

City Focus Group Chairman Message



Mick Given

A new tagline for the City of Sidney was recently adopted. “Sidney is a Spirit” is a great phrase, and it reflects our desire to share what makes Sidney so special. With this in mind, I’d like to present how our spirit continues to grow. Titled “Sidney – The Spirit Continues”, this packet highlights our historic downtown enhancement plans.

In 2019 through the efforts of the Sidney Shelby Economic Partnership and several other partners, the firm “CityVisions Associates” was hired. This firm prepared a report for the committee to identify growth and development opportunities in the City and County. One area of focus examined downtown Sidney and the enhancement of the aesthetics. A new committee was formed in early 2020 called the “City Focus Group”. This group’s effort was to review, evaluate, dream and develop new ideas to improve the overall aesthetics and appearance of the downtown area.

Many ideas surfaced and it was not long before the committee asked Freytag and Associates to join our group to help put the various ideas on paper. Once that happened it was easy to see just how important these enhancements would be to support all the current investment that has been going on in Sidney and the County for the past several years. The City Focus Group has now organized a fundraising group to bring the vision that has been developed by many different people to a reality.

This is where I ask all of you to join in with the City Focus Group committee and support this effort with your financial contributions. With all your help, we can make this vision and dream a reality. Help us make Sidney a destination stop for visitors and not just another small City on the map.

City Focus Group Private Industry:

DJ Baird
Phil Gilardi
Mick Given
Mike Lochar
Denny Sollmann

City of Sidney:

Andrew Bowsher,
City Manager

Jon Crusey,
Director of Public Works

Shelby County:

Julie Ehemann,
County Commissioner

Other:

Amy Breinich,
Sidney Alive

James Hill,
Sidney Shelby
Economic Partnership



Photos courtesy of Sidney Visitor's Bureau



Establishing a Foundation City Visions Steering Committee

In August 2019, a group of community and industry leaders from Sidney established the City Visions Steering Committee. This group contracted Barry Alberts of CityVisions Associates, Louisville, Kentucky, to study our city and make recommendations for improved housing, placemaking, and talent and business development to enhance the overall perception of Sidney and Shelby County.

A final report was received in December of 2020 and the Steering Committee chose these four areas to focus the community's resources:

- Activating Downtown & Courthouse Square
- Encouraging Third Places
- Funding Housing & Revitalization
- Riverfront Activation & Development

City Focus Group Subcommittee Established

This group was created in January of 2020 to focus on activating historic Downtown Sidney and the Courthouse Square. Meeting bi-monthly, the City Focus Group created a budget, timeline and gathered resources to bring the downtown activation ideas to reality; those ideas are outlined in this packet.

Project Steering Committee:

Mark Cundiff, City of Sidney, Retired

Marian Spicer, Shelby County Community Foundation

Mick Given, Ferguson Construction Company

Phil Gilardi, On-Point Concepts

Julie Ehemann, Shelby County Board of Commissioners

Jeff Raible, Sidney-Shelby Chamber of Commerce

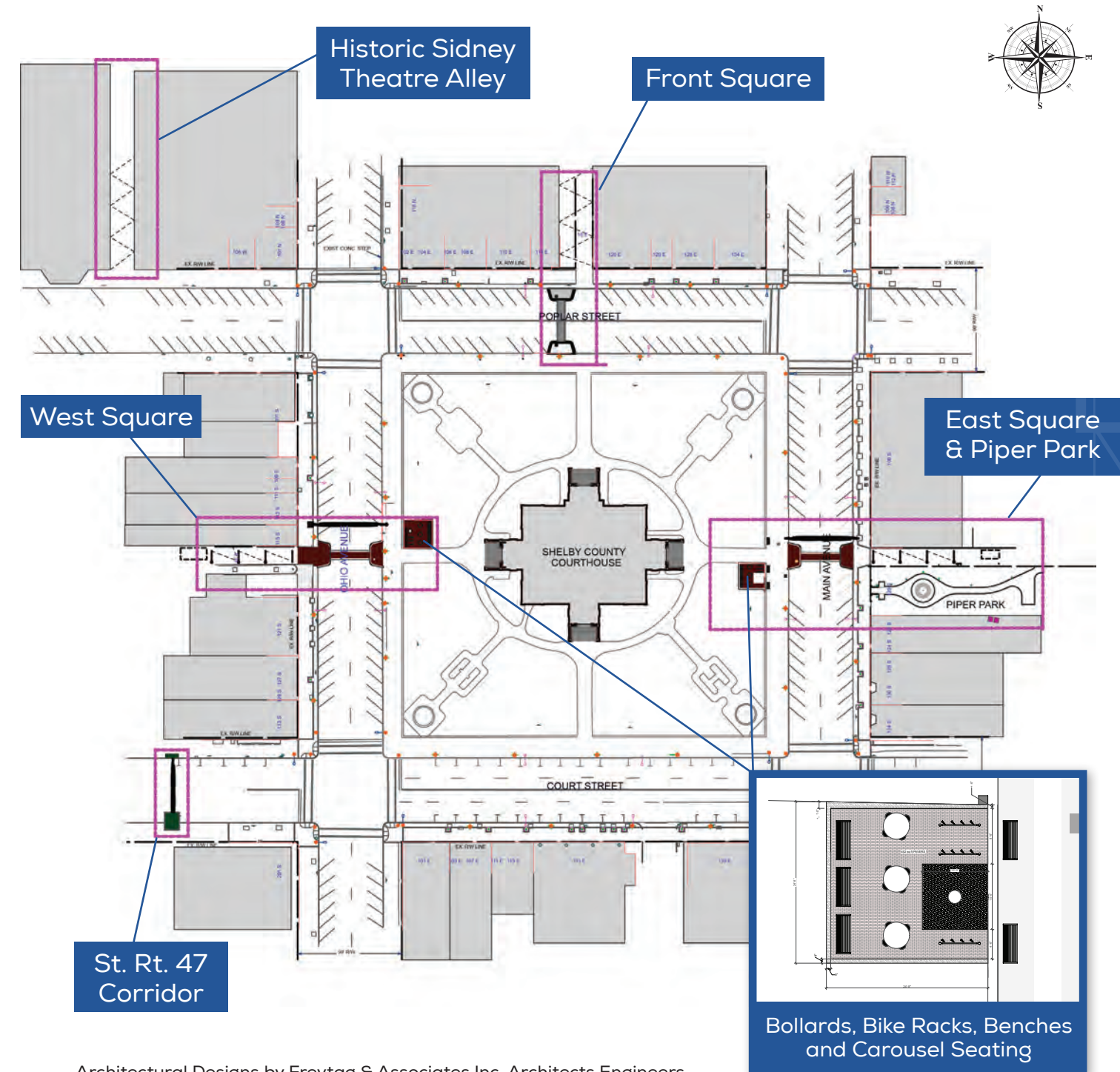
Jim Hill, Sidney-Shelby Economic Partnership

