

PUBLIC WORKS CONNECTS YOU ALL AROUND AUSTIN



Solutions For Sixth

Presentation to the CPTC

December 2013

Agenda

- Why rebuild 6th Street?
- What should a rebuilt 6th Street look like?
- Where are we now?
- Where do we go next?

Goal: Obtain concurrence with the festival street concept before launching into a detailed design program.



Why Rebuild 6th Street?

Why Rebuild 6th Street?

- Downtown Austin Plan approved by City Council Ordinance in 2011:
 - Identified 6th Street improvements as a “highest priority” and one of the “Seven Transformative Steps in the Next 10 Years”.
 - Directed that 6th Street be “reimagined as a destination for everyone”.
 - Established project goals of improved pedestrian environment, diverse activities and protection of unique historical character.
- Street pavement and subgrade is failing.
- Sidewalks are failing, inconsistent and require increased maintenance.
- Drainage is poor and the storm drain system is less than half the size that it should be.



Failing & Inconsistent Sidewalks



Poor Drainage & Failing Pavement



Pavement Assessment

Segment from:	Segment to:	Condition
Congress Avenue	Brazos Street	D
Brazos Street	San Jacinto Street	D
San Jacinto Street	Trinity Street	F
Trinity Street	Neches Street	F
Neches Street	Red River Street	D
River Street	Sabine Street	C
Sabine Street	IH35 SB Service Road	D

Note: PWD can stretch the useful life of 6th Street pavements by 5 -10 years through the installation of an overlay, however sidewalk and drainage conditions remain areas of concern.





What Should a Rebuilt 6th Street Look Like?

What the Community had to say

- Movement of Traffic/Closures
- Parking/Loading
- Bicycle Lanes
- Wider Sidewalks with Furniture & Trees
- Nighttime Safety
- Retain Historic District Character



Community Derived Design

Supported by
DAA, Staff, Many
Stakeholders

- 18' wide sidewalks
- 3 travel lanes (1 convertible for parking)
- Bicycle lane
- Concrete/colored concrete construction
- Historic brick accents
- Trees where they don't block historic views
- Festival street (similar to 2nd Street by NCL)
 - No curb with trench drain
 - Retractable bollards

