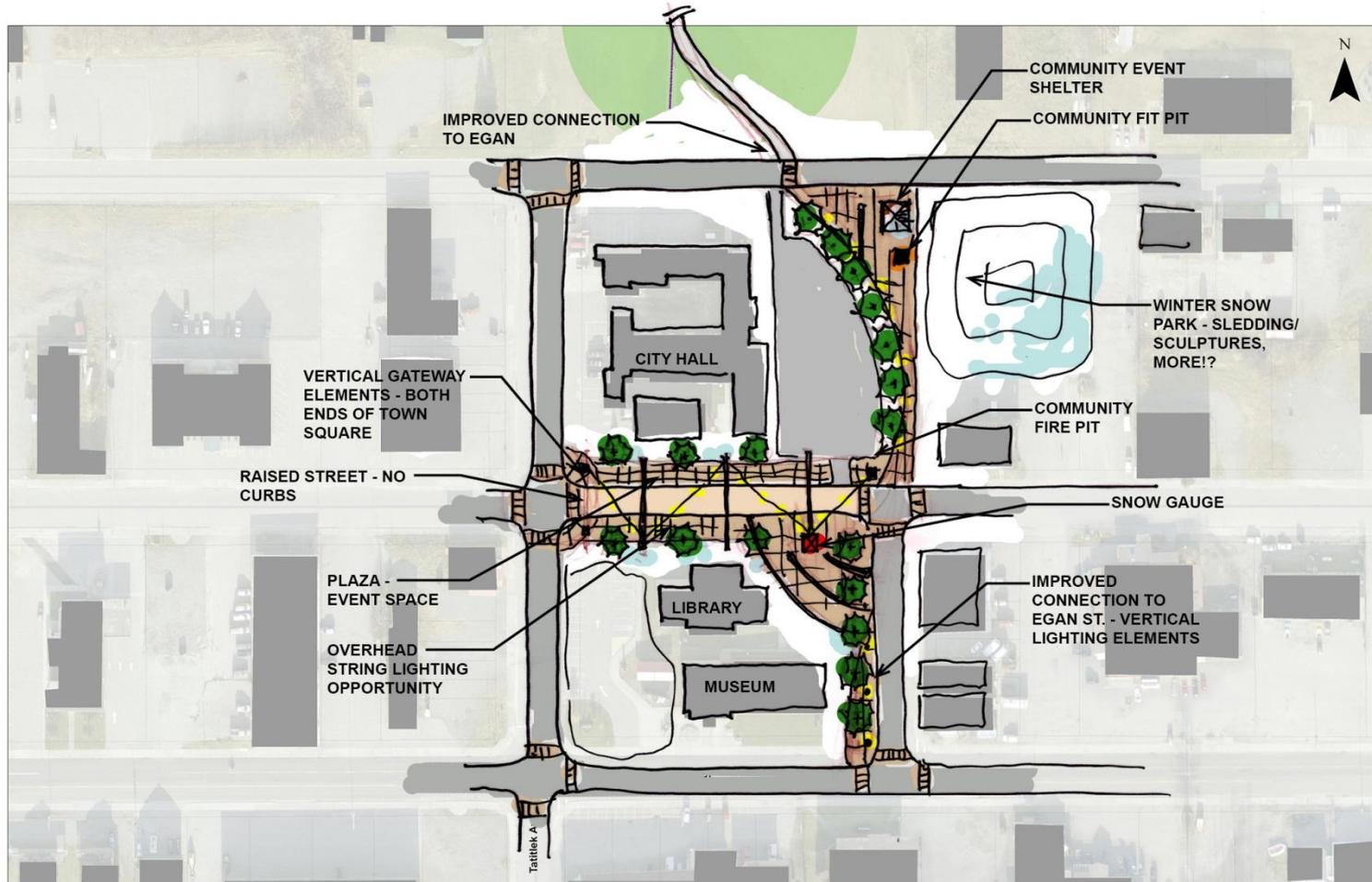
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TOWN SQUARE - option 1

