

Boise State University

ScholarWorks

2021 Undergraduate Research Showcase

Undergraduate Research and Scholarship
Showcases

4-23-2021

Reconnecting the Lusk District

Emma Hill

Boise State University

Zoey Ball

Boise State University

Megan Nukaya

Boise State University

Sean Cahill

Boise State University

Will Long

Boise State University

Reconnecting the Lusk District

Abstract

The Lusk District in Boise, Idaho is signified by its unique history of industrial and resource focused land use alongside the Boise River. With a variety of zoning designations and business developments, the district has become a growing residential and economic destination for the City of Boise. Our streetscape design project seeks to revitalize the district's streets in order to improve safety, accessibility, and connectivity to downtown, the greenbelt, and Boise State University. Furthermore, we propose a special project along W La Pointe St. to help strengthen the cultural identity of the area.

Reconnecting the Lusk District

Emma Hill, Zoey Ball, Megan Nukaya, Sean Cahill, and Will Long
Urban Capstone–Urban/Environmental Studies with Dr. Jillian Moroney

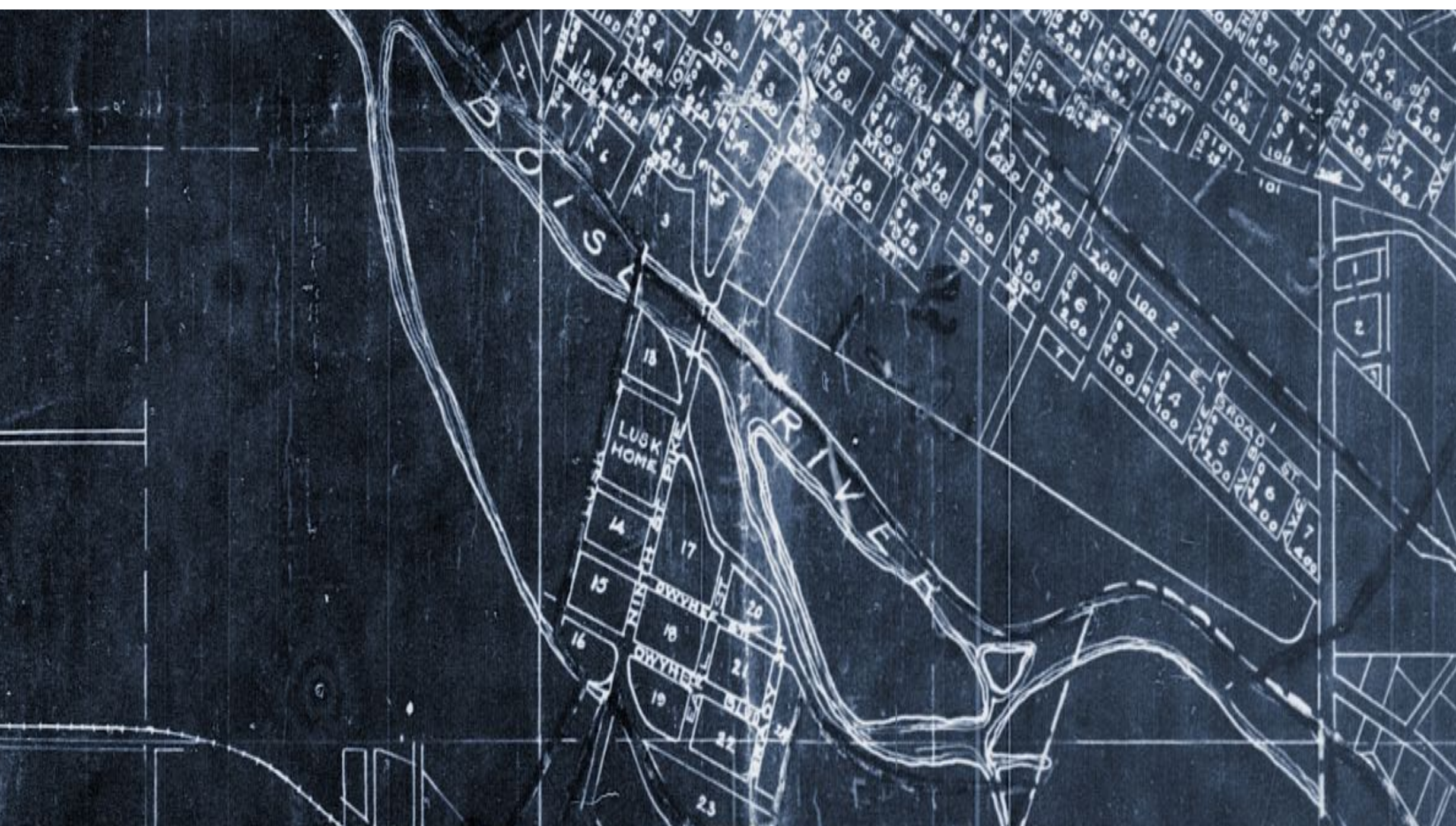


Abstract

The Lusk District in Boise, Idaho is signified by its unique history of industrial and resource focused land use alongside the Boise River. With a variety of zoning designations and business developments, the district has become a growing residential and economic destination for the City of Boise. Our streetscape design project seeks to revitalize the district’s streets in order to improve safety, accessibility, and connectivity to downtown, the greenbelt, and BSU. Furthermore, we propose a special project along W La Pointe St. to help strengthen the cultural identity of the area.

