

## **Lyons Downtown Improvement Plan 2007 Implementation Report**

The Lyons Downtown Improvement Plan Implementation Committee (DIPICt) was created by the Mayor in early 2007 to oversee implementation of the recommendations in the 2006 Lyons Downtown Improvement Plan. DIPICt is chaired by Tim Kyer and comprised of John Burke, Kris Hicar, Jerry Kuban, Christine Ralston and Julie Van Domelen. Kris Hicar serves as liaison with the Board of Trustees and Julie Van Domelen serves as liaison with the PCDC.

DIPICt set as its objectives for 2007 to: (a) identify ‘low hanging fruit’ in the DIP that could be more easily implemented, (b) initiate execution of the \$300,000 from the TIP 2005-2007 CDOT grant; and (c) identify funding sources for future portions of the DIP.

### **2007 DIPICt Achievements**

- ***Development of plan for High Street improvements***  
DIPICt developed a low-cost proposal for transforming High Street between 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Streets into a more pedestrian-friendly (and shopper-friendly) zone, with traffic calming and designated pedestrian walkways. This was supported by a detailed parking analysis for this area. A highly consultative process was carried out with each of the businesses and property owners affected to incorporate their concerns and ideas into the final designs. DIPICt Technical Recommendation #1 was passed unanimously by the BOT and \$20,000 was approved in the 2008 budget for the improvements.
- ***Proposed parking demarcation along 4<sup>th</sup> and Main Streets***  
Technical recommendation #1 included striping of parallel parking stalls along Main Street between 5<sup>th</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Streets and on 5th between Stickney and Main.
- ***Development of technical proposal for East Entry (US36 between 3<sup>rd</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>)***  
DIPICt developed a technical proposal for improvements to the US36 corridor on the east entrance to the downtown which included traffic calming, controls at the intersection of 2<sup>nd</sup>, additional parking constructed on the frontage road and better bike and pedestrian connections between the southern residential zone, parks and the downtown. The proposal was submitted to CDOT for TIP funding (2008-2013 cycle), but was not approved.
- ***Preparation of execution of improvements on Main between 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>***  
Adjustments to the approved TIP 2005-2007 funding were made concentrate efforts along the full North side of Main between 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>. An initial walkthrough and task planning for implementation in 2008 was carried out.
- ***Collaboration with Ped and Pedal Friendly Lyons on Lyons School Safety Project grant proposal.*** DIPICt helped Ped and Pedal Friendly Lyons, a grassroots initiative in Lyons, prepare a grant proposal for Safe Routes to School funding. A portion - \$68,800 – of the grant would go to putting bumpouts and a lighted crosswalk at the intersection of Broadway and 3<sup>rd</sup> ., the technical design and budget for which was provided by DIPICt. Notification of grant awards is pending for March 2008.

- ***Participation in DRCOG Meeting on Small Town Economic Development.*** DIPICt members attended this economic development workshop to begin familiarizing themselves with strategies and funding opportunities for downtown development.

### **Other DIP Implementation Activities Carried Out in 2007**

Several other pieces of the Downtown Improvement Plan were carried out by other entities.

By the Town:

- ***West Entry improvements.*** The Town, with CDOT, completed reconstruction of the bridge on Highway 36 on the west side of Downtown, reconfigured the intersections at 36 and 5<sup>th</sup> and Main, and created better pedestrian walkways in that area.
- ***Lighted crosswalk at 3<sup>rd</sup> and Main*** was installed.

By the Planning and Community Development Commission:

- ***Drafting of revised zoning regulations.*** The rewrite of the zoning regulations addressed several aspects of the DIP, including: (a) designation of a Downtown Commercial District with smaller lot size and zero lot line requirements, and (b) creation of a Historic Preservation process and criteria for voluntary designation of historic landmarks in Lyons.