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TOWN SQUARE - option 2

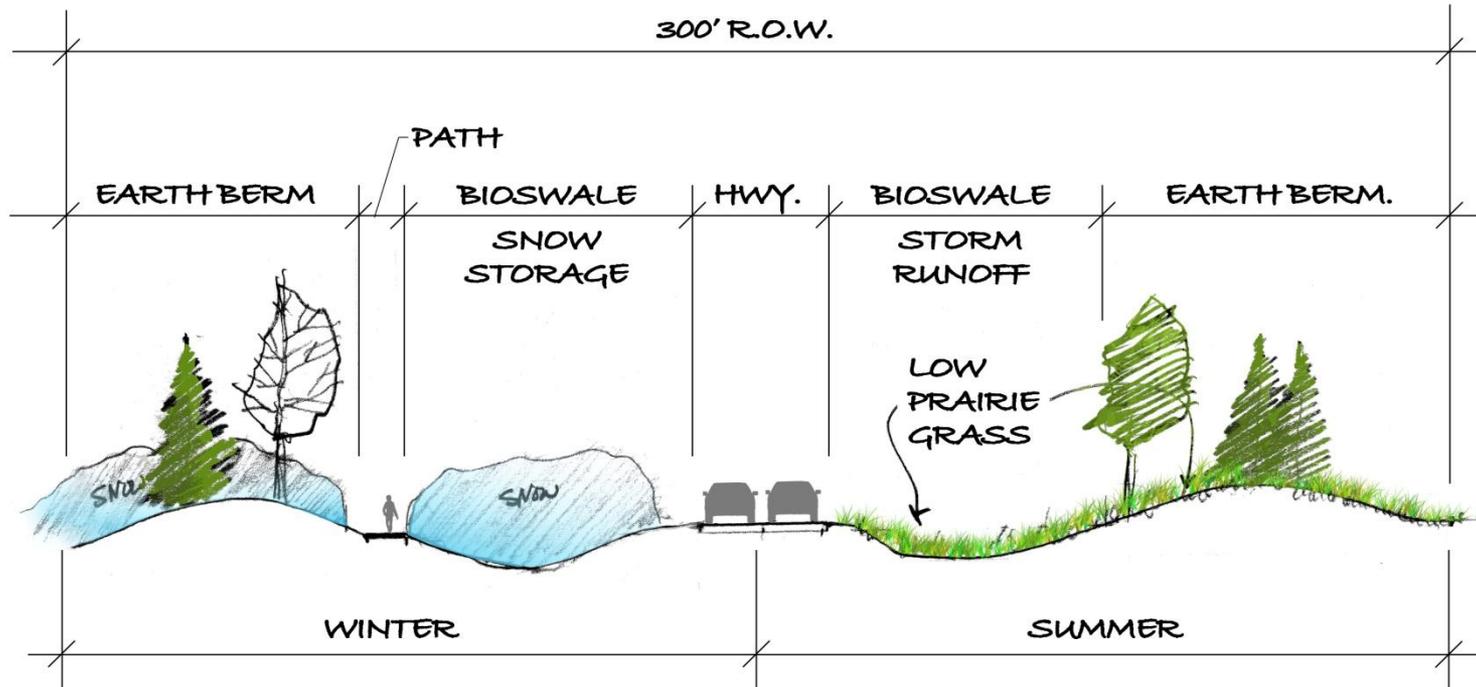
Downtown Development Guidelines

- Buildings should address the street and define, connect pedestrian areas.
- Buildings that are on the corners of intersections should be treated as gateways into the retail area and should be of the highest design quality.
- Encourage mixed use development with retail/office on the ground level and residential units on upper floors.
- Parking and snow storage areas should be located to the rear or side of building structures.
- Parking areas located along the street should have a green area buffer of sufficient size to accommodate snow management.
- Shared access drives between businesses should be encouraged to reduce curb cuts.
- Consider changing parking requirements to permit shared parking areas.
- Consideration should be given to incorporate outdoor seating or gathering areas into site design

