

# Downtown Highway 41 Project Overview



## What's the Downtown Highway 41 Project?

In 2017, Carver County, MnDOT and the City of Chaska completed a study, which identified key transportation system improvements that would address existing issues and prepare the City of Chaska for future growth. One of the projects identified by this plan was the Downtown Highway 41 Project. The Downtown Highway 41 Project vision is to reconstruct Highway 41 as a two-lane road with turn lanes to better balance roadway needs with the pedestrian space. Additionally, streetscaping, off-street public parking, pedestrian/bicyclist connections and gathering space improvements will create a more comfortable, safe and inviting environment for all users. The project also includes improvements to Chaska Blvd to improve safety and flow for all transportation modes.

## Project Benefits



Improved traffic safety and efficiency



Calm traffic by introducing medians and streetscaping elements



Safer, more welcoming environment for pedestrians and bicyclists



Improved accessibility for all people



Safer, more reliable routes for all modes of transportation



Revitalization of downtown that will benefit existing businesses and attract new businesses

## Key Improvements

### Highway 41 (Chestnut Street)

- + Reconstruct Highway 41 as a two-lane divided roadway with turn lanes, upgraded utilities and no parking
- + Add pedestrian tunnel on former railroad corridor under Highway 41 and enhanced crossing at Walnut St
- + Add streetscaping and wayfinding, off-street public parking, pedestrian/ bicyclist connections and improved gathering spaces
- + Add design enhancements to the Minnesota River Bridge area to encourage traffic calming

### Highway 61 (Chaska Boulevard)

- + Reconstruct Chaska Blvd as a four-lane divided roadway with turn lanes and upgrade utilities
- + Add streetscaping and wayfinding, pedestrian/bicyclist connections, and improved gathering spaces





# Downtown Highway 41 Project Design Features



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## Improved Pedestrian Crossing

The addition of a pedestrian hybrid beacon, like that on Chaska Blvd/N Pine St, will increase pedestrian visibility at existing crossing.



Pedestrian hybrid beacon at Chaska Blvd/N Pine St

## Trail with tunnel

Tunnel under Hwy 41 separates pedestrian/bicycle from vehicle traffic. Trail will provide link for future regional trail.



## Better sidewalks



Wider and ADA accessible



sidewalks provide a safer and



more welcoming environment for all.

## Improved traffic flow with fewer backups



Dedicated turn lanes at all public streets



New signals and improved timing



Right-in/right-out access at 1st St, 3th St and 5th St



Full access intersections at:

- Hwy 41/2nd
- Hwy 41/4th St
- Hwy 41/Walnut St
- Hwy 61/Hwy 41
- Hwy 61/N Walnut St
- Hwy 61/Yellow Brick Rd

## STAGED CONSTRUCTION

Project construction will occur in stages.

### Summer-Fall 2022\*

- Chaska Blvd (Hwy 41 to Yellow Brick Rd)
- Parking lots between 2nd/3rd St and 4th/5th St

### Spring-Fall 2023\*

- Hwy 41 (MN River bridge to Walnut St)
- Trail and tunnel between 5th St and Chaska Blvd

\* Dates and construction areas subject to change

**DRAFT**  
July 2021

## New public parking lots and pedestrian connections

Two parking lots will replace on-street parking along Hwy 41. Walkways will connect the lots to sidewalks.

## Two-lane highway

Dedicated thru-lane in each direction will keep vehicles moving.



[DowntownHwy41.com](http://DowntownHwy41.com)



[DowntownHwy41@bolton-menk.com](mailto:DowntownHwy41@bolton-menk.com)



