

## STEVENSON PARK PLAZA SURVEY #2 RESULTS

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**The second Stevenson Park Plaza survey was online  
and available from 1/29/16 thru 3/31/16**

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108 respondents

441 Comments

4 of the 9 questions were completely open ended

All comments are available in the individual survey responses

YouTube video available beginning 2/4/16 was linked to survey

Video has been watched 700 times (as of 4/11/16)

Presentation boards were hung in the Library Gallery for 2 months

Announcements and stories in the Pioneer and several Facebook pages

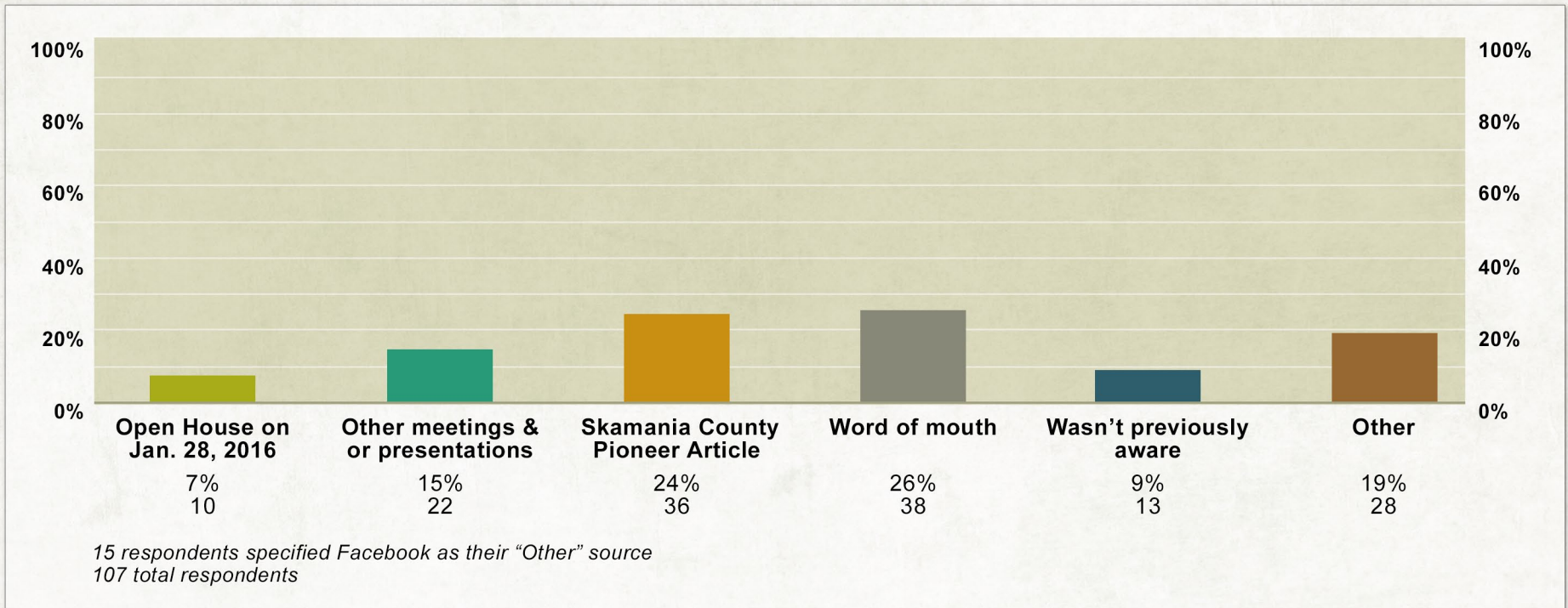




## STEVENSON PARK PLAZA SURVEY #2 RESULTS

# Q1

## How did you become aware of the Stevenson Park Plaza Project? (answer all that apply)

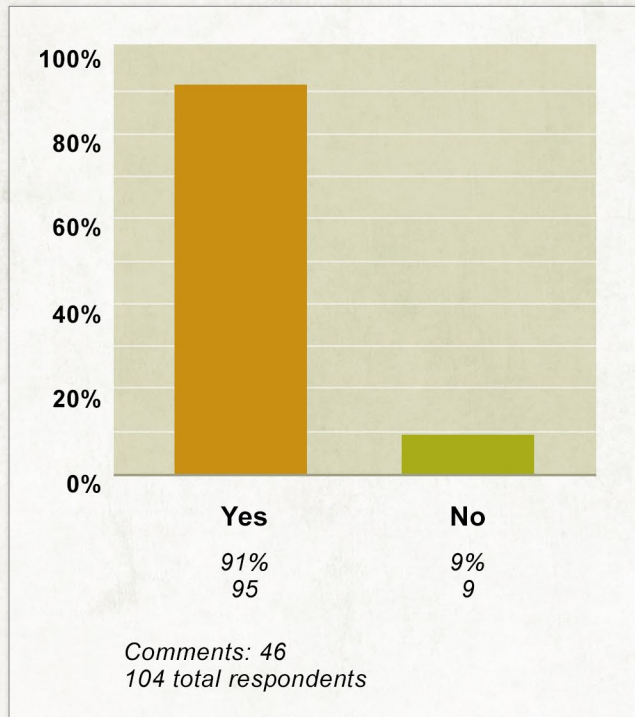




## STEVENSON PARK PLAZA SURVEY #2 RESULTS

# Q2

## Are you in favor of re-inventing the space in front of the Courthouse?



### Selected Comments:

YES, YES, YES! way over due.

Great, optimistic idea! It invites people and can become a place to gather for this river town.

Very Excited!

I believe that space has the opportunity to both pull us together as a community - becoming the quintessential gathering place for residents; and draw visitors to stop and visit for a bit as they pass through town.

Very much in favor!!



## STEVENSON PARK PLAZA SURVEY #2 RESULTS

# Q2

## Are you in favor of re-inventing the space in front of the Courthouse?

### Selected Comments (edited for space - see individual surveys for all comments)

I am very excited for the project. It will add a great deal of character to Stevenson, and give tourist reasons to linger. I love the outdoor stage and am excited to see performances there.

