



Town Square Vision Document

Draft 7/15/2021

This vision document is intended to lay out the shared vision for what the town square site will be and to guide the design development.

1. Mission and Goals for Space

Mission:

The Town Square will make downtown Buena Vista more vibrant and inviting.

Goals:

- Provide a space for events/performances
- Provide green open space and trees in downtown
- Provide gathering and lounging space for casual use
- Showcase art, culture, and history of Buena Vista

2. Use of Space

How the space will be used:

- Events/performances
 - Music concerts
 - Theater & dance performances
 - Meetings or classes (outdoor classroom)
 - Farmers market or flea market
 - Food truck event
 - Community prayer or religious events
- Gathering space
 - Benches to rest
 - Shady spot to read a book from the library
 - Place to spread out blanket for picnic and/or tables
- Other
 - Public art such as murals, sculpture, etc.
 - LOVE sign
 - Informative signage about City events (existing changeable copy sign)
 - Visitor info board/kiosk
 - Historical interpretive signage about buildings & events downtown etc.

Users of space:

- Families who go to library
- People who shop at Becky's or Vinyl Cuts
- People who go to one of the dentists
- Tourists walking in downtown

- Farmers market shoppers
- ...

3. Character of the space

Pavilion

Hardscape

Grass

Open-air grassy space to sit and watch performance

Covered pavilion with stage

Trees

Shady spot to sit

LOVE sign

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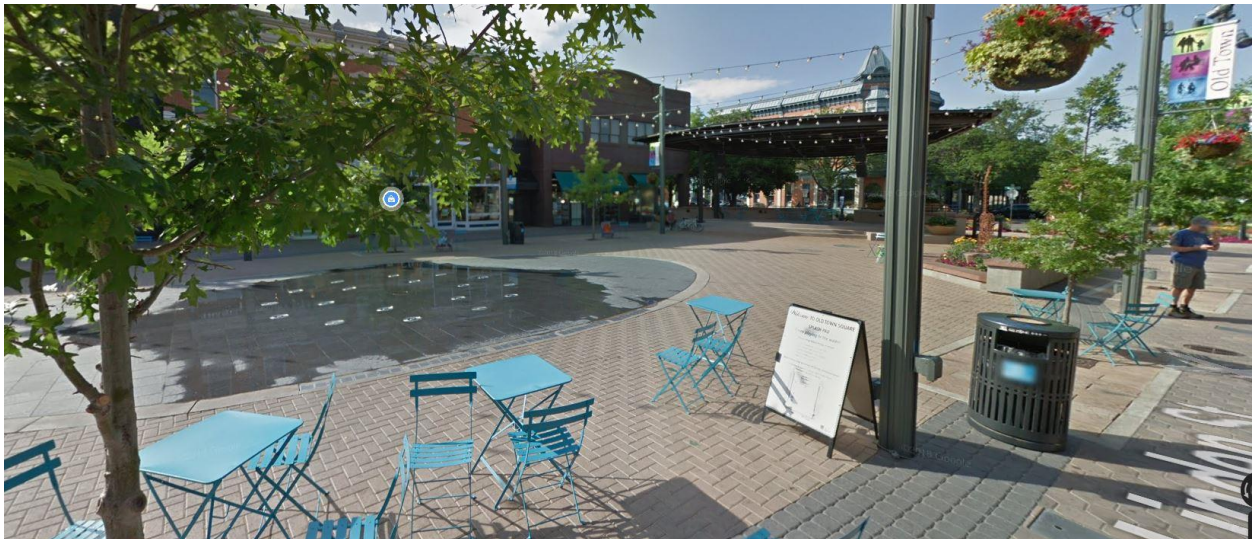
4. Successful examples of similar spaces

Examples are included for inspiration, not as a template or model to follow!



Fredericksburg, VA – Market Square

- Hardscaped space for events like dancing, music performance
- Seating integrated into landscape as large steps (harder to see in this photo)



Fort Collins, CO – Fort Collins Old Town Square

- Pavilion doubles as a stage and covered seating area
- Open space in front of stage framed by trees and lamp posts
- Stage pavilion floor is raised but has a ramp, and sense of enclosure from low wall
- Movable seating for maximum flexibility