Streetscape Options

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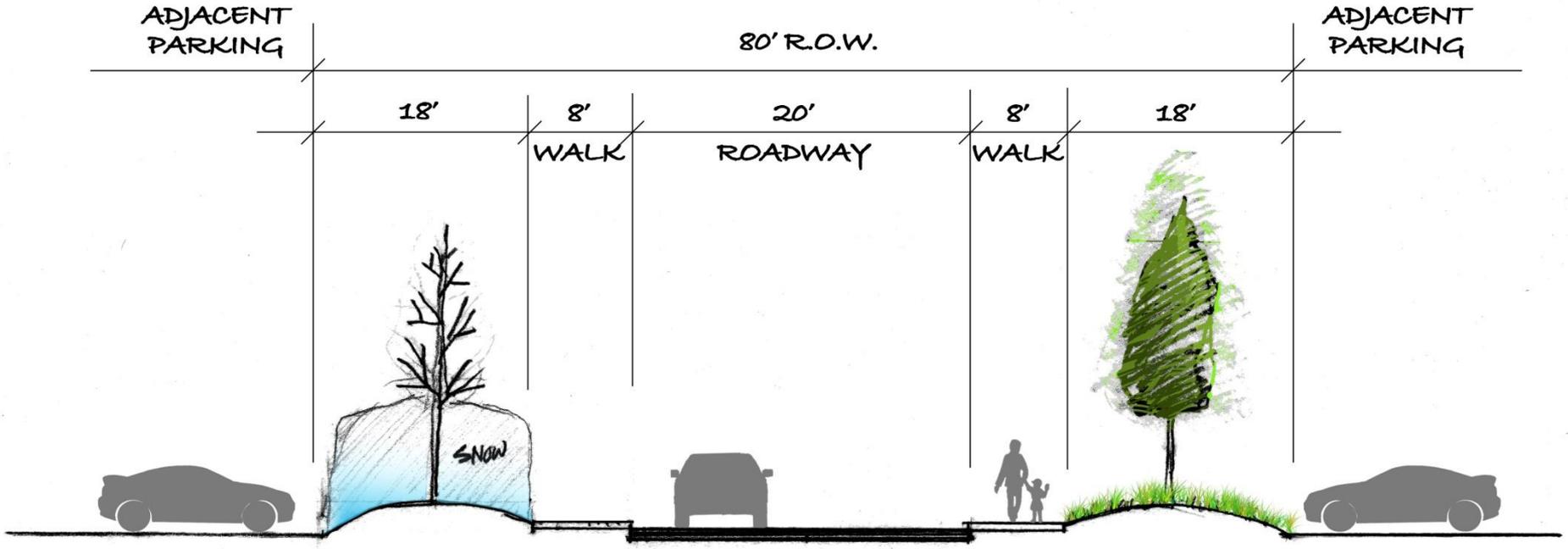


RICHARDSON HWY. CORRIDOR TREATMENT

1" = 30' - 0"

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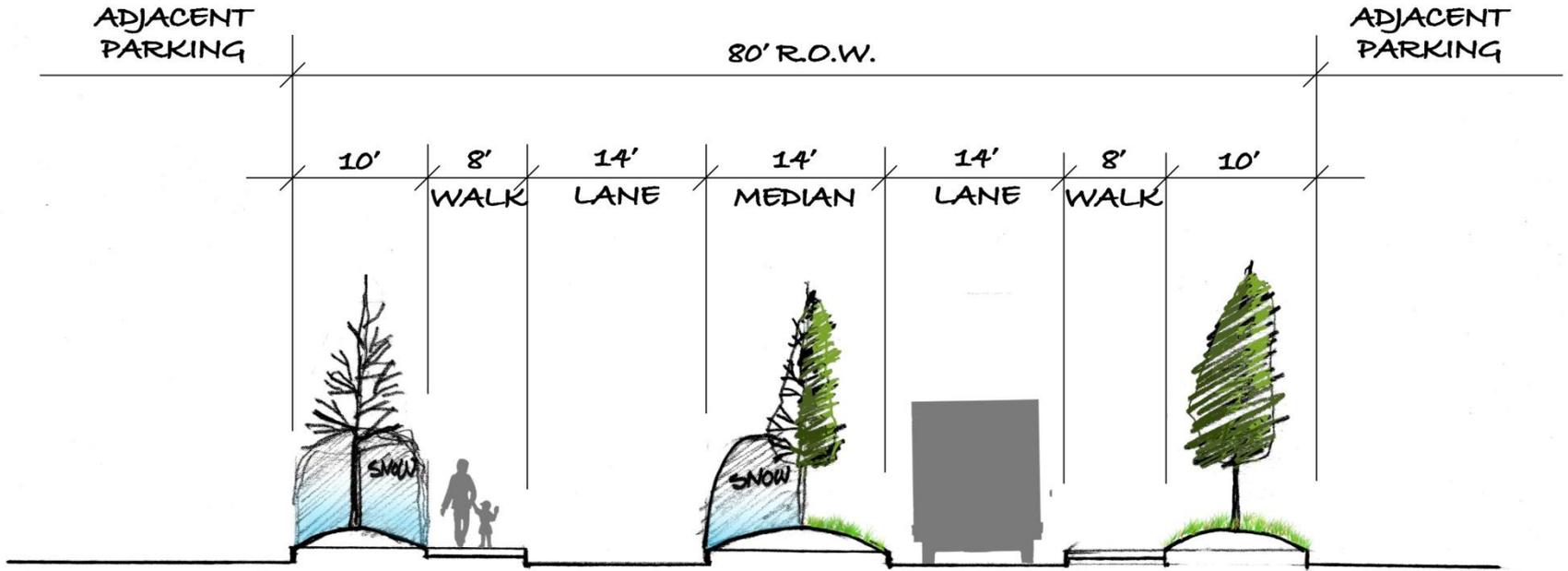


