



MASTER STREETSCAPE PLAN 2004

Historic Downtown Canyon, Texas



Small communities today are increasingly more proactive in planning for their future. Canyon is a progressive community taking the lead in these efforts utilizing its many assets to chart a course into the future. Canyon is a community seeking change and progress...people committed to playing an active role in shaping the destiny of their community. Today Canyon has a state of the art Event Center. Paul Green's Musical Drama TEXAS started performing in Palo Duro Canyon in 1965 and has since become the most attended outdoor drama in the United States. Approximately 100,000 guests visit the Panhandle-Plains Historical Museum each year. West Texas A&M is a regional leader in education as well as an important resource for the community.

One of Canyon's most valuable assets is its downtown. It is the heart of the community and compliments the great spirit of its people. In 2002, Canyon was selected as a Texas Main Street City. Today, there are twenty-four historical markers in Canyon and the town continues to grow and prosper.

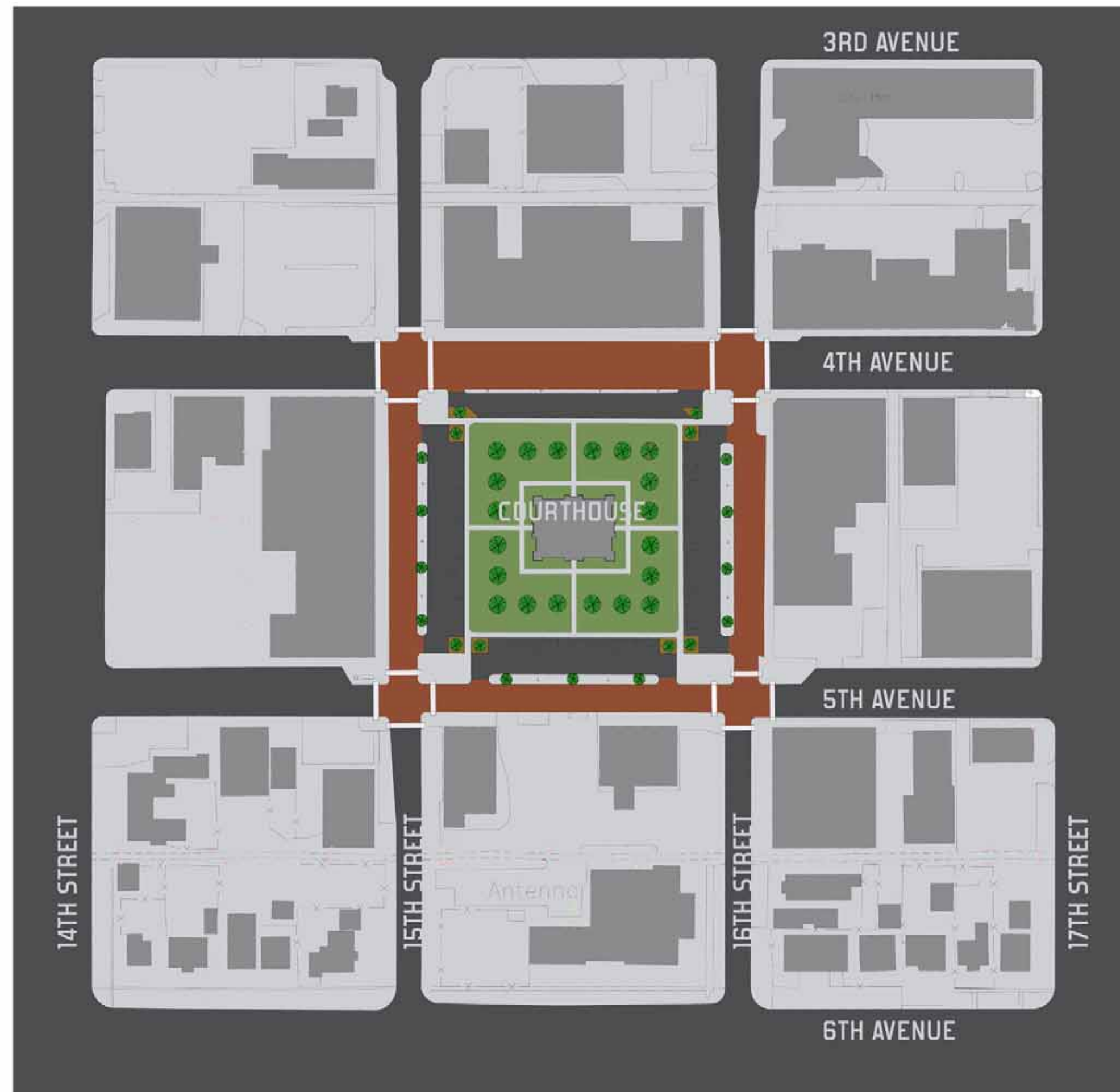
The revitalization of the square requires careful planning and community participation. It is important to recognize that small communities in Texas are finding it more difficult to compete in the economic marketplace. This requires that small communities remain active in the planning of their future, seeking ways to sustain their historic character as an economic tool for the future.

This planning requires collaboration and coordination with many professional experts who will assist the city in promoting its historic downtown. This implementation includes a 4.3 million dollar restoration of the Randall County Courthouse through the Texas Historic Courthouse Preservation Program. The county will apply for a restoration grant that will set Canyon apart from all other communities. The master plan will fully address the scale of the downtown, taking advantage of opportunities to create safe pedestrian passage. The enhancement of existing resources such as street lighting, traffic signals, street crossings, and historic structures will create a new visual continuity.

The project has multiple opportunities for funding. The Texas Main Street Program offers a matching grant for infrastructure improvements that could assist in the cost of this project. Other opportunities of assistance are available through HUD grants administered by the Office of Rural and Community Affairs.

A key funding resource opportunity also exists through the 4B sales tax. The tax will allow for the improvement of the downtown infrastructure monitored by the State's Office of the Attorney General. Canyon, a spirited community offers a vibrant alternative to big city life. A community rich with historic character and charm.

Just as the original settlers of Canyon set out to create a community full of opportunity— Today, Canyon's citizens have come together to plan for a future of economic growth, progress and prosperity. We hope you will play a role in the planning of your community's future by recognizing that in the joining of ideas and resources, there are no limits too great for the people of Canyon.



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The downtown streetscape master plan will accommodate the disabled, providing more opportunity for business development as downtown becomes accessible to all citizens. The master plan will fully address the scale of the downtown, taking advantage of opportunities to create safe pedestrian passage. The enhancement of existing resources such as street lighting, traffic signals, street crossings, and historic structures will create a new visual continuity.



Planning for Canyon's future begins with the development of new attractive and inviting gateways.





The master plan will recreate the original trees and lawn around the courthouse providing a buffered parking zone with pedestrian amenities such as trash receptacles, seating, lighting, landscaping, and the enhancement of its existing brick streets. Implementation of the plan includes a 4.3 million dollar restoration of the Randall County Courthouse through the Texas Historic Courthouse Preservation Program. The present north and south annexes will be removed and will reveal a newly restored courthouse.



The historic buildings that border the courthouse square are a vital community asset. The rehabilitation of existing structures will initiate a lasting visual change that will energize the community's character.

