

## Spring Street – Free Street Streetscape Plan: Background Information

### Slide 2 – Available Resources

- Webpage
- You'll find documents explaining history of Spring Street, previous projects, and applicable current documents

### Slide 3 – Patterns for Progress

- Victor Gruen and Associates among others created the renewal plan in 1967
- Project remains uncompleted
- This document provides economic/physical analysis of the area at the time and explains original intent of the Spring Street Arterial

### Slide 4 – Patterns for Progress Planned Improvements Map

- Gives a good idea of how the addition of the road changed street connections
- This is just an example of many maps that can be found in this document

### Slide 5 – Patterns for Progress

- Plan for Traffic Circulation with the addition of Spring Street Arterial
- The extension and width was intended for better traffic circulation between Franklin Arterial and High Street

### Slide 6 – Patterns for Progress

- Map shows the original streets with a topographic overlay.
- A great resource for the depiction of elevation change in the area that is not in other documents
- The elevation change along Spring Street can provide a unique opportunity for a great view from a linear park

### Slide 7 – GIS as a Resource

- At planning division main webpage -> left hand column -> Maps -> Maps -> PDF/Web

### Slide 8 – Downtown GIS Map

- The bottom left corner is the West End, above Downtown is the East End
- Downtown spans from High street to Franklin Arterial and Cumberland to Commercial
- Maps like these are great to understand the relationship this area has to the rest of Portland

### Slide 9 – Historic District GIS Map

- The project streetscape area is surrounded by Portland's Historic District.
- Meaning this project has
  - An opportunity to create a unique identity within Portland
  - Cautionary: it may look disconnected if designed without continuity and Historic District components in mind. Visitor disorientation : Am I supposed to be here? Or Wow, I found a special spot in Portland!

### Slide 10 – Vehicular Road Use GIS Map...

### **Slide 10** – Vehicular Road Use GIS Map

- This map of FEMA Flood zones and vehicular road use, show that Spring Street Arterial is used similarly to parallel roads: Cumberland Ave, Congress St, Fore Street, and Commercial St. **explain: Red, Orange, Green**
  - Is Spring Street a vehicular reprieve from the other busy streets, or does it remain unattractive to vehicles?
- Franklin Arterial and High Street feed into Spring Street

### **Slide 11** – Pedestrian Activities GIS Map

- Purple > existing pedestrian corridors
- Weird Pink Color > roads identified as in need of “pedestrian encouragement”
- Spring street has been identified as in need of pedestrian encouragement and lies between two heavily trafficked downtown segments

### **Slide 12** – Portland Downtown Traffic & Streetscape Study (1999)

- This document includes extensive streetscape recommendations, and functional evaluations of cityscapes in Portland and certainly within our project area
- It includes specific recommendations and examples for site structuring and amenities

### **Slide 13** – Portland Downtown Traffic & Streetscape Study (1999)

- This image highlights the pedestrian corridors and nodes along the primary corridor.
- Lobsterman’s Plaza is right at the end of this corridor and links the Art and Government Districts with the Old Port District

### **Slide 14** – Portland Downtown Traffic & Streetscape Study (1999)

- Figure 8 provides a great visual depiction of the space in and around Lobsterman’s Plaza, this and other diagrams are included in this document.
- Figure 8 isn’t oriented like the rest of the maps you’ve been viewing. (*point out where spring meets middle and Lobsterman’s Plaza*)
- Explain where pedestrian corridor mentioned earlier fits into this diagram
- Figure 9 is an example of a granite planter and is just one example of the many amenities featured in this document

### **Slide 15** – City of Portland Wayfinding System Study (2008)

- This study aimed to evaluate pedestrian and vehicular use in Portland and make recommendations for streetscape features based on their findings.
- It is a valuable resource for maps that explain the context of Free and Spring Street; the streets relationships with other streets and how this section affects pedestrian, vehicular and bicycle traffic.

### **Slide 16** – City of Portland Wayfinding System Study (2008)...

**Slide 16** – City of Portland Wayfinding System Study (2008)

- Figure 10 shows parking in the area as well as the primary and secondary pedestrian information pathways
- Green = Arts District, Yellow = Government District, Red = Old Port District
- Solid Green paths = Primary pedestrian information pathway, Dotted Green = Primary paths that are destination specific, solid red = Secondary information paths, black dots are pedestrian directory kiosks
  - These can be used to understand pedestrian traffic
- You can see there's a lot of parking for the entire area that is only accessible by one or both of the streets.
  - Free Street Parking Association, Spring Street Parking, Midtown Parking Lot, Holiday Inn Parking, and of course street parking
- Lots of parking on the north side of Spring Street and south side of Free Street – meaning that vehicular traffic remains an important consideration in the renovation of this street
- Lots of public attractions accessible from these parking garages:
  - Civic Center, Museum, Monument Sq, Old Port, Congress Street etc
- Streets south of Spring street that do not connect to Spring Street

**Slide 17** – City of Portland Wayfinding System Study (2008)

- The study includes vehicular and pedestrian wayfinding policies – a valuable source
- A photo survey is included in the back of the study in Appendix pages 1 through 9

**Slide 18** – Henry Cobb Lecture

- For those of you who don't know, Henry Cobb is the architect for the Portland Museum of Art and, among other things, the former Chairman of the Department of Architecture at the Harvard Graduate School of Design
- He gave a lecture on the history of the construction of Spring Street Arterial that would be helpful for review
- He described Portland as:

**Slide 19** - Liberate Spring Street

- the Portland Society of Architects will now present to you a recent project also included on the webpage entitled Liberate Spring Street

**Slide 20 through 25** are additional images that can be used for a visual aid for meeting discussions