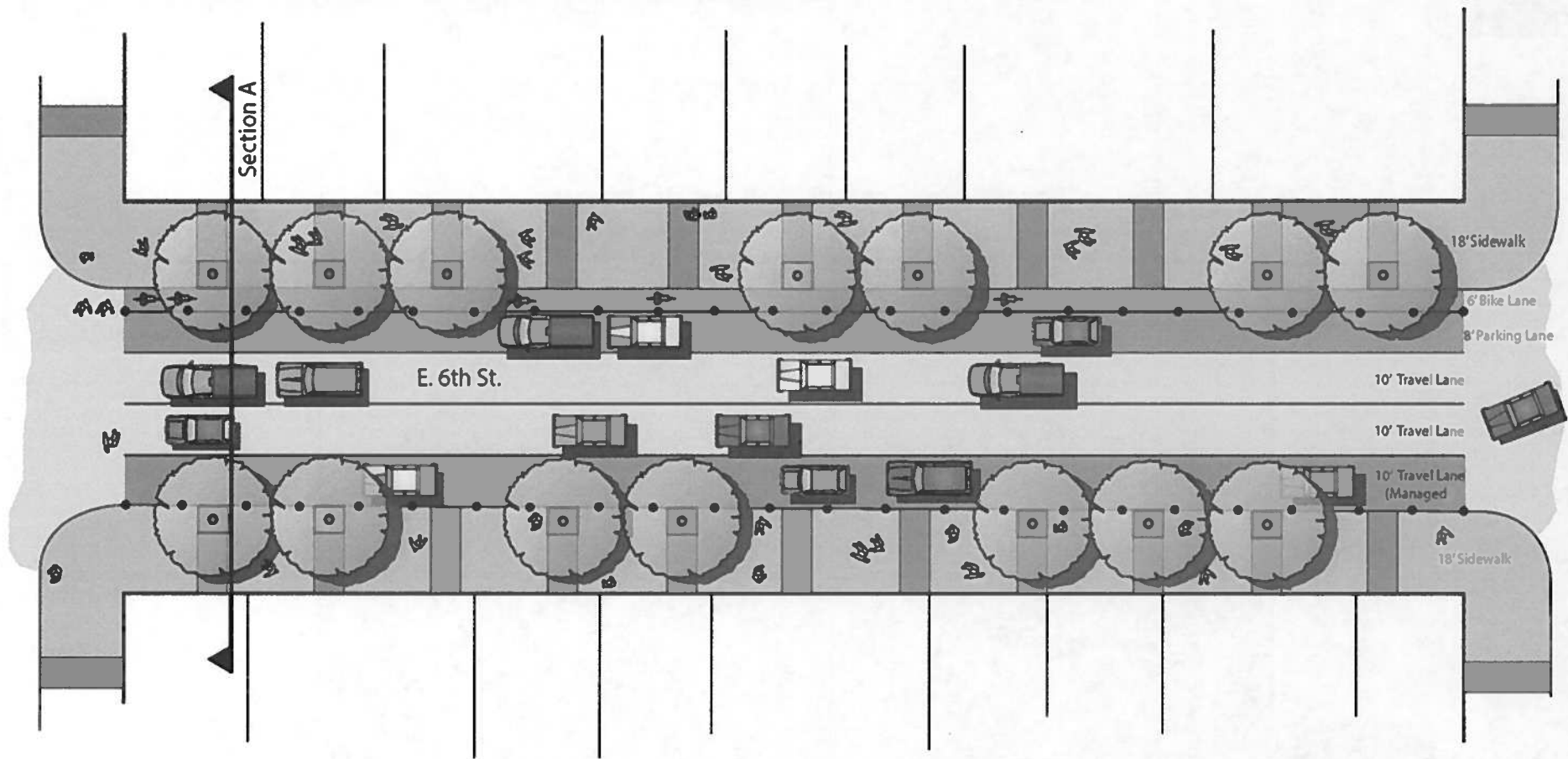






- Flexible Space
- “Blank Slate” for Multiple Configurations
- Accommodates Everyday Uses and Special Events