History

The Lusk District has a history of being a ‘working island’ tucked away from the public and visitors. In fact, the Boise River used to surround the land where the district currently sits. An important resource that brought a lot of economic prosperity to this area was the river. The river was a way of transporting goods like wood for fuel and building materials downstream.



Lusk District Map 1930

Current Land Use

Zoning:
R–OD (Residential Office and Design Review Overlay District), C–2DC (General Commercial, Design Review Overlay District, and Capitol Boulevard Special Design District), C–2D (General Commercial and Design Review Overlay District), C–3DC (Service Commercial, Design Review Overlay District, and Capitol Boulevard Special Design District), and C–3D (Service Commercial and Design Review Overlay District).

Land Use:
The Mixed Use land use allows for flexibility in the redevelopment of the Lusk District.

A *streetscape* is a design standard used to emphasize the function and aesthetic of a street in a particular area



Lusk Street Master Plan Street Overview

Existing Conditions

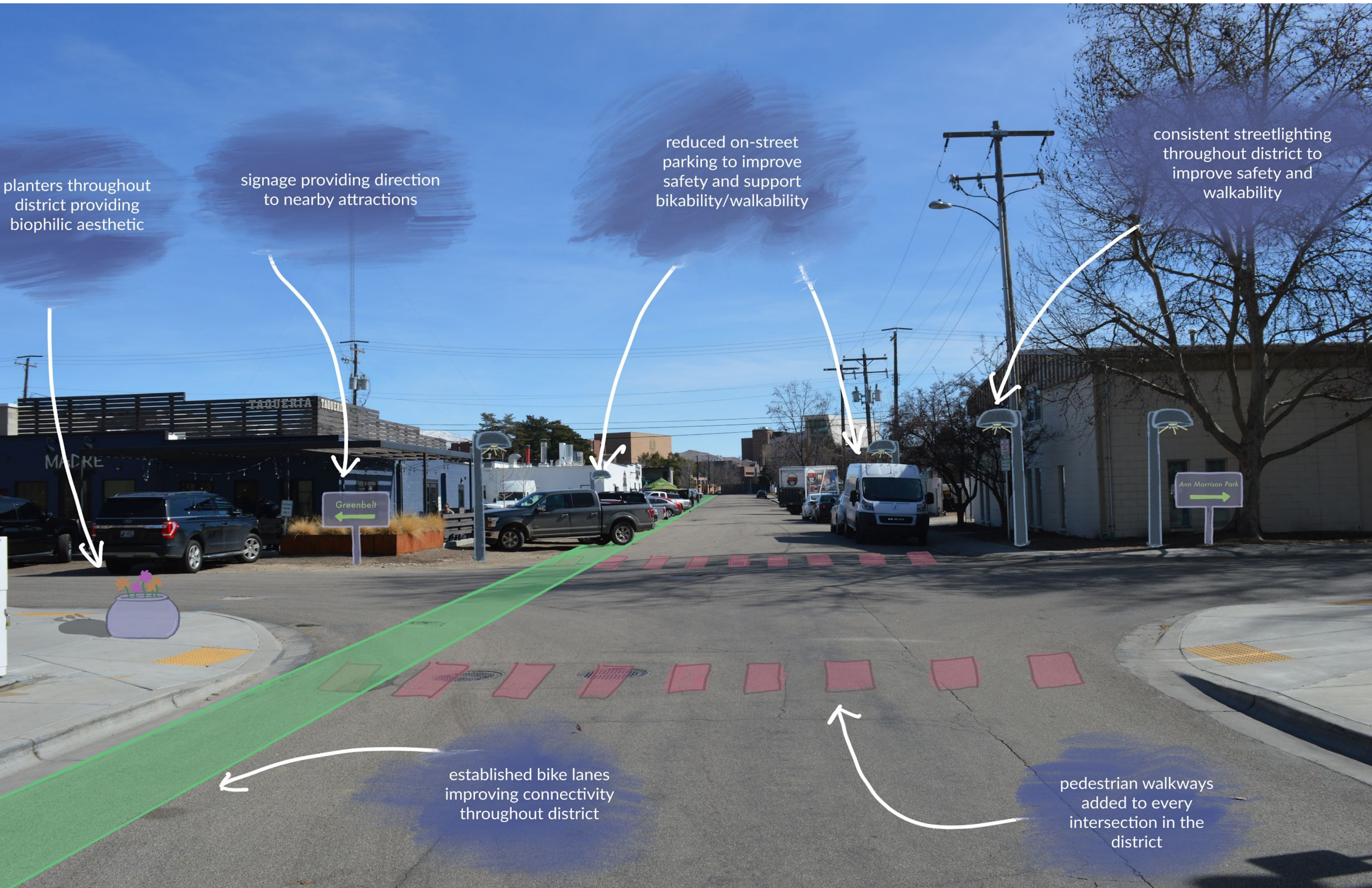
What is working:
Lusk Street is working well. This is also our special project street where we want to highlight the businesses that are currently there as well as make the shift to make it a festival street. By having things like string lights with wide walkways an environment is created that invites people to stay and hangout.

What is not working:
On the corner of La Pointe St and W Royal pointing towards the La Pointe and River Edge apartments. On the left side of the street, there is no sidewalk and instead, the street inclines towards the business and alley. A sidewalk on Royal Blvd was only added this year making pedestrian traffic safer and easier but again it is only one side of the road. However, the addition of this sidewalk has limited the amount of free parking space.



PC: Emma Hill

Goals and Vision



Special Project



PC: Emma Hill, Designer: Will Long