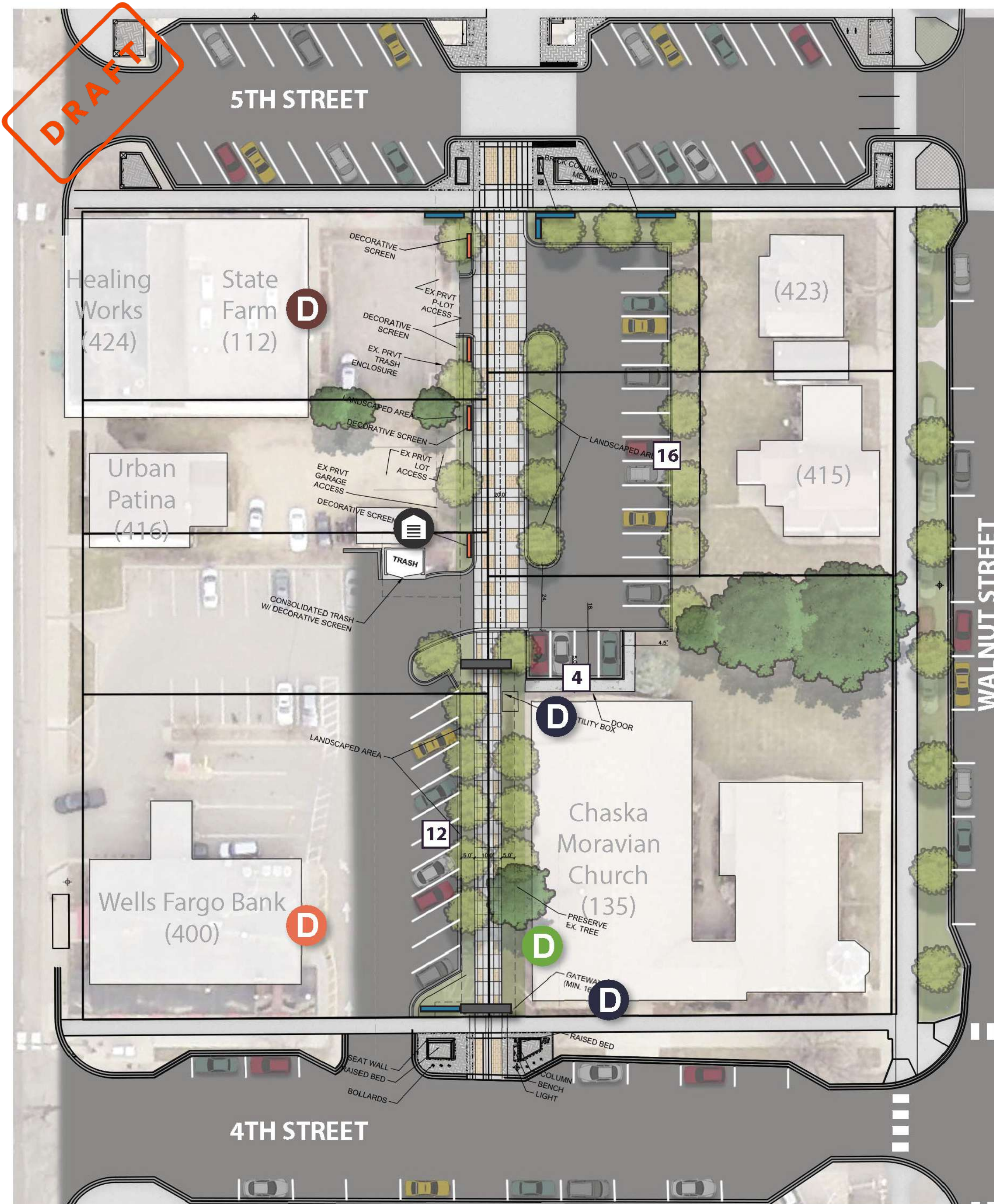
612-269-4637



# Downtown Highway 41 Project North Paseo Parking Lot Draft Concept



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## Legend:

- Proposed Gateway
- Proposed Panel Fencing
- Proposed Rail Fencing
- Existing Garage Entrance
- Door - Church
- Door - Office
- Door - Retail
- Door - Service

**Parking Count:**  
Concept Public Parking: 32



## What is a paseo?

Alleys in the commercial core, between Pine and Walnut Streets, are being considered as part of the pedestrian walkway system in downtown. These are referred to as a "Paseo". Paseos provide an large area where pedestrians can safely and conveniently walk from parking areas to businesses and shops, but also large enough for cars and services vehicles to access the parking lots and buildings. These areas will reflect the downtown character and include special pavement and lighting. The Downtown Highway 41 Project will develop paseos east of Highway 41 between 2nd and 3rd Streets and 4th and 5th Streets.





# Downtown Highway 41 Project South Paseo Parking Lot Draft Concept



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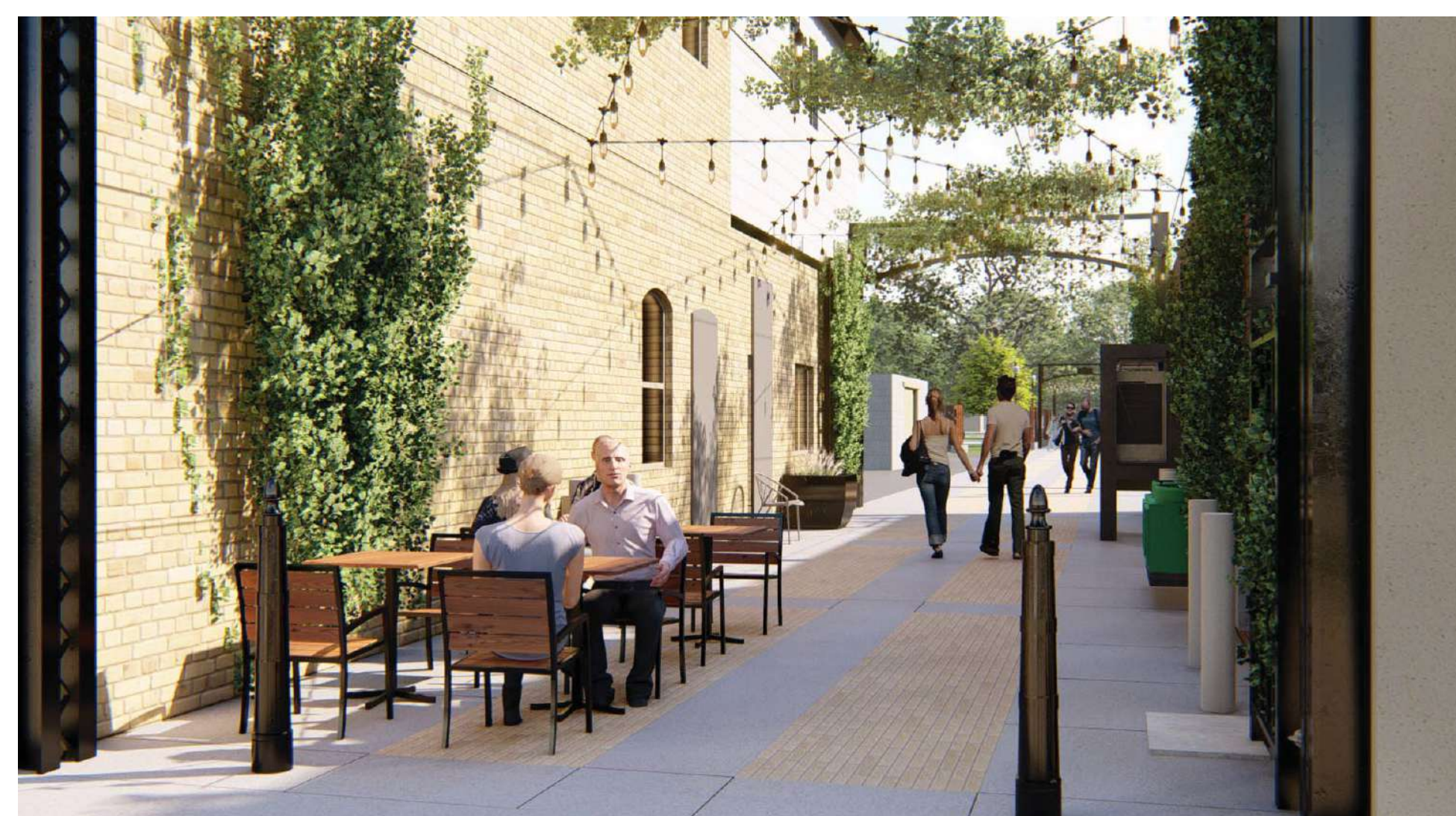


