



DOWNTOWN ACTION ORGANIZATION

Design & Improvement Committee Meeting

Friday, December 6

1:30 – 2:30 pm

Santa Rosa Metro Chamber

AGENDA

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| 1.0 | CALL TO ORDER | Hugh Futrell |
| 2.0 | PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS (limited to two minutes each)
Comments from the public will be allowed on all agenda items at the time each item is called. | |
| 3.0 | CONFLICTS OF INTEREST OR ABSTENTIONS | Hugh Futrell |
| 4.0 | COURTHOUSE SQUARE BENCHES / TREE GUARDS | All |

A discussion ensued about whether benches or tree guards were the appropriate option for the new crepe myrtle trees being planted in the Square in 2020. Tree guards would cost approximately \$12,100 and the quote for benches is \$26,100. It was determined benches would be preferred, which was the original intent of the Courthouse Square reunification plan. It's important that the benches have dividers to deter sleeping and vertical slats to prevent skateboarding. It was suggested that additional options are reviewed to determine if it would be possible to get benches with backs, which would further protect the trees. Cadance will reach out to the company who provided a quote to determine if that is an option.

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| 5.0 | 4th STREET PROJECTS | All |
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The committee reviewed three types of lighting projects on 4th Street: bridge lighting at the Redwood Intersections (approximately \$14,000), trunk lighting of trees (approximately \$25,250) and lighting of branches (approximately \$13,650). These would replace the old lights still in the trees along 4th. Options for 3rd, 5th and Mendocino were also discussed and would likely cost \$5,000 to \$6,500 each, though the electrical options at these locations are quite different than 4th Street and would need further review by an electrician.

The orange pots Downtown were also discussed with the idea that the amount of pots will be reduced from 143, while still maintaining their purpose as bollards for parking. To match the Downtown furniture palate that was originally conceived, the pots should be painted black. All the dirt and plants in the pots will need to be removed and replaced.

The DAO will work with a gardener to develop a plan for what to plant, try to get wholesale prices from local nurseries and can ask for manpower from business owners for painting and planting if needed. StreetPlus will maintain the plants once they have been planted, but there will need to be a dedicated budget for maintaining and replacing plants moving forward.

Hugh anticipated that the refurbishing and planting work would cost \$15,000. Once a plan is in place, ideally this work could begin in the spring. In the meantime, StreetPlus will begin immediately weeding and removing the dead plants from planters.

A discussion ensued about opportunities for funding and whether it would be possible to get support from the DAO budget, City, Visit Santa Rosa or other funding sources.

These options will be presented at the next board meeting so that more definitive quotes can be established and priorities can be set.

6.0 ADJOURNMENT

Hugh Futrell adjourned the meeting at 1:45pm.