I do not see it as "reinventing" but rather "development" or "utilizing". I think it is a very good move in the active pursuit of "re-economizing" the Gorge - begun with the signing of the federal scenic act. Credit should be formally claimed to those who, starting 30 years ago, correctly envisioned the Gorge as a thriving tourist, outdoor, sports, recreation destination. Combined with the local enthusiasm for progressive pursuit of other modern, economic/social trends, e.g. "Farmer's Market", this development idea is of course necessary and very positive.

Go big!

Absolutely fantastic idea. Must be economically feasible to build, and most importantly, economically maintainable (county responsible for maintenance?).

A community gathering area is such a good idea, especially in the middle of our beautiful little town! It can only strengthen our community and increase the value of our businesses.

Absolutely! This has been talked about for decades with nothing getting done. Hopefully, with the BNSF RR and the City of Stevenson participating with 'seed money' something will actually happen. It would be wonderful for not only tourists but for all residents of Skamania County, both young and old.

A city center gathering space is very important to a community regardless of size. Traveling to other cities and countries, I've experienced the positive aspects of a place for all people to come together.

It is a large space that is not easy to use because of the slope...a missed opportunity for better function. This finished project will be a focal point for the downtown area that can be enhanced over time.

This has been a topic of discussion for many years and it is time to put talk into action.

We have untapped potential in our waterfront and our beautiful little town. I feel we should be using it similarly to Hood River. This is a step in the right direction.

Very much so. This is a great opportunity for congregation and growth for locals but will also draw in outside tourists.

Great Idea!

