

# Mountain Home

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## IMAGINE DOWNTOWN

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### February 2019

Things are taking shape in the downtown core. With Phase 1 of the Downtown Improvement Project currently in the bidding process and URA's the Hub Plaza headed in the same direction, the downtown area is well on it's way for improvements. Over the past year since the initial renderings were unveiled, there have been many changes and although they've been communicated verbally, it hasn't been until now that there are renderings to match the changes. In this month's edition, you'll be able to get a glimpse into a simplistic view of how all the changes have made a difference visually. Please keep in mind that these are still renderings and aesthetic tweaks continue to be made.



## A New Look

This updated rendering shows a street view of North 2<sup>nd</sup> East Street beginning at the East Jackson's cross street. The rendering gives a basic overview of changes that have been made to the plan since the first renderings were revealed to the public. Bike lanes and swales have been removed, landscaping was adjusted to accommodate public input and some parking along the left hand side of N. 2<sup>nd</sup> E. has been restored.



## Take a Seat

Outdoor seating elements can create an inviting gathering area for safe, street-side socialization. The raised barrier, adding more than a visual impact, increases safety for pedestrians. Additional seating and amenities can also be added at the discretion of adjacent business owners. Whether you're a pedestrian walking by, a customer at a neighboring business, or driving the downtown, being part of the scene will be hard to pass up.



### Green Space

The addition of green space downtown was a consistent request from citizens who participated in the Imagine Downtown survey, open houses and charrettes. Although the first renderings proposed green space that was multi-purpose, showing swales and heavy landscaping, feedback from citizens and further investigation into the infrastructure challenges helped redirect the plan. This information resulted in the elimination of swales and refining the landscaping. The current landscaping plan accommodates the need to absorb storm water from buildings while enhancing the aesthetics and downtown appropriate trees. Alterations continue to be made and while the rendering shows trees with broader canopies, the most current plans will utilize a tree species with a more linear canopy. This species is Idaho Department of Transportation (ITD) approved and increases the opportunity for visibility to storefronts, as well as signs, as requested by the public.

*“Green spaces are gathering places that create close-knit communities and improve well-being—and in doing so, they increase safety.” -Green Streets, Not Mean Streets; Project EverGreen; op. cit.*

### Save the Date!

The 2019 Mountain Home Comprehensive Plan Survey is well underway and will be released on February 25, 2019. This survey is instrumental in helping the City of Mountain Home understand what YOU believe our community needs and help to prioritize efforts. Keep an eye out for the link to complete the survey in the upcoming weeks as it's released.





## Thanks for Subscribing!

If you're receiving this Downtown Revitalization Newsletter and would like to unsubscribe, email [mhed@mountain-home.us](mailto:mhed@mountain-home.us)

For further information or clarification, questions, comments or concerns, please email [mhed@mountain-home.us](mailto:mhed@mountain-home.us), visit the Economic Development Office at 150 South 3<sup>rd</sup> East Street or call 208-587-2173.