



Peer Inspiration



Bicycle and Pedestrian Friendly Plans

- The Asheville Black Cultural Heritage Trail, in Asheville, North Carolina, spans the downtown, Southside, and River Area neighborhoods.
- 14 stops along the route tell stories and accomplishments of Asheville's Black community.
 - Featuring historical signs, maps, and art
- Local nonprofit group led effort. Grant funding provided from the county tourism development authority.
- Intersects with Asheville's Urban Trail to provide a network of connected walking areas in the city's center.
- Three separate trails in different areas, directing pedestrians across city.



the ASHEVILLE BLACK CULTURAL HERITAGE TRAIL

Placemaking and Beautification

- Bowling Green, Ohio: a town of just over 30,000 people
 - With large young population- BGSU
- Since 2021, town has prioritized placemaking efforts
- Improvements to walkability
- Adopting Complete Streets policies to slow traffic
- **Expanding wayfinding and signage**



BOWLING GREEN, OH — PRESERVATION COMMISSION

Bowling Green's Historic Schools

The area around present-day Wooster Green has historically been the site of Bowling Green's junior high and high schools, before they were relocated to the campus on West Poe Road. As the city grew and prospered, school buildings were erected, repurposed, or torn down to make way for the next phase of educational architecture. (25/29)

High School Building, Bowling Green, Ohio

In the 1910s, Central High School was razed and replaced with a new high school building (above) on the same site. When a new high school was built (below), this building became the administration building for Bowling Green City Schools. It was torn down in 2012. (22/22)

In 1926, a new Senior High School was opened on the site of Wooster Green (left). It featured modern gymnasium and a large auditorium. When a new high school was built on West Poe Road in 1967, this building became Bowling Green Junior High School. In 2012, after Bowling Green Middle School opened at the Poe Road campus, the building was demolished. (8/22)

The Bowling Green Central High School building (above) in the French Second Empire style was completed in 1881 on South Grove Street, where the Wood County Senior Center now stands. In 1951, additions were built to accommodate population growth during the oil boom. (20/25)

Information on the Historic Preservation Commission and the signage project.
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Placemaking and Beautification

- Also part of effort: the Parklet Project, introduced by a city council member.
- Three original parklets (or “dining decks”) allowed downtown Bowling Green businesses to use city parking spaces for dining and retail.
 - Cost: \$64,000, grant and partner funded
- Each parklet has unique design and decoration.
 - Displays art from students from diverse backgrounds
- Tested traffic calming methods on Main Street to demonstrate benefits of narrower, slower, less car-oriented streets.
- City overhauled Bowling Green’s zoning code last year to improve pedestrian experience and allow denser housing development in and around downtown.



Placemaking and Beautification (Pt. 2)

- Atmore, AL, racially diverse town of 8,000 people
- Looking to activate spaces downtown, attract investment, increase pedestrian connectivity, and preserve and enhance green space
- Community engagement leads to plan for **Water Conservation and Butterfly Pollination Park**



Placemaking and Beautification (Pt. 2)



- Community/volunteer support critical, plus T-Mobile Hometown Grant and donations
 - \$220k cost
- Provides new public space for residents and students to learn about insects & plants
- Connects to "mural trail"
- Inspired new businesses to locate nearby
- "Focal point that brought the community together"

Downtown Revitalization



Streetscape Overhaul and Downtown Farmers Market

- Bypass built by TNDOT, which diverted traffic from Downtown Pikeville.
- In response, the town redesigned Main Street to attract tourism.
- Project encompassed $\frac{1}{4}$ mile of Main Street, completed in 2009.
- Funds from TNDOT, USDA-Rural Development, and Appalachian Regional Commission
- City secured funding to build farmers market pavilion on vacant lot along stretch
- Streetscape includes 48 ornamental street lights, textured brick crosswalks, and 1,600 linear feet of sidewalk.

Downtown Revitalization



Houses Turned Businesses!



12 South Neighborhood, Nashville



Possibilities in Austin