Amy Breinich, Sidney Alive

Our Plan Historic Downtown Sidney Enhancements



West Square



Architectural Designs by Freytag & Associates Inc. Architects Engineers

PHASE I: CROSSWALK AND ALLEY IMPROVEMENTS: \$700,000

- Crosswalks / Paving, three locations
- Pavement Marking, three locations
- Small Alley Arches & Lighting, four locations
- Bollards, Bike Racks, Benches and Carousel Seating, two locations
- Utilities

PHASE II: GATEWAY STREET ARCHES: \$550,000

- Steel Arches, three locations
- Foundations
- Steel Posts
- Street Arch Lighting
- Utilities

(Contingency & Design Included)



St. Rt. 47 Corridor



East Square & Piper Park

Architectural Designs by Freytag & Associates Inc. Architects Engineers

Benefits of an Enhanced Downtown

- An active and inviting historic downtown becomes the hub of community pride and sends a message to visitors: 'This is a great place to live!'
 - Unique experiences for dining, shopping and events will attract other business and out of town visitors.
 - The intentional creation of "Third Places" for gathering and attending events, large and small, add to combined experiences and overall vibrancy unique to historic downtown Sidney.
 - Additional residential options in the downtown attract younger residents and meets their needs
 - Close proximity to the Great Miami Riverway trail head and Tawawa Park invites activities such as the Canal Feeder Trail, kayaking and hiking.
- Sidney Area is a Top US Micropolitan from 2016 - 2020, moving from 15th to 11th in 2020
 - Shelby County manufacturing shipments total \$7.1 Billion
 - Shelby County has four of the top eight best performing schools in the region
 - Shelby county has 46.4% employed in manufacturing: #1 in Ohio
 - Shelby County has 6 of the top 12 manufacturing companies in the region
 - Shelby County has made a \$1.079 Billion 5-year capital investment

Current Investments and Improvements over the past five years:

BUSINESSES OPENED

- The Royal Parlour
- Aflac
- Greenhaus Coffee
- Amelio's
- KB's Tap House
- Vintage Kitschy
- Vin & Joy
- Bad Attitude Off Road
- Berkshire Hathaway
- Day & Night Security Services
- Executive Function Learning Center
- Farmer's Insurance
- Hammer & Stain
- Journey 4 Self
- Maureen O'Keefe Art Studio
- Spot On Nutrition
- Therapeutic Massage by Sonja
- Murphy's Craft Bar + Kitchen
- Tavolo Modern Italian
- Bob's Classic Bicycles
- Moonflower Effect
- Catholic Social Services
- S'Ellen Photography

SIGNIFICANT RENOVATIONS

- Historic Sidney Theatre
- Amos Library
- Realty 2000 Group
- Sidney-Shelby County Business Hub (Chamber/SSEP/Workforce Partnership/Visitors Bureau)
- The Bridge Restaurant
- The Alcove Restaurant
- Sidney Alive Office
- Samaritan Works
- Shelby County Courthouse
- Shelby County Historical Society
- Shreves Construction

Total Investments to Date \$9,750,000

HISTORIC DOWNTOWN

Summary of Fundraising Goals - 2022-2023

2022

- City of Sidney: \$175,000 allocated
- Shelby County Commissioners: \$100,000 allocated
- Private Industry: \$350,000 Fundraising Goal

2023

- City of Sidney: \$175,000 allocated
- Shelby County Commissioners: \$100,000 requested/pending
- Private Industry: \$350,000 Fundraising Goal

TOTAL FUNDRAISING INCOME FOR 2-YEAR PLEDGE PERIOD:	\$1,250,000
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