

MLK Blvd Design Workshop #3





September 21, 2010

Participants voted on each idea, gave comments about specific ideas or general comments about all ideas.

Comments and suggestions by participants in regards to specific design idea.

Number of people that like, somewhat like, dislike or don't want design

MEDIAN DESIGN

example	median A	median B	median C	median D
				
	<p>Participant comments on design idea:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The median should be flat ▪ Make similar to DART station paving patterns reflecting neighborhoods ▪ Like the colorful design ▪ Like the colors and design with boulevard effect and mixture of artwork and vegetation ▪ Like. As turning lane substitute with vegetation as the intersection only ▪ Something similar-Shrubbing a bit shorter. Historical art from specific periods. Example, share croppers=>first black families in Dallas ▪ Like-Should have an afro centric pattern. Median should not continue all the way down MLK ▪ Like-Provides for cultural relevance through color and design 	<p>Participant comments on design idea:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Sustainable planting-local plant material only ▪ People will have a difficult time crossing the streets. Plants may die ▪ Don't like-Too much separation. Requires irrigation system to maintain irrigation. ▪ Don't like-Dislike the vegetation and grass ▪ Dislike-Shrubs only 	<p>Participant comments on design idea:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Dislike. Not pedestrian friendly ▪ Don't like. Idea of chain link fence ▪ Don't like. Too much separation ▪ Don't like. Prevents crossing in middle of intersection, although illegal, but people do it. ▪ Dull 	<p>Participant comments on design idea:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Dislike.Somewhat stark ▪ Like-Low maintenance with some vegetation ▪ Don't like at all ▪ Like.Great as a second option ▪ Dull
	# of people	# of people	# of people	# of people
LIKE	8	2	2	2
SOMEWHAT	7	1	1	2
DISLIKE	1	7	7	2
DON'T WANT	2	6	6	6

General Comments & Suggestions:

1. Is it possible to eliminate the median/center turn lane and widen the sidewalk? I like the use of decorative grass and trees. The larger design question relates to the private zone. The nicest median won't offset narrow parking areas in front of buildings. The median may need to be different in the areas of street with historic structures and areas with neat construction

2. Can State fair funds and staff be used to maintain median planting?
3. Not in favor of any high maintenance landscape that could be cut out of a budget. Dislike B&C because it will cut down on pedestrian cross traffic and turn lanes for property in the middle of the block
4. Will there be sprinklers if you choose grass and trees?
5. Creating a narrower street is a good idea-more pedestrian friendly, will control traffic better
6. Prefer a median that consists of a decorative flat surface without vegetation
7. Prefer flat designs that don't decrease the amount of utilized road space for traffic
8. Concerned about the maintenance of the shrubs. Maintenance could get cut and shrubs could die which would create an eyesore.
9. Pictorial timeline/era specific photos/themes. Shrubs instead of trees. Shrubs in B.

PARKING & BULBOUT

example	parking & bulbout A	parking & bulbout B	parking & bulbout C	parking & bulbout D	parking & bulbout E
	 <p>Participant comments on design idea:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Metal tree grates have been stolen and sold for scraps in other areas ▪ Like. This is like NW Highway between Hillcrest and Bodecker ▪ Like tree grates ▪ Like inclusion of trees 	 <p>Participant comments on design idea:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Like for areas with historic homes ▪ Like. This design makes it safer for drivers to get in and out of cars 	 <p>Participant comments on design idea:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Dislike. Lacks bike racks near businesses ▪ Somewhat. Need more input on future bike traffic needs for area ▪ Add or combine space for wheelchair/scooters ▪ Like. But don't remove on-street parking. Put along sidewalk. ▪ Dislike. There is presently not enough parking on MLK. Another option is to put bike racks on sidewalks to capitalize on street space. 	 <p>Participant comments on design idea:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Like. But option E is more design friendly 	 <p>Participant comments on design idea:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Great Idea! ▪ Like—Especially at intersection ▪ Like. Prefer this over option D
	# of people	# of people	# of people	# of people	# of people
LIKE	7	4	4	3	8
SOMEWHAT	3	4	3	4	6
DISLIKE	4	2	7	5	0
DON'T WANT	3	4	2	4	2

General Comments & Suggestions:

1. How can the sidewalk designs be with private property between the sidewalk and buildings?
2. I like the landscape near sidewalks rather than in median. I like C, but could put bike parking on/next sidewalk.
3. All solutions are good. Bioswale included in street design will make Dallas a more sustainable city
4. The design should be conducive to attracting bike and pedestrian traffic to the area. It should also incorporate tree grates as well as encourage spending by visitors. This would assist local business' efforts to capture residential spending from tourist and patrons to Fair Park.
5. Bike lanes in this area should be wide enough to facilitate the use of 4 wheel scooter vehicles, which are prevalent this area.
6. All shrubbery should be in same family.