## Legend:

- Private Property Rooms
- Proposed Gateway
- Proposed Panel Fencing
- Proposed Rail Fencing
- Proposed Lighting
- Existing Garage Entrance
- Existing Stairs
- Existing Mural
- Door - Residential
- Door - Retail
- Door - Service
- # of Parking Spaces

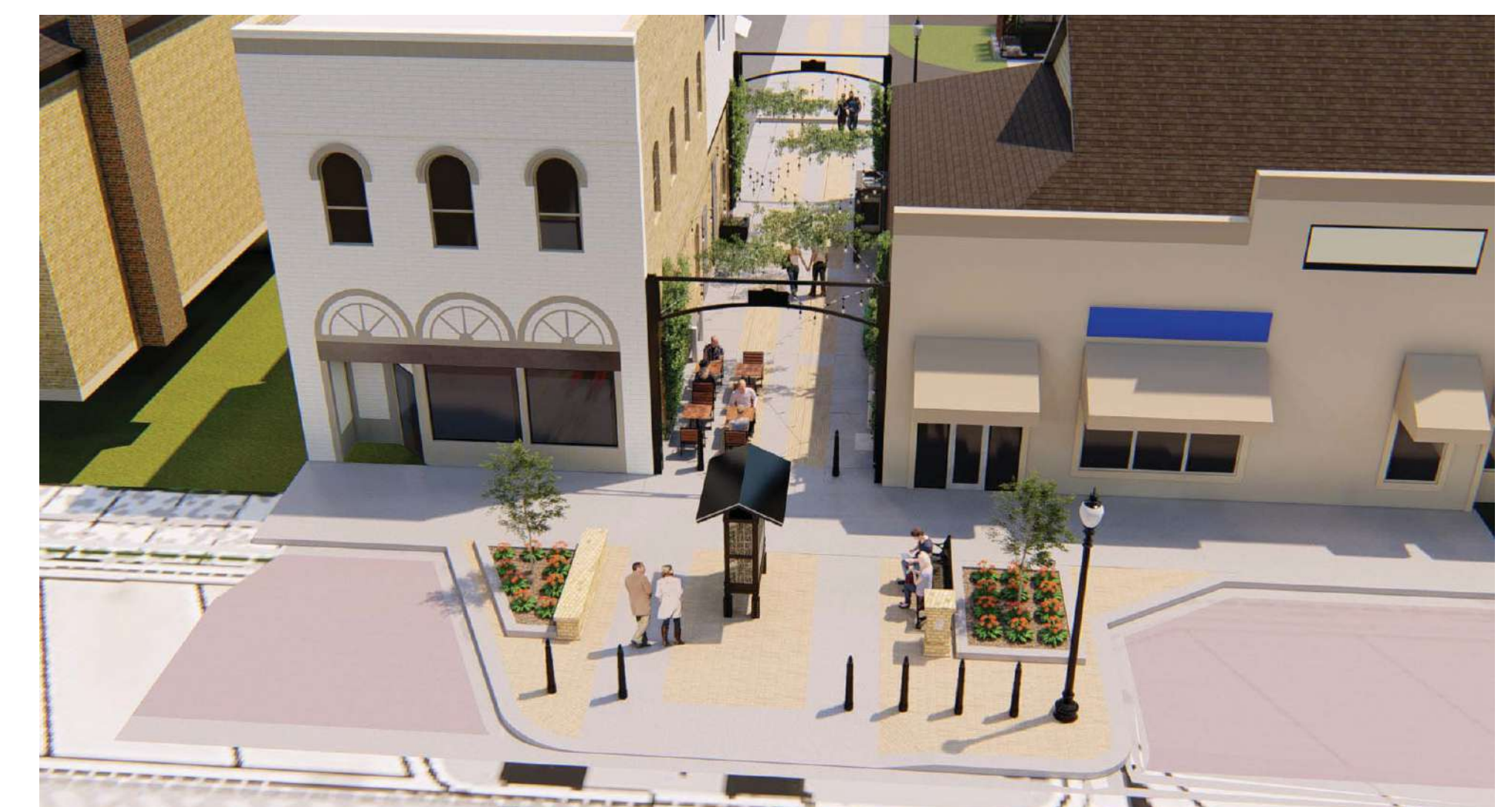
## Parking Count:

Existing Public Parking: 53  
Existing Private Parking: 26  
Concept Public Parking: 81



## What is a paseo?

Alleys in the commercial core, between Pine and Walnut Streets, are being considered as part of the pedestrian walkway system in downtown. These are referred to as a "Paseo". Paseos provide an large area where pedestrians can safely and conveniently walk from parking areas to businesses and shops, but also large enough for cars and services vehicles to access the parking lots and buildings. These areas will reflect the downtown character and include special pavement and lighting. The Downtown Highway 41 Project will develop paseos east of Highway 41 between 2nd and 3rd Streets and 4th and 5th Streets.