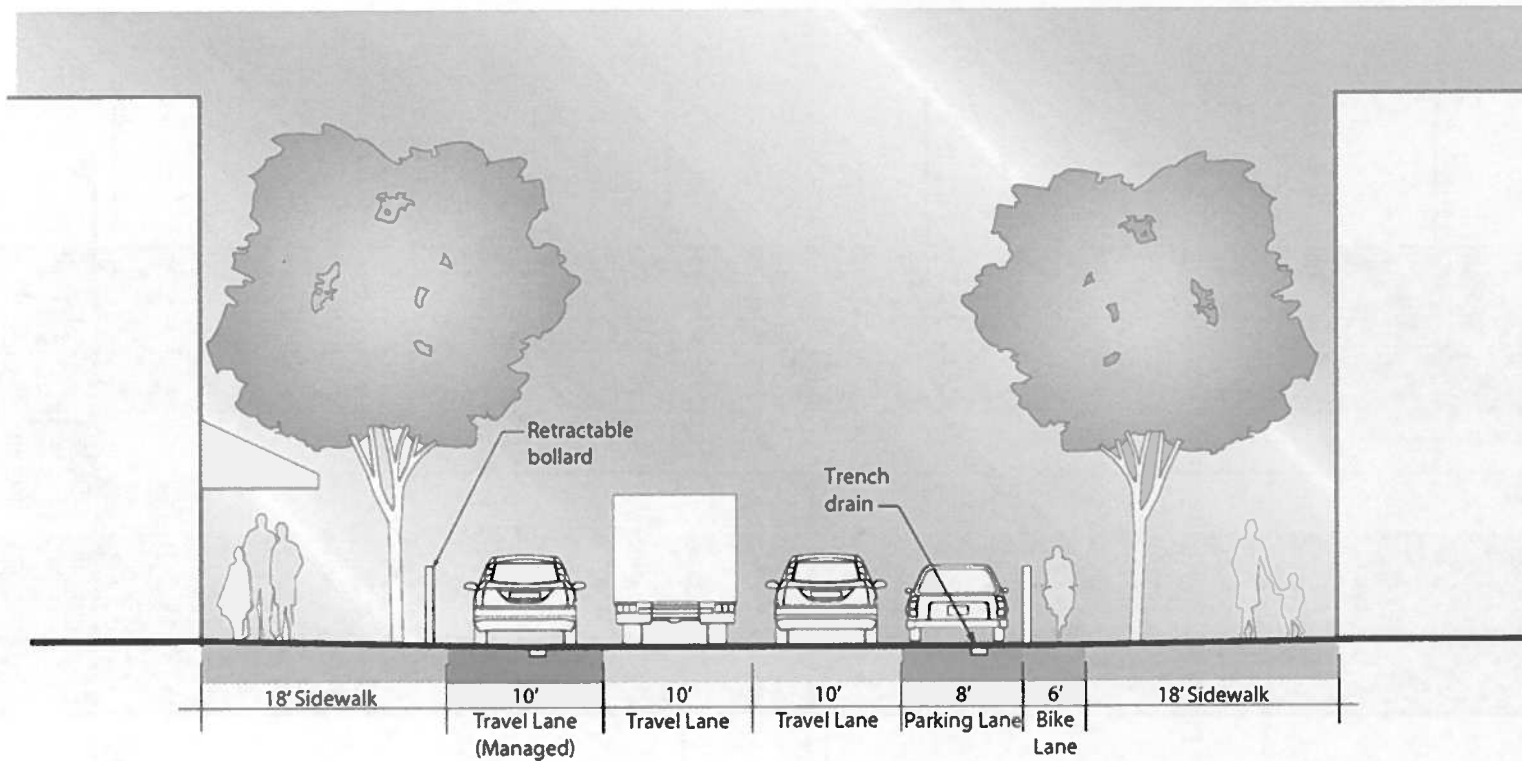




6th Street Streetscape Improvements - Sample Block Plan

Austin, Texas

October 2013



6th Street Streetscape Improvements - Section A

Austin, Texas

October 2013

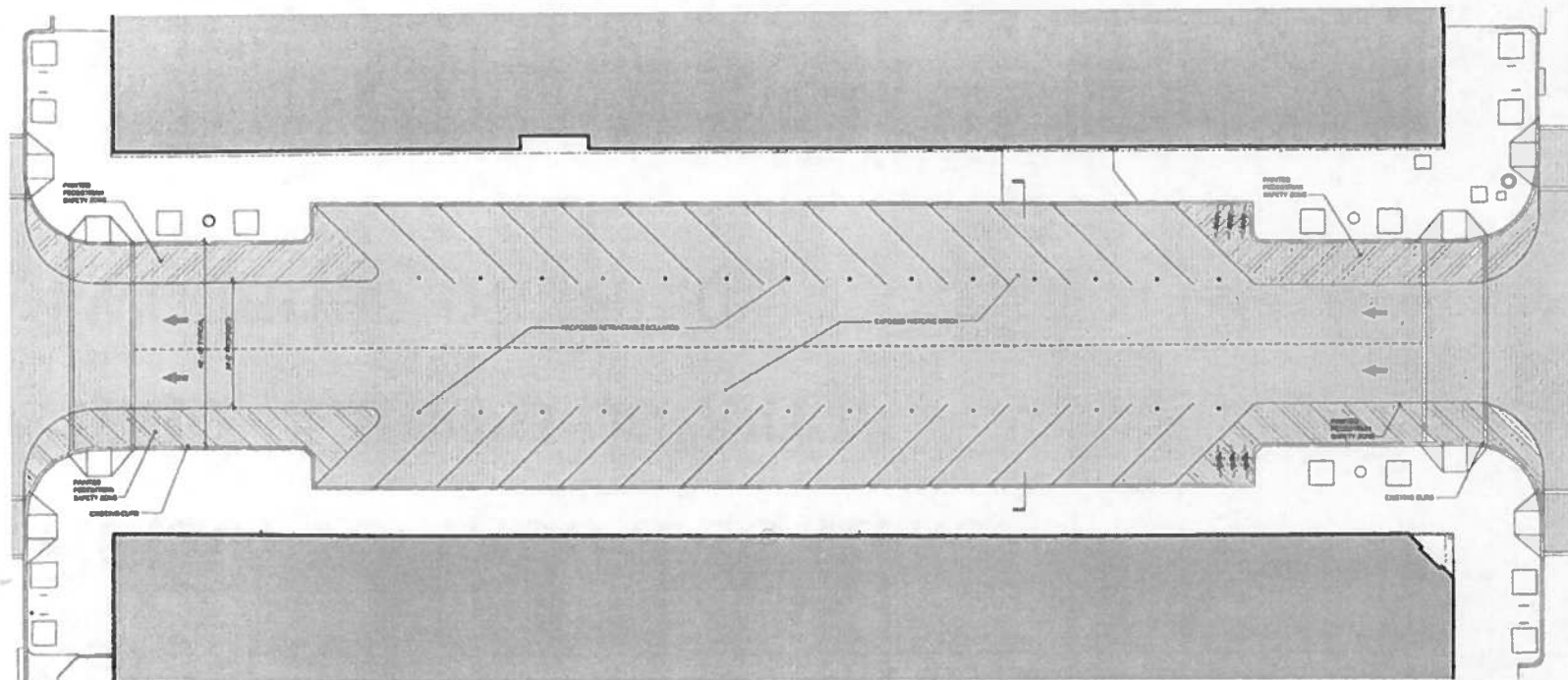
Alternative Design Proposal

Supported by
Pecan Street
Merchants

- Main focus on preserving existing hardscape.
- Retain 10' wide sidewalks.
- Head-in angle parking.
- Two lanes of traffic.



Alternative Design Proposal



SIXTH STREET VISION

TYPICAL STREET PLAN - RED RIVER TO BRAZOS
HEAD-IN ANGLED PARKING BOTH SIDES)
16 SEP 2012



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Where are we now?



- Conducted extensive stakeholder engagement and still do not have consensus.
- Ready to start detailed design: \$1M available from 2010 bond program.
- Total project cost estimated at \$19M, unfunded.
- There is broad support for a more pedestrian-oriented experience on 6th Street
- Major business owner concerns exist over construction impact, regardless of design approach taken.

