CITY OF WASHINGTON

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

301 Walnut St. · Washington, IL 61571
Ph. 309-444-1135 · Fax 309-444-9779
http://www.washington-illinois.org

http://www.washington-illinois.org joliphant@ci.washington.il.us

MEMORANDUM

TO:

Mayor Manier and Committee of the Whole

FROM:

Jon R. Oliphant, AICP, Planning & Development Director

SUBJECT:

Square Streetscape Phase 1 Engineering Update

DATE:

October 9, 2019

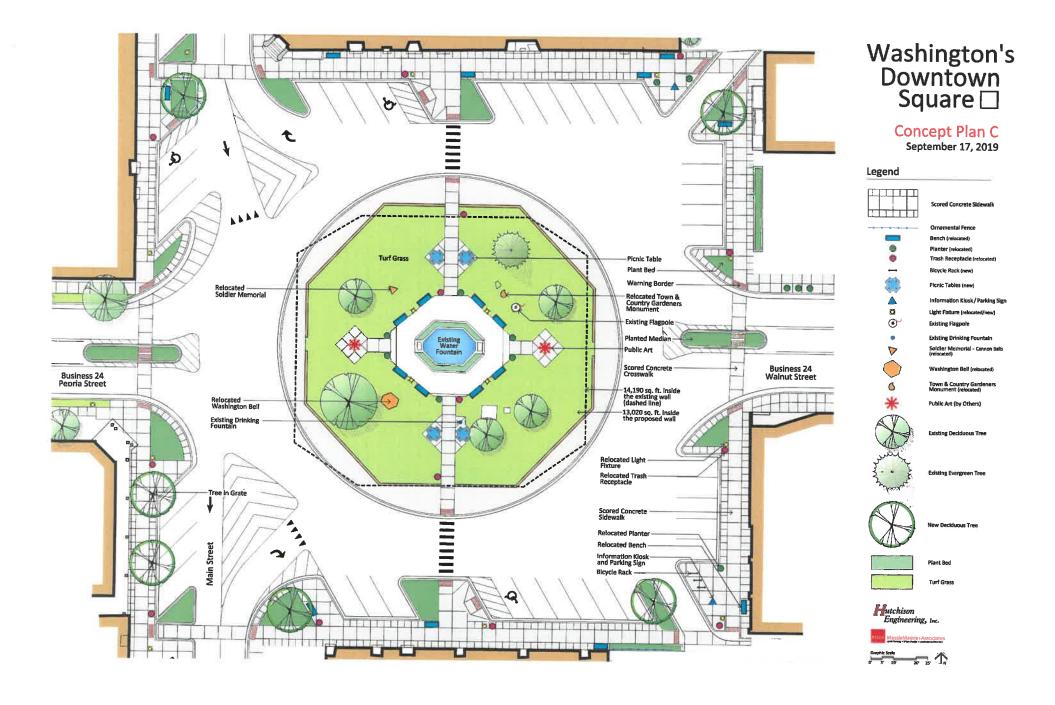
<u>Summary</u>: Staff and the City's contracted consulting engineer, Hutchison Engineering, will provide an update on the Square streetscape Phase 1 engineering project at Tuesday's Committee of the Whole meeting. Great input was received at the September 5 open house at Five Points. The two primary items that some people were concerned with were the decrease in on-street parking spaces and the loss of some greenspace within the interior part of the Square.

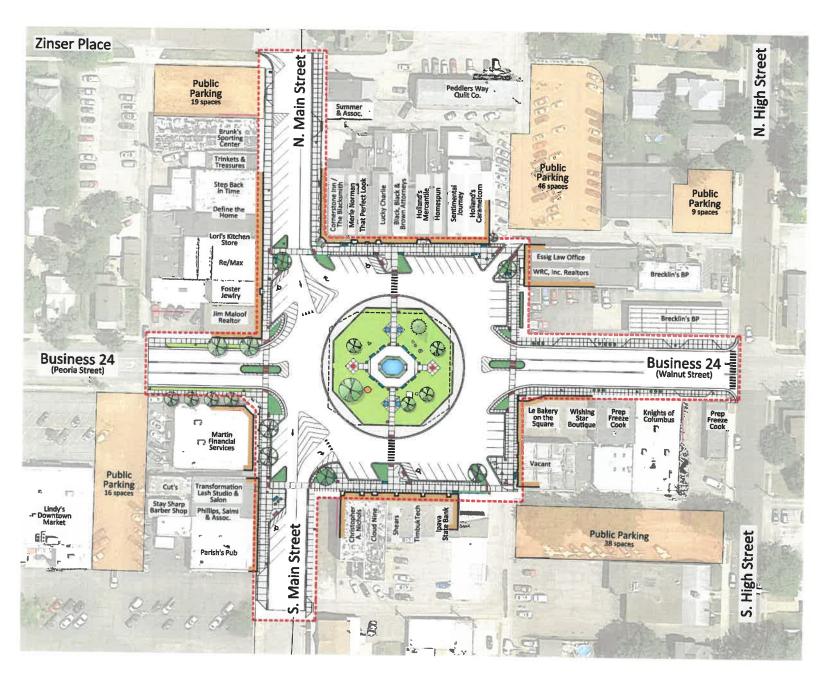
<u>Background</u>: The Hutchison team took the input and were able to reconfigure the design so that only 11 spaces would be lost as compared to the 15 that were shown at the open house. The majority of these are on the north and south sides as a result of the addition of pedestrian refuge islands and required ADA spaces. The other reduction would be to eliminate spaces that are currently in place that allow for vehicles to back into crosswalks, which is a safety hazard. The City has gained 46 public parking spaces in the last three years on the northwest and southeast sides of the Square and opportunities are continually explored for the addition of more spaces.

Additionally, the interior part of the Square was redesigned in order to reduce the loss of greenspace to about 10 percent. This is drafted for the modern design template that accommodates the necessary turning radii for WB-65 trucks around the Square as well as to ensure the safety of the pedestrians into the area. Staff and Hutchison have been in continual contact with IDOT and the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) to see if any change to the size and shape of the coping wall can be completed. The hope is to have a firm response from SHPO as soon as possible in order to understand if a reconfiguration of the wall can happen and to incorporate that into the draft Project Development Report.

A meeting was held with many of the Square business and property owners after the open house and the attendees were supportive of the changes that are attached.

Attachments





Washington's Downtown Square □

Concept Plan C

September 17, 2019