# Downtown Highway 41 Project Streetscape Design



Wayfinding, Chaska banners, and historical brick elements



Lighting and decorative pillars

**Decorative elements will aid in the revitalization of downtown by improving the pedestrian experience when walking or biking along Highway 41.**

Natural elements such as plants and trees



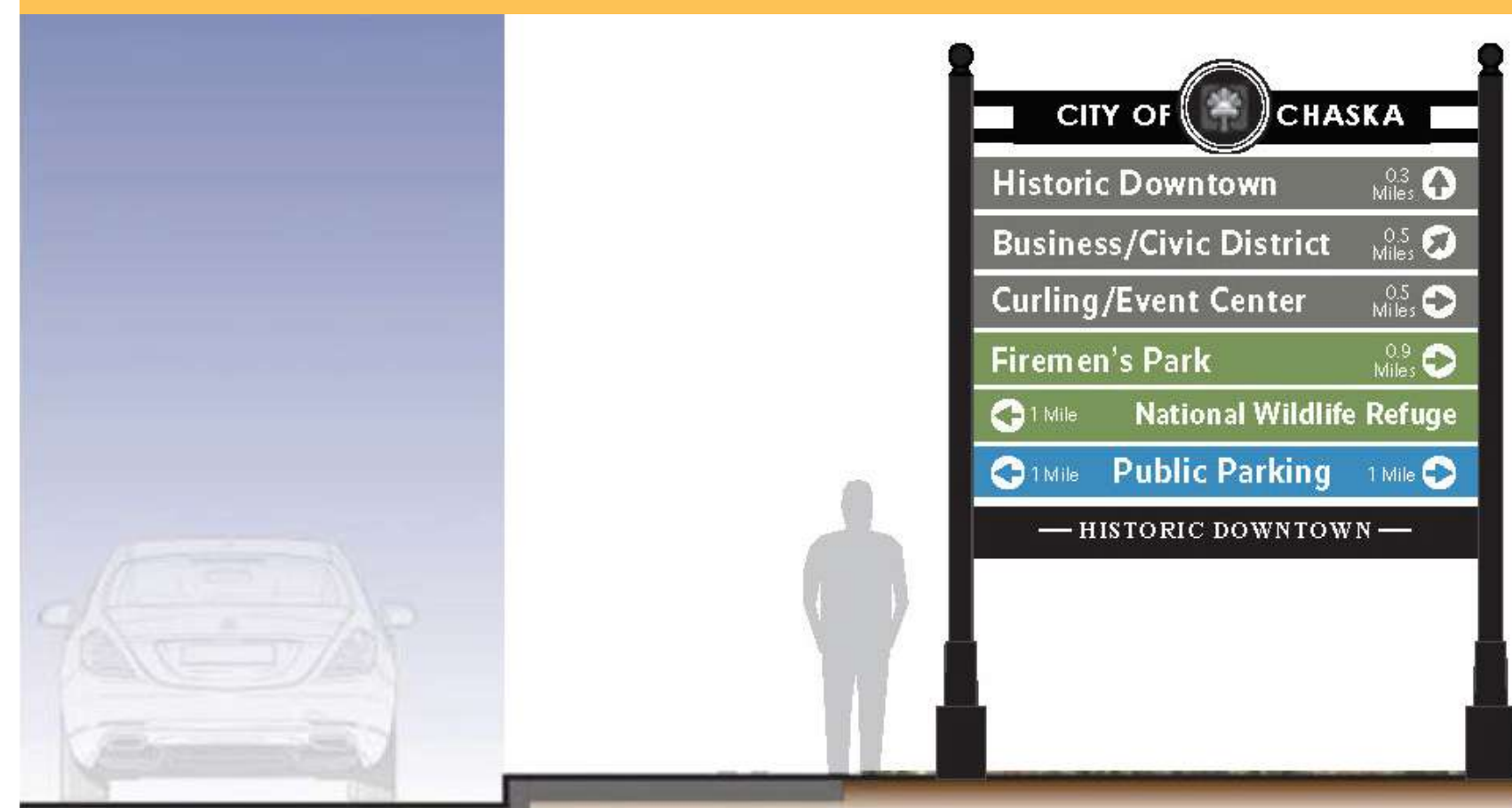
Decorative medians with space for pedestrians



