

**What are the elements of a beautiful downtown?
Which of these elements are found already in Pine River? (Highlighted in blue)
Vote for your top three priorities.**

- Street lamps with banners and flower baskets (**13 votes**)
- A gateway to Barclay Avenue that is a focal point for all passing by (**12 votes**)
- A common theme/identity (**8 votes**)
- Greenery (**5 votes**)
- Public art (**3 votes**)
- **Historic structures (2 votes)**
- Water fountains (**2 votes**)
- Outdoor dining (**2 votes**)
- Bicycles (**1 vote**)
- Businesses where people linger (**1 vote**)
- Low maintenance (**1 vote**)
- Fiscally do-able (**1 vote**)
- Downtown mailbox (**1 vote**)
- **Informational kiosk (1 vote)**
- Angle parking (**1 vote**)
- Building facades with interesting architecture
- Accented sidewalks (with bricks or other materials)
- Seasonal changes
- **Park benches**
- Pedestrian-friendly
- Active with people
- Color that is attention-getting
- Filled storefronts with retail and other vibrant businesses that contribute to a sense of place
- Curb appeal
- Lighting has a “wow” factor
- Connectedness – vertical with horizontal; public with private, etc.
- **New streets**
- **Nearby trail**
- **Wide street**
- **Interesting businesses**
- Awnings
- **Park/beach/playground**
- **Bump-outs on sidewalks**

What are your ideas for fixing up/sprucing up the corner of Barclay and Highway 371 (specifically, the NAPA parking lot and the empty storefront and lot across the street) to make this entry point to downtown more aesthetically pleasing and enticing to draw people into downtown from the Paul Bunyan Trail and Hwy 371?

- Make it relaxing and inviting
- Plants
- Bike racks
- Greenery – rain garden
- Signage like a canoe – decorative and theme based.
- Gazebo
- Raised beds
- Bicycle/motocross course in the NAPA parking lot
- Plaza with park benches, trees, resting area. Similar to what Crosby is doing to transform an open lot into a resting area
- Seasonal concession stand
- Theater/sports center
- Fountain
- Food truck
- Big iconic sculpture on the NAPA side; sculpture could include a canoe, a bike, a train and a river. This could be the “gateway” that grabs people’s attention, pulls them across the busy street and draws them to explore more of downtown.
- Signage about downtown
- Posts with planters like in New Zealand photo
- Concrete planters and metal sculptures
- Painted bike lanes

What are your ideas for fixing up/sprucing up the tall barbeque building to make it more aesthetically pleasing and enticing to draw people farther into downtown?

- Trees on the side street
- A large clock tower, or a large clock as part of the facade
- It’s an historic building, so take it back to its original appearance with awnings on all the windows.
- Benches and trees even where the parking lots is – between tenant parking and the street
- Paint it to look like Paul Bunyan plaid, or any paint scheme
- Restore windows in upper apartments to look like they were originally.
- Nice building, but signage is not nice; most recent windows are too small; not great indoor lighting
- Signs
- Height is nice
- Wall mural would be neat. Possibly a railroad theme of wall murals throughout town
- Planters in front – on sidewalk/cement

What are your ideas for fixing up/sprucing up the old Carl’s Market building to make it more aesthetically pleasing and enticing to draw people farther into downtown?

- Benches and bike racks on the street
- Wall murals, especially on the big blank spot of the building that faces Barclay
- Wall murals on the Highway 371 side
- Need continuity/conformity/uniformity from Highway 371 to the dam with a central theme of maybe logging or the railroad
- Change the awning that says, “Carl’s Market.”
- Add some green in the parking lot.
- Paint the side of the building to look like several different storefronts.
- Need better lighting to brighten the sidewalk and to light a wall mural
- Facade changes that are consistent with a central theme for downtown
- Have a door/entrance to the Thrifty Living business on the Highway 371 side
- Add planters

NEXT STEPS

Action	Resources We Have	Resources We Need	Who can do what?
Get a resolution of support from the Chamber and the City Council	There is already interest from both the Chamber and the City and representatives from those two bodies have participated in the workshops. Region Five grant opportunities for active transportation can help begin to implement ideas with no cost to the City.	Communication opportunities with the Chamber and the City Council to show citizen interest in downtown beautification and to educate city officials and business owners who didn’t participate in the workshops about the progress that has been made to date.	The Green Step Task Force can work with the Mayor. The Chamber (John Wetroski) can communicate with its members and encourage them to support the initiative. Phil Hunsicker of Envision Minnesota, along with the Green Step Task Force, can present the good work that’s been done so far to the City Council and request a resolution of support.
Form a group to lead the initiative with 6-8 (or more) individuals representing various stakeholders	Green Step Task Force is already involved. Pine River has an ECD group and an area foundation	People willing to give of their time and energy to this effort. Money to implement ideas.	Use the sign-up sheets from the two workshops to recruit members to the working group.

	(501c3). Region Five grants can help begin to implement ideas and create positive momentum	Designers to work with to make some of the good ideas come to fruition.	
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