EGAN DRIVE. EDGE BOULEVARD

1" = 10' - 0"

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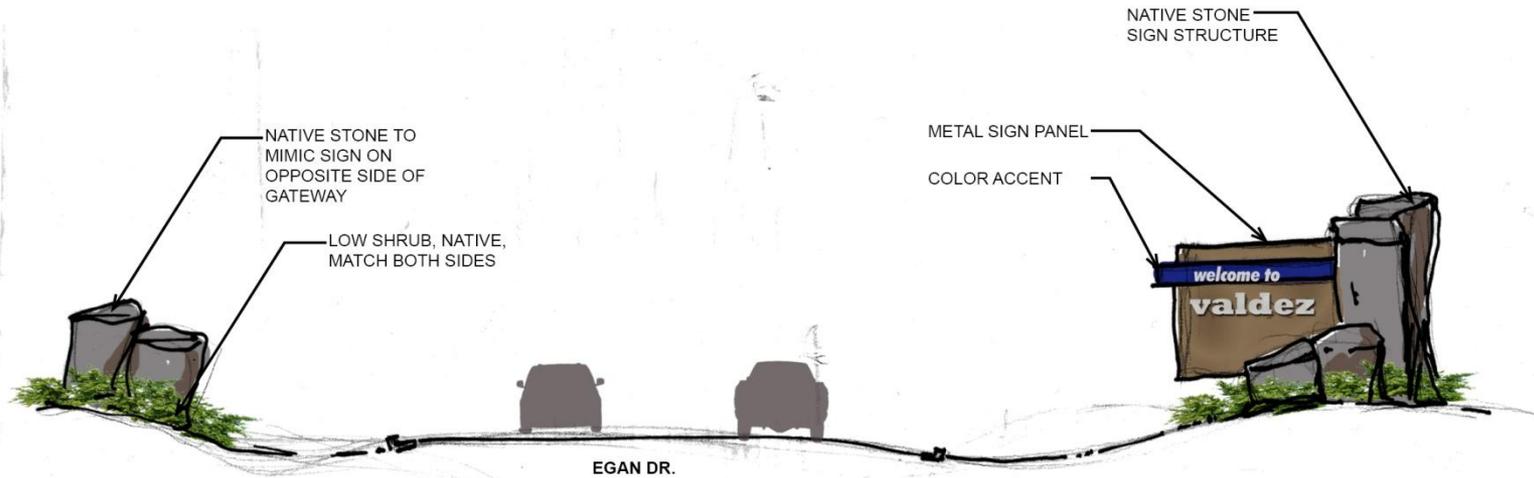
EGAN DRIVE. CENTER BOULEVARD

1" = 10' - 0"