# Downtown Highway 41 Project Wayfinding and Signage

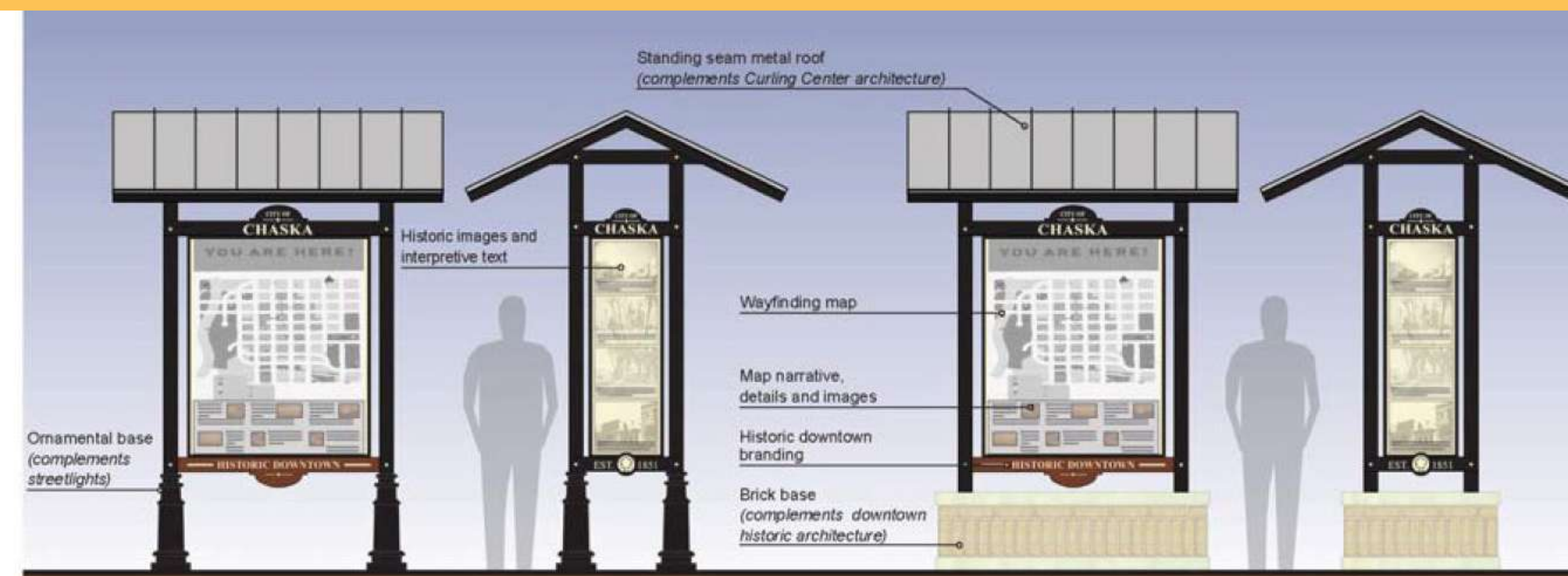


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**Ddt** Downtown Directional Sign - Vehicular

SITE: ALONG MAJOR ROADWAYS AT KEY INTERSECTIONS  
ROLE: WAYFINDING FOR DOWNTOWN DESTINATIONS AND HISTORIC CHARACTER  
SCALE: VEHICULAR HIGH SPEED



**K** Downtown Heritage Kiosk

SITE: DOWNTOWN STREET PLAZAS  
ROLE: DOWNTOWN MAP, COMMUNITY INFO, AND CHASKA HISTORY INTERPRETATION  
SCALE: BIKING / PEDESTRIAN