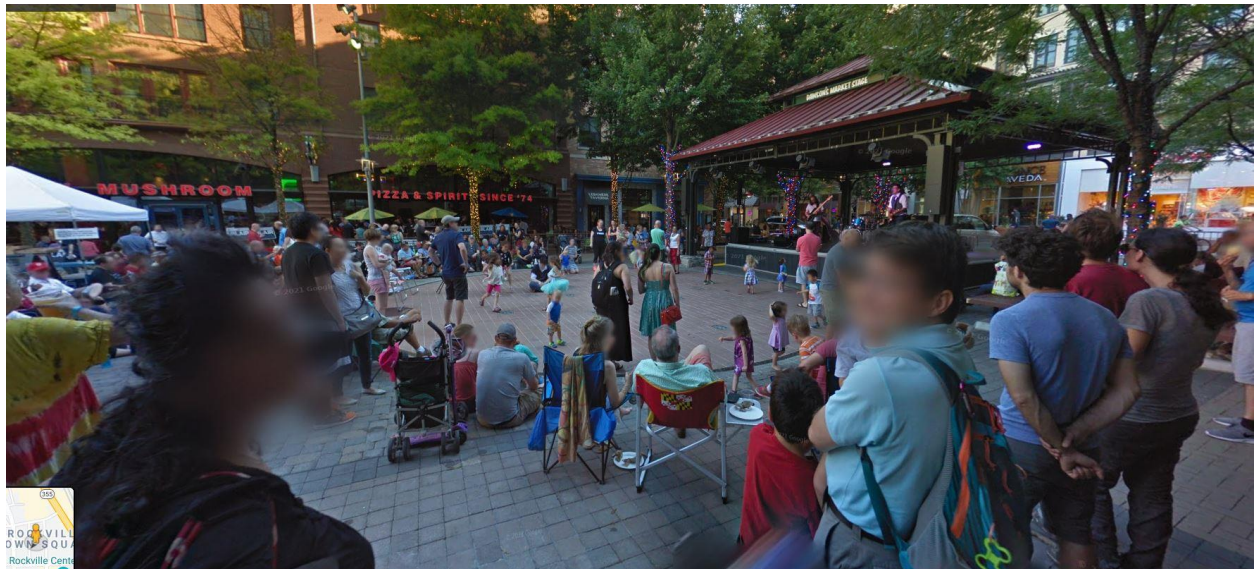
Manassas, VA

- Large pavilion
- Low walls double as benches for seating
- Trees provide some shade



Houston, TX

- Mix of grass and hardscaping
- Pavilion for covered gathering or performance stage
- Prominent sculptural art piece



Rockville, MD – Rockville Town Center

- Framed by trees and sidewalks with buildings
- Small pavilion for a stage
- Open area is all paved



Winchester, VA

- Trees with layered shrubs & bushes have strong visual appeal
- Raised bed edges double as benches
- Downtown location



Blackstone, VA

- Similar size space to Buena Vista town square
- Mix of grass and hardscape
- Includes a LOVE sign and wall murals
- Raised paved space at one side for a stag



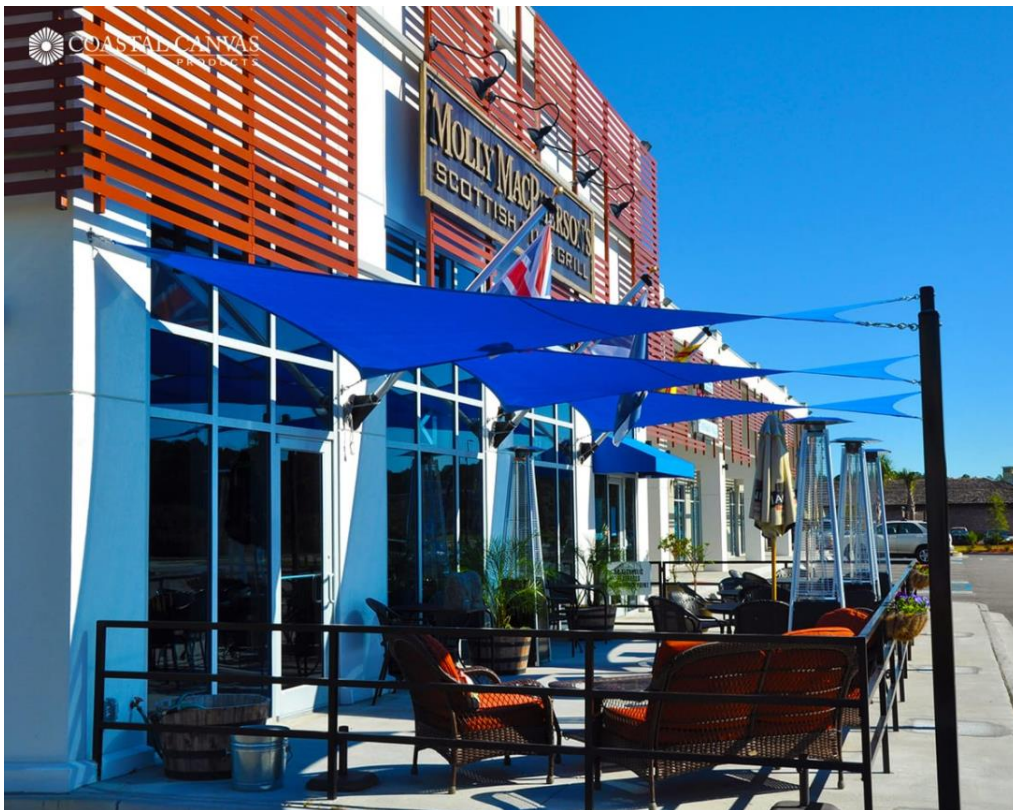
Silver Spring, MD

- Pavilion doubles as performance space and ice rink in winter (sunken) and outdoor seating



Nantucket, MA

- Pavilion that serves as a stage in front of grassy seating area



Examples of fabric shade sails

5. Action Plan

Next Steps...

- Action BV/Town Square committee input and finish draft vision document
- Come up with a better name
- Present and get public input on vision document
- Continue to host events, use the space, and gather information and ideas
- Hire design firm to design space
- Committee works with design firm on several alternatives
- Public input on design alternatives
- Identify funding & donations for construction
- Build it
- Congratulate ourselves on an amazing public space!