Gateway sign ideas

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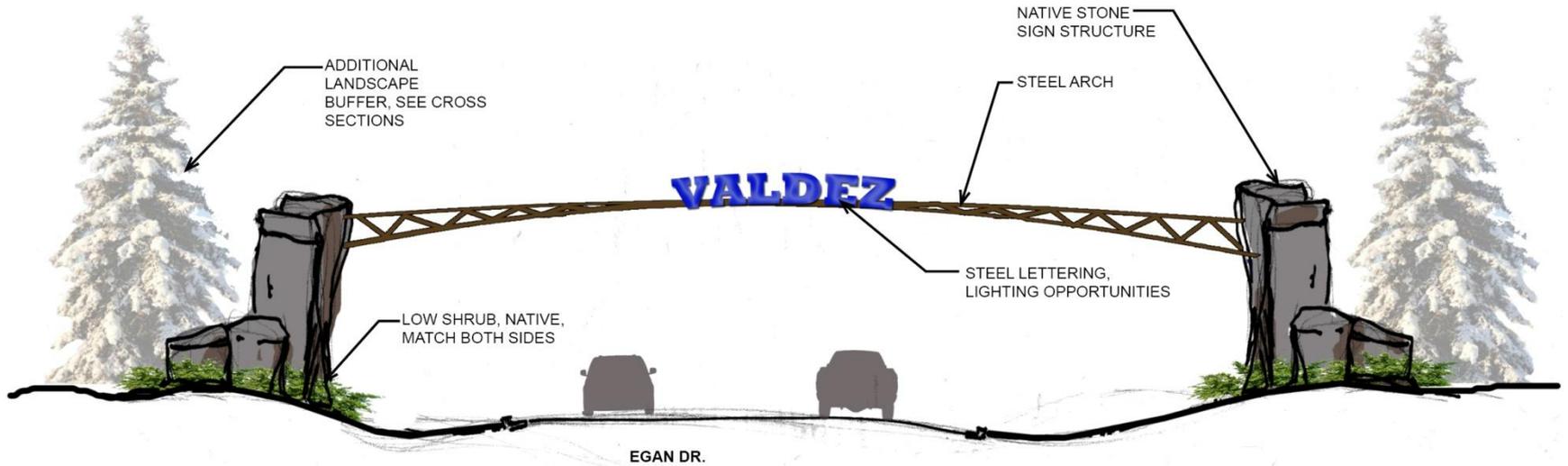
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GATEWAY SIGN
OPTION 1

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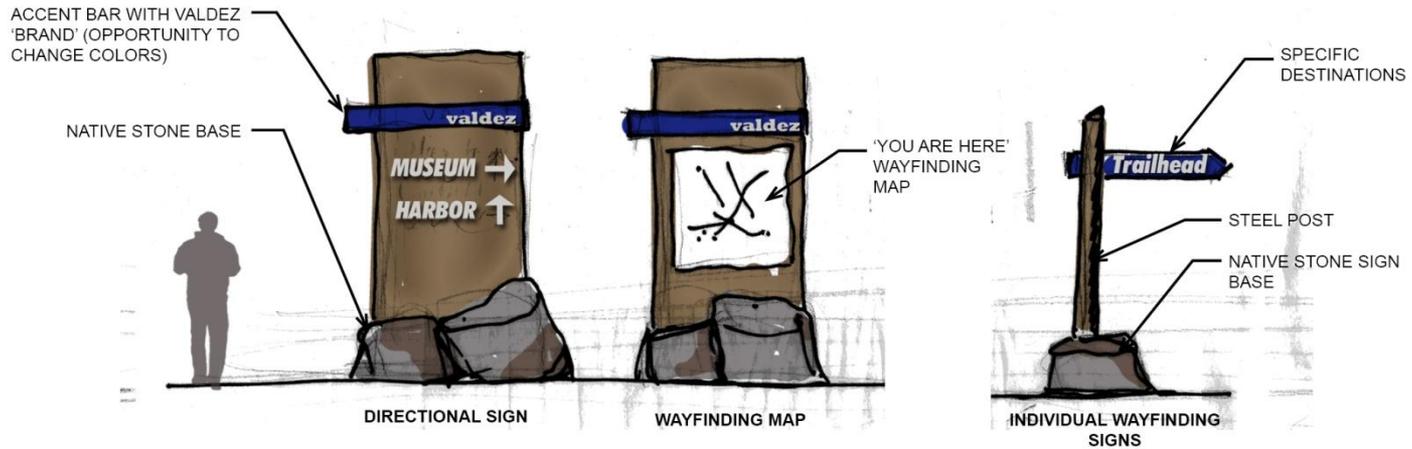
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GATEWAY SIGN
OPTION 1a with arch