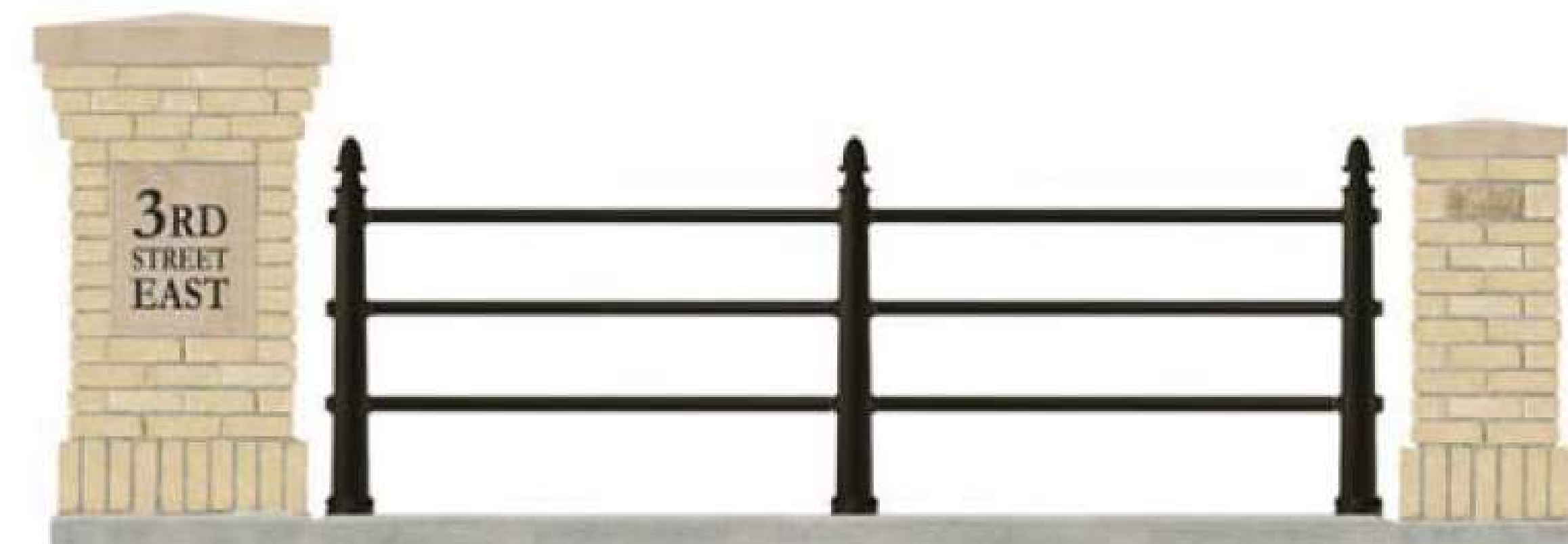
## Downtown Street and Gateway Elements



**DOWNTOWN HERITAGE WALL**  
SITE: DOWNTOWN STREET PLAZAS  
ROLE: INTERPRET CHASKA HISTORY  
SCALE: PEDESTRIAN



**DOWNTOWN HERITAGE COLUMN**  
SITE: DOWNTOWN STREET PLAZAS  
ROLE: INTERPRET CHASKA HISTORY  
SCALE: PEDESTRIAN



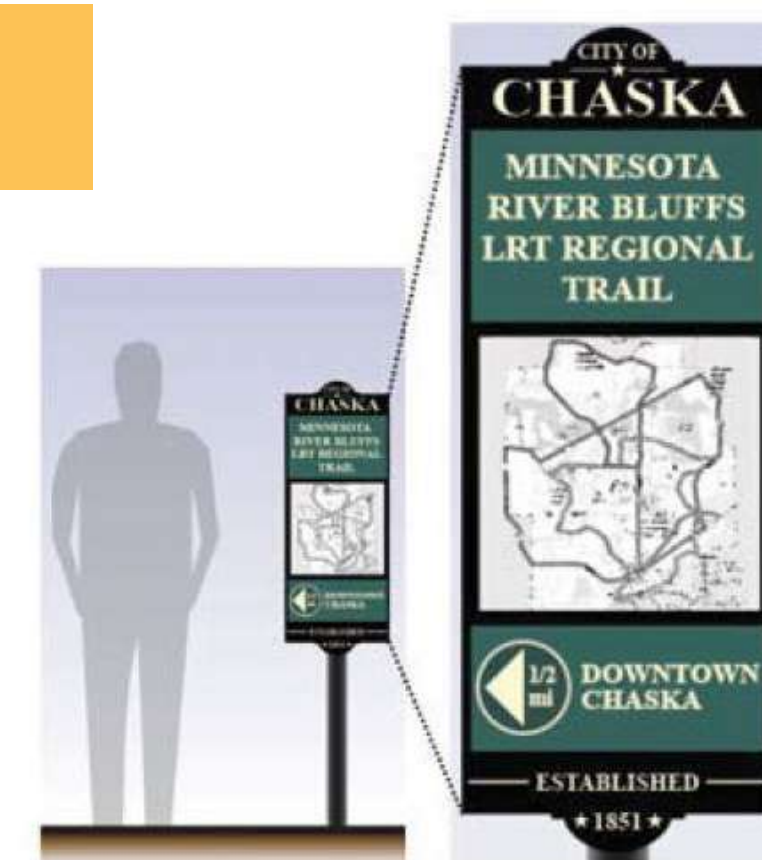
**DOWNTOWN STREET GATEWAY**  
SITE: DOWNTOWN STREET ENTRIES AT INTERSECTIONS WITH HIGHWAY 41  
ROLE: GATEWAY TO HISTORIC DOWNTOWN STREET ENVIRONMENT  
SCALE: PEDESTRIAN AND VEHICULAR SLOW SPEED

## Downtown Wayfinding Design



**d dt** Downtown Directional Sign - Pedestrian

SITE: AS NEEDED TO DIRECT TURNS  
ROLE: WAYFINDING FOR DOWNTOWN DESTINATIONS  
SCALE: VEHICULAR SLOW SPEED AND BIKING / PEDESTRIAN