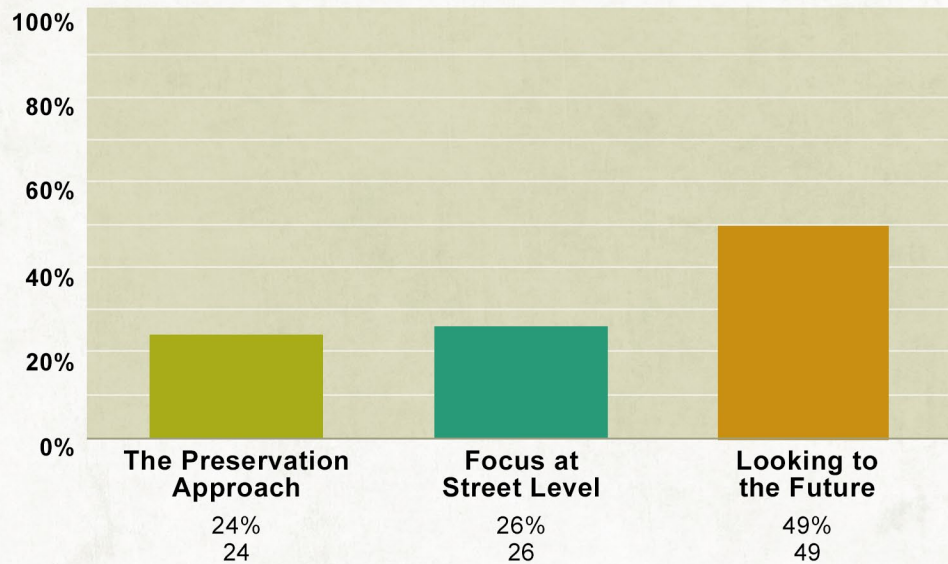




## STEVENSON PARK PLAZA SURVEY #2 RESULTS

# Q3

Please rank the designs listing your favorite as a 1, and your least favorite as a 3.



This chart represents the number of #1 preference votes  
Comments: 13

	Preservation Approach	Focus at Street Level	Looking to the Future
#1	24	26	49
#2	24	52	19
#3	47	18	29
Total Votes	95	96	97
Score	1.76	2.08	2.21

The score assigns a value to the preference position, i.e., a #1 preference yields 3 pts, #2 = 2 pts, #3 = 1 pt. Note that total respondent numbers vary due to incomplete preference choices. 99 respondents answered at least part of this question.



## STEVENSON PARK PLAZA SURVEY #2 RESULTS

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# Q4

## Why do you prefer your chosen design?

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### Selected Comments (edited for space - see individual surveys for all comments)

I love the sloping, terraced stage. It is great for performances and to eat lunch or just mingle. I love the water feature and its placement compared to the other designs.

I am assuming my first choice (preservation) is the least expensive. It does a good job of giving us a lovely area for many different types of events without the higher costs involved with the other two. I am a realist, and, realistically, it is going to be very difficult to put the funds together to pay for this, especially when we cannot count on the county's financial assistance.

All three are great designs and I would be happy with any of them, but I think Looking to the Future makes maximum use of the space, provides a pathway for wheel chair access.

do it real. do it right. do it for now. do it for the future

This will be memorable in the moment, and enjoyed into the future. The future plan shows vision and place worthy of preservation.

I like the idea of using as much space as possible and it's ADA accessible.

It's beautiful and enhances the entire area. I like having many different areas to enjoy.

#3 has the most visual appeal and makes the best use of the space. All the parts flow/transition smoothly. #1 looks like an afterthought to a previous plan and has little visual appeal. #2 the water feature is not smoothly integrated into the design. Otherwise it looks ok.

Easier to go big. Once you are onsite, construction cost are less per square foot.

I liked the space and that there was many options to sit, the entertainment spot along with beverage area. Loved the fire place and water areas.