### **DIPICt Priorities for 2008**

1. ***Implement Technical Recommendation #1 Improvements.*** Streetscape improvements to High Street are planned to be executed by the end of April 2008. Striping of parking stalls on Main and 4<sup>th</sup> to be scheduled with Public Works department.
2. ***Begin Execution of TIP2005-2007 Grant.*** Property and business owner consultations and detailed technical and engineering specifications to be completed. Scheduling of physical works will depend on timing of the work planned on the water main in that section.
3. ***Identify, with the Board of Trustees, funding strategies and sources for Downtown improvements.*** This would include education of stakeholders and development of consensus around priorities, linked to a better understanding of Town fiscal perspectives.
4. ***Propose to Town critical maintenance items to be addressed in 2008.***
5. ***Start to develop ideas for Broadway.*** Are there immediate opportunities? What are longer-term funding perspectives?
6. ***Coordinate with PCDC on Comp Plan Update process.*** The Downtown Improvement Plan is an integral part of the Comprehensive Plan. As the Comprehensive Plan update will begin in 2008, any updates/adjustments to the DIP should be identified as part of that process.

**Lyons Downtown Improvement Plan Implementation Actions**

**Status as of 2/08**

	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Observations</b>
<b>1.</b>	<b>Comprehensive Plan Amendment</b> – to incorporate Downtown Improvement Plan	√	DIP formally part of Comp Plan. Need to update DIP as part of Comp Plan update process?
<b>2.</b>	<b>Zoning Regulation Amendments</b>		
2.A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Update Title 9 of Zoning Regulations to allow a reduced minimum lot area requirement and zero lot lines for Downtown Lyons</li> </ul>	√	Pending BOT approval
2.B	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Create a new zone district for Downtown Lyons -Commercial Downtown District.</li> </ul>	√	Pending BOT approval
2.C	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Parking study to determine existing parking inventory, short-term and long-term parking needs and how to meet them</li> </ul>	Partial	Done for certain sections (High Street and Main between 5 <sup>th</sup> and 4 <sup>th</sup> ). Comprehensive Parking Plan is not yet done by BOT
<b>3.</b>	<b>Develop historic preservation guidelines</b>	√	Pending BOT approval
<b>4.</b>	<b>Develop architectural design guidelines</b>		
<b>5.</b>	<b>Streetscape Improvements</b>		
5.A	East Entry <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Modified roundabout, traffic calming</li> </ul>	under way	Initial design work done. Funding request rejected by CDOT.
5.B	West Entry <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reconfigure intersection of 5<sup>th</sup>, High and 36</li> <li>Enhanced landscaping/signage</li> </ul>	√	Reconfiguration completed. Sign plaza and water feature expected in 2008.
5.C	Broadway (5 <sup>th</sup> to 3 <sup>rd</sup> Ave) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>East block: 2 12 foot travel lanes and 2 9-foot parallel parking lanes, one on each side of the street</li> <li>West block: 2 12 foot travel lanes and 1 9-foot parallel parking lane on N side.</li> <li>Bumpouts at crosswalks with bench walls</li> <li>6'amenity zone and minimum 8 foot sidewalk on N side</li> </ul>		
5.D	Main Street (3 <sup>rd</sup> to 5 <sup>th</sup> ) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bumpouts, 6'amenity zone, 10' sidewalks, 29' marked parallel parking lanes</li> </ul>		

5.E	High Street (4 <sup>th</sup> to 5 <sup>th</sup> ) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduced lane width and creation of pedestrian walkways</li> <li>• Signage, lighting, benches, and other amenities</li> </ul>	Under way	Proposal approved by BOT and budgeted for 2008. Completion expected by end of April 2008
5.F	4 <sup>th</sup> Avenue (between Broadway and High) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bumpouts, crosswalks, marked parallel parking stalls</li> </ul>	Partial	Parking demarcation planned within DIPICt Tech Recommendation #1
5.G	5 <sup>th</sup> Avenue/Highway 36 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Median islands, plantings.</li> </ul>	Partial	Amenities and landscaping still needed.
<b>6.</b>	<b>Sandstone Park</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Amphitheater seating and landscaping added to existing stage</li> <li>• 10' sidewalk on east side of amphitheater seating for pedestrian access to stage/PO</li> </ul>		
<b>7.</b>	<b>Other Urban Design Features</b>		
7.A	Street lighting added in Downtown		
7.B	Wayfinding program to facilitate pedestrian access		
7.C	Maintenance program with Town and business owners		
7.D	Display of public art		
<b>8.</b>	<b>Sidewalk Connections to Parks and Trails</b>	Partial	Lighted crosswalk installed at 3 <sup>rd</sup> and Main Funding proposal for 3 <sup>rd</sup> and Broadway submitted.
<b>9.</b>	<b>Develop funding strategy for downtown improvements</b>	Under way	Joint DIPICt/BOT responsibility