**T** Trail Map Sign

SITE: TRAIL INTERSECTIONS AND ALONG TRAILS  
ROLE: WAYFINDING  
SCALE: BIKING / PEDESTRIAN



**T** Trail Directional Sign

SITE: TRAIL INTERSECTIONS AND ALONG TRAILS  
ROLE: WAYFINDING  
SCALE: BIKING / PEDESTRIAN

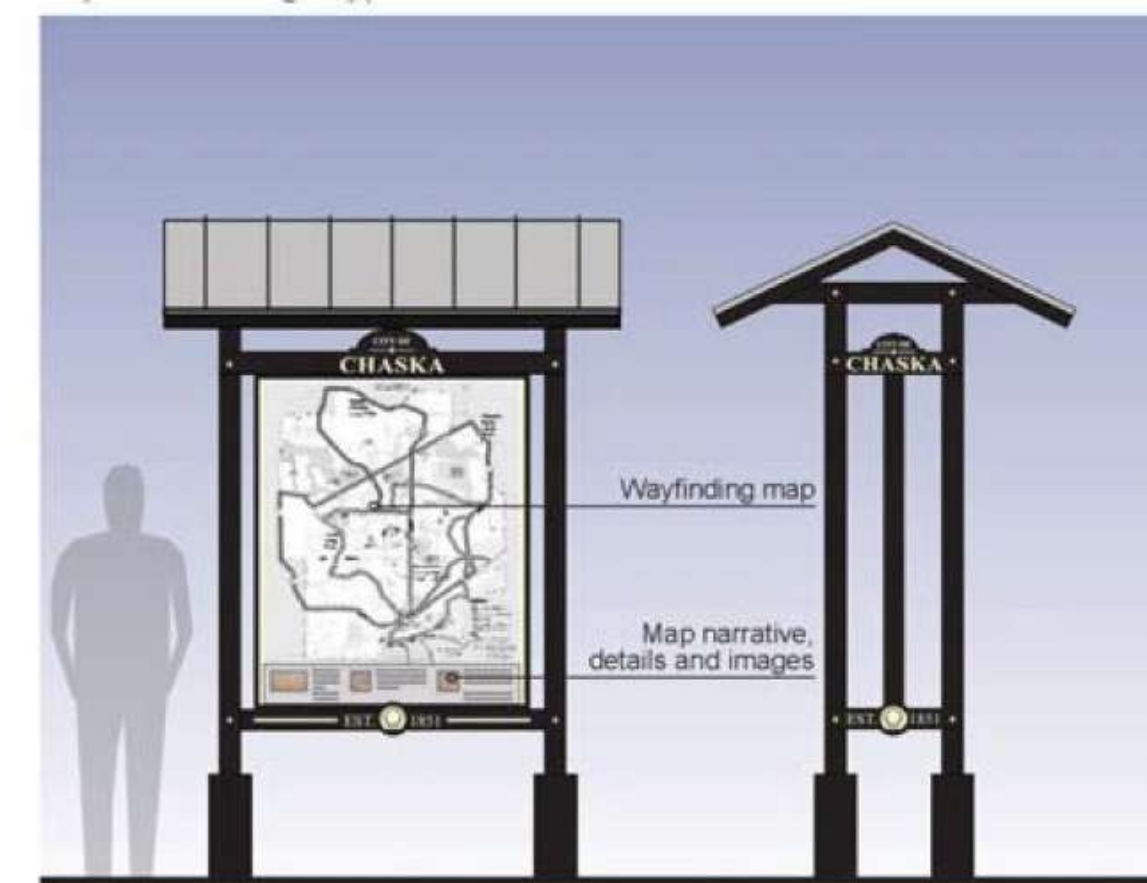


**T** Trail Directional Sign

SITE: TRAIL INTERSECTIONS AND ALONG TRAILS  
ROLE: WAYFINDING  
SCALE: BIKING / PEDESTRIAN

**P** Downtown Parking Sign

SITE: ALONG MINOR ROADWAYS  
ROLE: WAYFINDING FOR PARKING AND HISTORIC CHARACTER  
SCALE: VEHICULAR SLOW SPEED

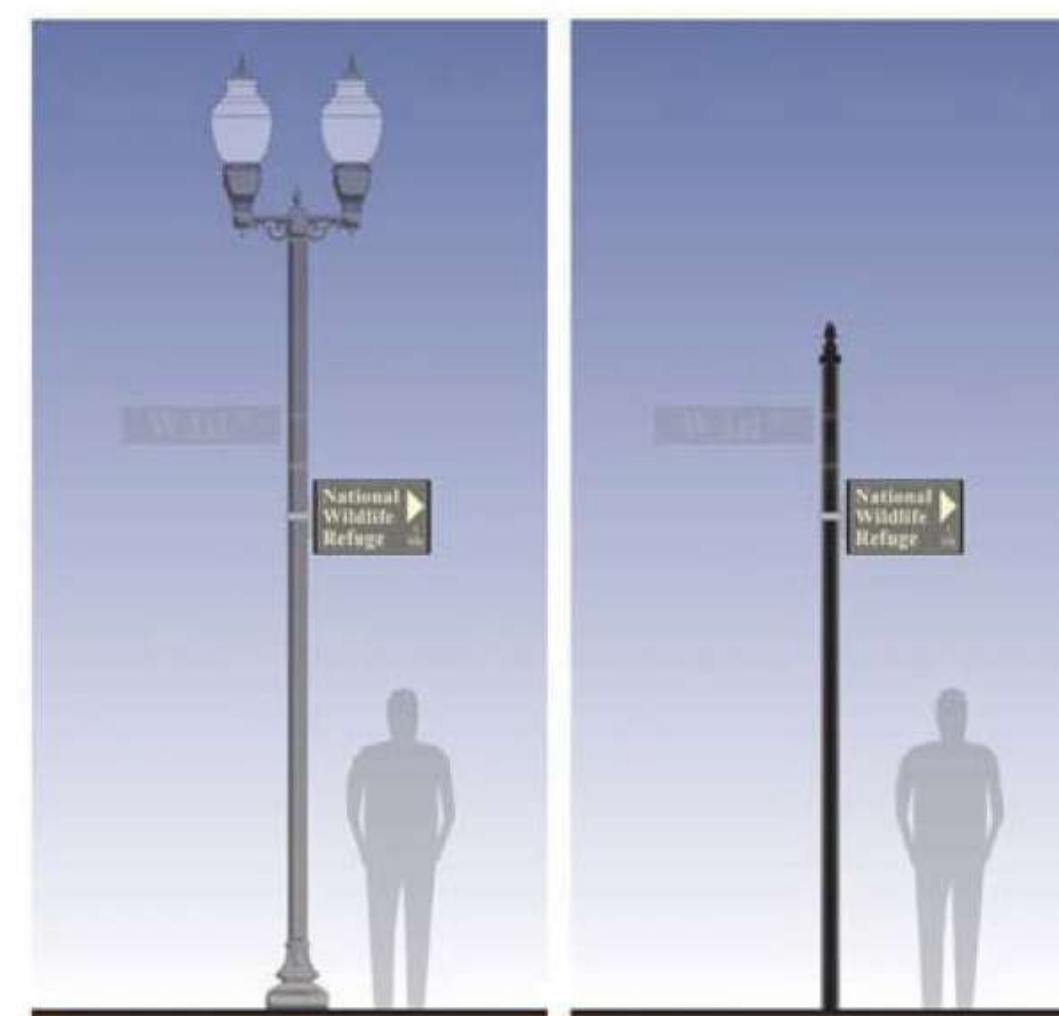


**TH** Trail Kiosk

SITE: TRAIL HEADS  
ROLE: WAYFINDING TRAIL SYSTEM  
SCALE: BIKING / PEDESTRIAN

**d dt** Single Destination Directional Sign

SITE: AS NEEDED TO GET PEOPLE ALL THE WAY TO THE DESTINATION  
ROLE: WAYFINDING FOR SPECIFIC DESTINATIONS  
SCALE: VEHICULAR SLOW SPEED AND BIKING / PEDESTRIAN