The name says it all! We must move forward. Although we have a rich history that runs through the county, we must look towards the future. The water is a beautiful feature that automatically draws people to gather. The Columbia River is in our front yard. The less courthouse lawn to maintain, the better. I feel this design has a lovely 'flow' to it and incorporates many useful 'spaces' for different activities, both active and passive.

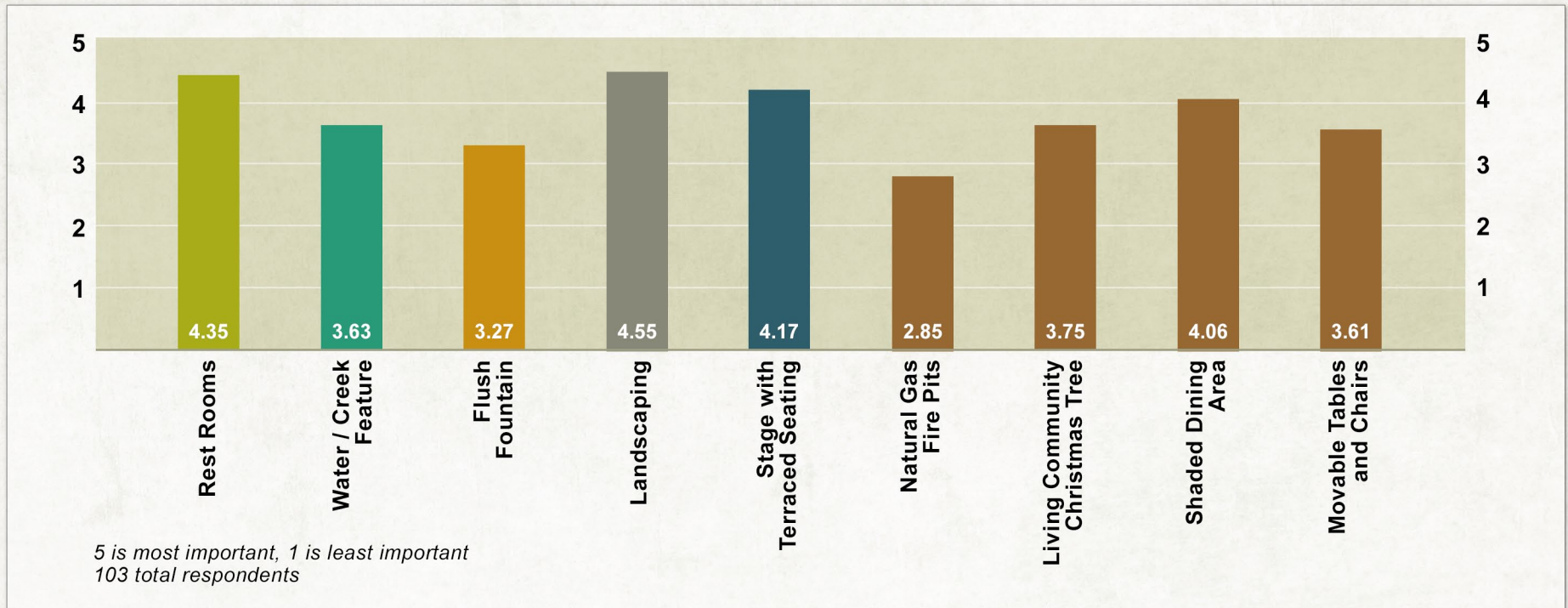




## STEVENSON PARK PLAZA SURVEY #2 RESULTS

# Q5

Each of the conceptual designs share several design elements. Please tell us what is important to you.





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# Q5

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### Selected Comments (edited for space - see individual surveys for all comments)

I hope the fire pits help extend the season. Along those lines, I'm disappointed that there appears to be no covered areas for rain protection. Seems like a no brainer for both our area and the site.

Remember what ever you design kids will want to climb on it. I like the graduated rocks and making them not high/hard to climb will be safest. Maybe one fire pit not two?