SIDEWALK

example

sidewalk A



Participant comments on design idea:

- Would rather see bike lanes on street
- Safer option. Can be built without graphics, later graphics added as bicycle traffic increases
- Quotes, images and afro centric colors on each block of pavement. Make the bike lane narrower and walk area larger
- Like. But like bike lane in street. Need a different look for pedestrian and scooter lanes.
- Add historical information/quotes on pavement. Add scooter use to increase safety. Put bike lane on street provided it does not reduce lanes or parking. Dislike two directional bike lane.
- African American history

sidewalk B



Participant comments on design idea:



- Something similar. Like idea bike lanes in the street, but this design is rather plain.

	# of people	# of people
LIKE	7	5
SOMEWHAT	4	1
DISLIKE	3	6
DON'T WANT	2	3

General Comments & Suggestions:

1. Option A is more versatile, but I would consider one direction bike lanes opposite directions on opposite side of streets
2. Sidewalk as art project directed by community bicycle traffic on street side of sidewalk
3. Sidewalks should be wider to support pedestrian and scooter traffic. The streets should be wider to support bike traffic
4. Should be aesthetically similar



FURNITURE

example	furniture A	furniture B
	 <p>Participant comments on design idea:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Like trashcan, something similar to the lamp 	 <p>Participant comments on design idea:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> May fit better with the designs of the new train stations The lighting needs to be wider. Prefer modern look. Dislike-Shrubs only
	# of people	# of people
LIKE	9	4
SOMEWHAT	2	4
DISLIKE	3	5
DON'T WANT	4	3

General Comments & Suggestions:

1. Oncor only services acorn and nyhavin lights. Property owners will need to pick up operation and expenses for other lamp types. Benches to be setback from street-not adjacent. May need arms on benches to discourage sleeping. Who will empty trash cans? Is there a standard needed for collection?
2. More in keeping with neighborhood architecture consider lighting similar to Mockingbird lane between Central and Greenville
3. Pedestrian amenities are essential to attracting pedestrian traffic to the area. The street furniture and pedestrian lighting should provide visual continuity with the new median and sidewalk design
4. Should match the theme of the area
5. Like bike lanes on streets and sidewalk designs with motorized scooters in mind.
6. Need more options
7. Furniture should blend with the median designs, prefer traditional/historical

BUS STOP

example	<p>bus stop A</p>  <p>Participant comments on design idea:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Need to move seating areas away from traffic and facing direction of view ▪ LOVE IT! ▪ LOVE THIS 	<p>bus stop B</p>  <p>Participant comments on design idea:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Only if can be done to prevent conversion by homeless to temporary housing ▪ Like. Like this concept of mini park serves a dual purpose, but suggest some type of overhead covering.
	# of people	# of people
LIKE	7	6
SOMEWHAT	2	5
DISLIKE	3	1
DON'T WANT	1	1

General Comments & Suggestions:

1. Need additional design standards for private development. May also want to group MLK into zones with like architectural elements. Also may want to add 1) way finding signage for vehicles and pedestrians 2) area for community garden 3) Gateway signage-maybe use deco motif to tie to fair grounds.
2. Can improvements be designed to decrease street capacity most of year and increase for state fair?
3. Add cover over irregular bench-or portions of it for needed shade
4. The bus stop design should provide visual continuity with the new median, street furniture and sidewalk design. Should also deter loitering.
5. Like the park setting

Verbal comments, suggestions and questions given during workshop

- Don't make the lanes any narrower
- The colorful median helps to reduce traffic which is especially important in order to have outdoor cafes
- Is there money to maintain the ideas that include vegetation? What is plan to maintain?
- Conduct a survey on bicycle ridership in the area
- Give thoughts to scooter chairs
- Combine bike and scooter parking
- What type of safety is needed to protect biker from barriers in front of properties in the area?
- The bus stop/mini parks become a place for homeless, how can City deter this problem?
- How much does traffic count increase during state fair?
- How can business in area capture business from State Fair?
- How will these ideas tie into DART plans?
- How can proposed ideas/plan benefit local business owners?
- Desire to see more outdoor dining