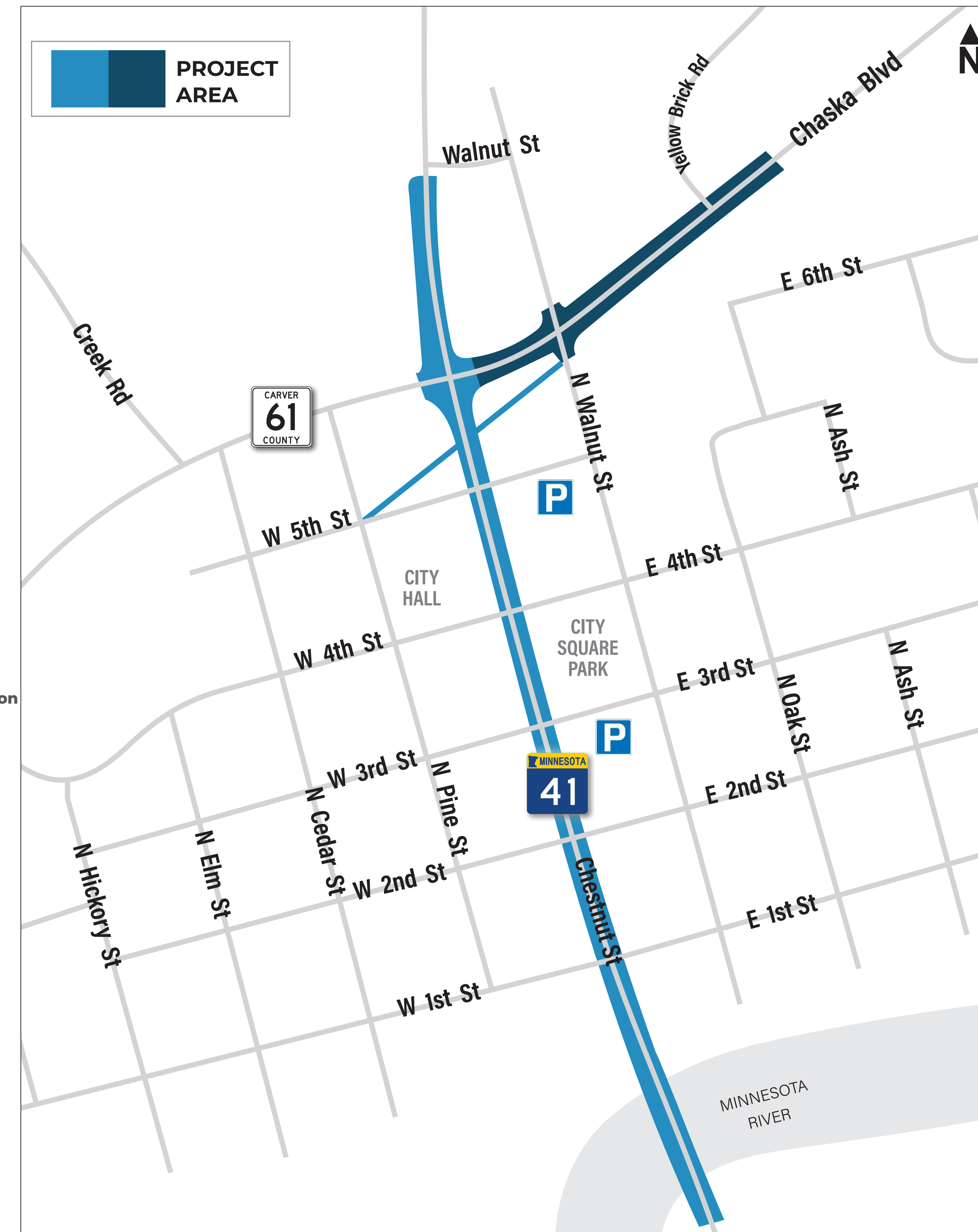
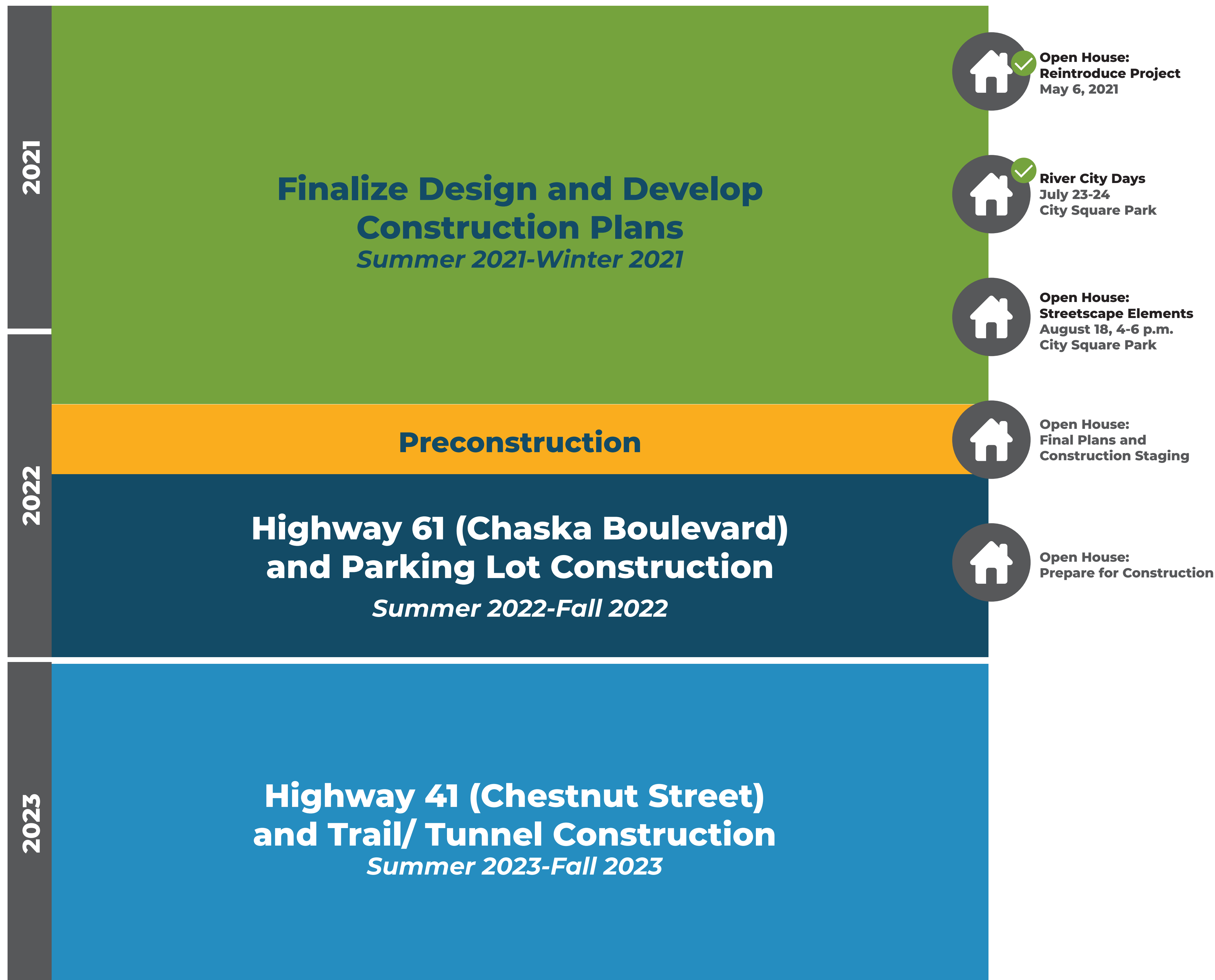




# Downtown Highway 41 Project Project Schedule



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Please note the schedule is subject to change!