Upkeep of water features needs to be considered. Who will pay for cleaning the filters etc?

Again, would like to see more consideration of the rain. It might be great to line the sides with awnings so the Saturday market folks could have shelter. Or just one large rain shelter in the middle. I think the shaded dining area could just be rain sheltered. Rain is a bigger consideration than sun in my mind.

I think all three designs are bias toward the El Rio restaurant concerning outside dining. I don't feel that is fair as a use of a public space. The designs should be for the people not a private company.

Don't forget to make the area dog friendly.

Attractive and comfortable outdoor seating for as many restaurants as possible should be a priority in the downtown area. Would any part of the park plaza be used for outdoor seating for El Rio? When people drive through town and do not see this it is not welcoming to visitors. The park plaza is a great idea, and needs to be done but the city needs to work with at least some of the restaurants to find a way to achieve this.

I feel that Rock Cove Design has done an impeccable job incorporating a variety of design elements that meet the needs of our community and passing tourists.

From a market perspicive, if you are going to have tables & chairs (and I do think they are nice to have) they would definitely have to be movable & storable even, perhaps.

Plans are looking good! Great job.

Chairs and tables are inviting to sit and enjoy the atmosphere, and public bathrooms are a need in every town. It would be great to have music on weekends or when ever someone wants to volunteer. Without landscaping the project would look unfinished. Water features make you feel relaxed and invite you to them.





## STEVENSON PARK PLAZA SURVEY #2 RESULTS

# Q6

## What do you like best about the Preservation Approach design?

### Selected Comments (edited for space - see individual surveys for all comments)

Stage area, preserves the old walkway and stairs. Nice positioning of the Christmas tree. Larger grassy area.

Like the old set of stairs, the seating on the grassy lawn, the inclusion of two water features, and covered seating for hot summer dining.

the seating, public art

It's smaller, simple and there's plenty of green grass left for children to play on.

The entrance.

Leaves a large area of grass and plants/trees. Aesthetically pleasing. Nice seating for stage events or just relaxing.

The fountain and the tiered seating around the stage.

i do like the Christmas tree up i think it should be up and bright and the focal point of of the town at Christmas time

Nothing. The stairs going straight up the slope do not look inviting and are not utilized much by the public.

Openness of stage design and seating

The seating in the lawn, fire pit off to the side and not out in the middle and the outdoor dining.

Basalt rock water elements, central performance area, food cart area & overlook, outdoor shaded dining

Open setting. Love the stage and water area

More green space than the others. Smaller, simpler design. Appears to be easier to maintain and should be a much lower cost than the other 2 designs. It is an attractive design.

Not too complicated love the Christmas tree up where it should be. But think fir pit is a bad idea

The stage area.

It's neat and orderly. Like the art in the middle with open room around it.



## STEVENSON PARK PLAZA SURVEY #2 RESULTS

# Q7

## What do you like best about the Focus at Street Level design?

### Selected Comments (edited for space - see individual surveys for all comments)

I love the terraced stage and seating!! The 2 water features are fun and calming. My kids and I would definitely come to this design often. The xmas tree and fire pits would bring us and tourists for winter and the water and stage would attract people for spring and summer. I am very excited about this design.

Like the sizable water feature, the long curvy walking path from the courthouse and the fire pit in the dining area to warm the diners.

like the creek and flush fountain area like the stage like the grass areas

The creek bed.

Love the layout, lots of trees and plenty of sitting places. The water and gas sitting areas are beautiful. I really like this concept the best.

this one includes most of the elements of of the future plan and provides far more usable space that the preservation plan. the more structured stage and seating area would probably provide more access to performances.

The open space. Xmas tree.

The larger hard surface and the trees. I do not like the stage. The living Christmas tree is in a great location.

Complete use of space with a variety of adaptations. Softness of lines. Pleasing aesthetics.

