
A-5 | Enhance Gateway to Main Street Through Streetscape Improvements and Creation of Pocket Park

DRI Funding Request/Total Project Cost
\$71,750/\$115,350

Project Description

North Main Street improvements include replacement of the sidewalk between the parking lot and the curb. The project will add a more aesthetically pleasing 5-foot sidewalk and a grass strip with trees between the sidewalk and the new curb, and also between the sidewalk and the parking lot along N. Main Street. Fencing or shrubs will also be installed at the parking lot. Clinton Avenue improvements include replacing existing deteriorated stampcrete with Flexipave. The 2,100 SF pocket park will have pervious brick pavers, trees and benches and will be well-lit. A large mural located on the north side of One North Main Street will bring an exciting creative element to the park. Removal of parking spaces at the site of the proposed pocket park is not expected to adversely affect parking availability in the area.

Project Location/Address

1-33 North Main Street (620 feet of road frontage upgrades to North Main Street and Clinton Avenue)

Sponsor

David Yaman

Strategies

- Create strong gateways, wayfinding and complete streets to strengthen connections between destinations and amenities and to make the downtown inviting and accessible to all.

Public Support

Feedback has been very strongly in favor of this project, with solid support for visual amenities to the downtown area, especially at its gateways.



Existing site

Feasibility and Cost Justification

This is an aesthetic improvement to a gateway with the development of a park for the comfort and enjoyment of the whole community. This project has trend-setting potential. It is hard to quantify aesthetic upgrades to community environments other than to emphasize that a strong upscale environment supports occupancy of buildings, both commercial and residential, and encourages a robust pedestrian presence.

Regulatory Requirements

Sponsor will need to obtain a work permit from the city of Cortland. All work will conform to ADA accessibility standards.

Timeframe for Implementation and Project Readiness

Construction – 1 month. Project has already been designed.

Project Reporting

The owner and the landscape architect (Keplinger Freeman Associates) will oversee and monitor the progress of the installation of the sidewalks, trees, pocket park, fencing, other plantings, curbs, and mural. The management staff for the owner will oversee and monitor the use of the park. The management team will also reach out to local tenants of the surrounding buildings to encourage the use of the park for individuals and for larger gatherings. In addition, an arrangement with The Center for the Arts of Homer has been made, to allow the Center to sponsor future entertainment for the public at the proposed park. Entertainment will focus on providing an intimate setting of 50 to 125 people for the benefit of musicians, visual artists, and performers. Scheduling will include monitoring and reporting attendance for each event.