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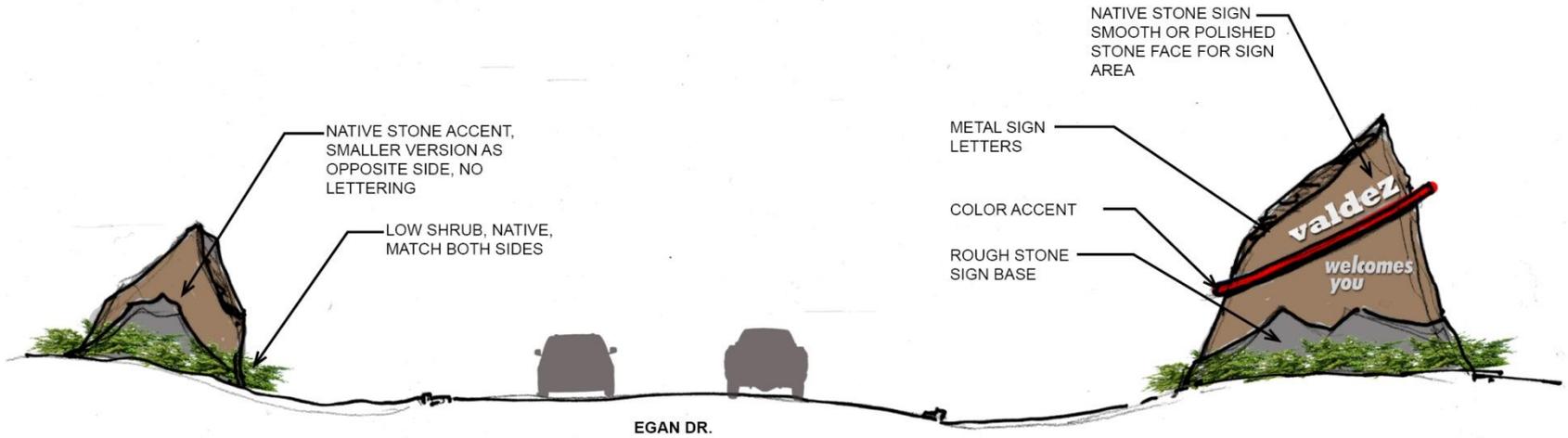
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NEIGHBORHOOD AND WAYFINDING SIGNS
OPTION 1

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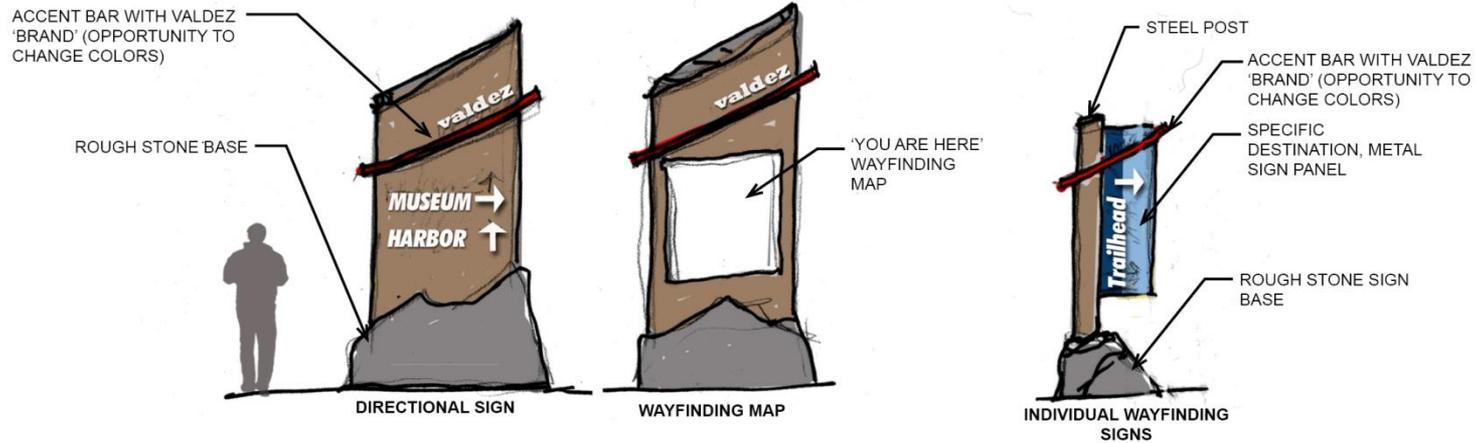
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GATEWAY SIGN
OPTION 2

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NEIGHBORHOOD AND WAYFINDING SIGNS
OPTION 2

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DESTINATIONS MAP - 'YOU ARE HERE' EXAMPLE

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Street Lighting



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Existing light standard



Winter City Ideas



- Develop and recommend an appropriate color palette for buildings
- LED Lightscape; buildings, streetscape, trees, landscape, public spaces
- Connect in-town trails to Mineral River trails and groom in winter
- Expand the winter festival and schedule to coincide with the peak of the heli-ski season
 - snow scoop races
 - construct a sledding run
 - snow sculpture competition
 - make a snow building
- Continue work on establishing alpine ski area in or near the city

Questions and Comments

Thank you for participating!!