Space at the street for Saturday market and parade viewing, Christmas tree area.

Water features are beautiful and really bring to life an important part of our local culture which is the river.

I like the separation for the street created by the columns and stage. Negative - The sidewalk to the courthouse is not ADA accessible - it should be.

I love the water (splash pad) in this design, I think it is a great fun and safe place for families and to come and play and hang in the summer. I also love the use of water on the west side coming down the hill

Love the layout all around!! I like the placement of the stage. Love this design

Love the stage and path up the hill





## STEVENSON PARK PLAZA SURVEY #2 RESULTS

# Q8

## What do you like best about the Looking to the Future design?

### Selected Comments (edited for space - see individual surveys for all comments)

I like how the lower area connects to the upper area so the whole space is united. I also like the performance area to the side so it isn't the focus of the space. I really like the flush fountain idea. Anywhere that I have seen one, kids and families tend to flock.

this seems to maximize usable space and be connected to the landscape. ADA path and access is great. This flows so well Like how creek is so pronounced and close to the people Like the breakup from road that trees planters and stage area

How close the water feature ties, and is part of usable space Sheltered area for stage Xmas tree incorporated to landscape

Overall balance of features, use of total street level space. Curving access to courthouse.

More contiguous open space. i also like the development up the upper section that would be great for visitors and workers at the county buildings. the ada access is going to improve mobility for those who need it and seems to be a preferred way to get down the hill.

All the different terraces/levels.

This is the best one. It puts the performance area off to the side which is better when not in use. The centrally focused water feature, fountain, art, and fire pit seems like it will invite people to use the area even when there is no performance.

I like the spiral nature of this design and believe it makes a better use of the space than the Street Level design.

This in my favorite of the designs. I love the open entrance that allows visual from the street for passers by to see into the plaza. I particularly enjoy the water acting as back drop to the plaza and the compass. I feel that the stage area to the west instead of front and center allows for more accessible use thought the plaza.

Love the ADA pathway not only for wheelchairs, but to walk our dogs. The water design, the fire pits and just everything would be so first class and optimistic for everyone visiting.

Like how it's open and there's room to move around. Maximizing the space for different areas instead of a lot of lawn. Like how the performance area is tucked in a corner. Looks inviting from the road and I would want to stop. This is the best! Pick this one!

It gets the most out of the available space.





## STEVENSON PARK PLAZA SURVEY #2 RESULTS

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# Q9

## Do you have any other comments, questions or concerns?

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### Selected Comments (edited for space - see individual surveys for all comments)

Bravo.

GREAT JOB! Super exciting to be moving forward on this and looking forward to seeing the next step.

All three designs will be a huge improvement so I hope this effort continues!

Just concerned about providing a covered area as I look out my window and watch the pouring rain! Glad your thinking about a community square and thanks for allowing input!

I hope it happens!

thank you to all who have persevered and gotten us to this point. whichever plan is chosen, it will be a benefit to the area. get it done. Let's get it started!

I support this project and appreciate the care that is being taken to make the downtown area a more inviting place for visitors and a place we can all enjoy. This can and should be done with careful consideration of spending tax payer money.

Thank you for pushing Stevenson into the future!

Just curious about what will be done about parking issues. Downtown is already congested. I feel this will bring more people, more vehicles, more traffic. Love this and want it just want to make sure traffic in downtown will remain somewhat manageable mostly for safety reasons.

Any of them would be a great improvement and beneficial to the community and local businesses.

How about bricks for sale with the names of people who have donated? Basically folks buy a brick. We've seen this in several cities and my family is REALLY hoping there is some brick paving with donor's names.

I really like that the eating area with fire pit is included in all of the designs as well as public restrooms and storage. Any of these options would be a beautiful addition to Stevenson.

Three solid plans...would be happy with any of them but like the idea of going big and making it amazing. This would be a destination and a centerpiece for Stevenson and greatly help to define and strengthen downtown.

