

**City of Lincoln
Planning**

Nebraska Capitol Environs Commission
Agenda

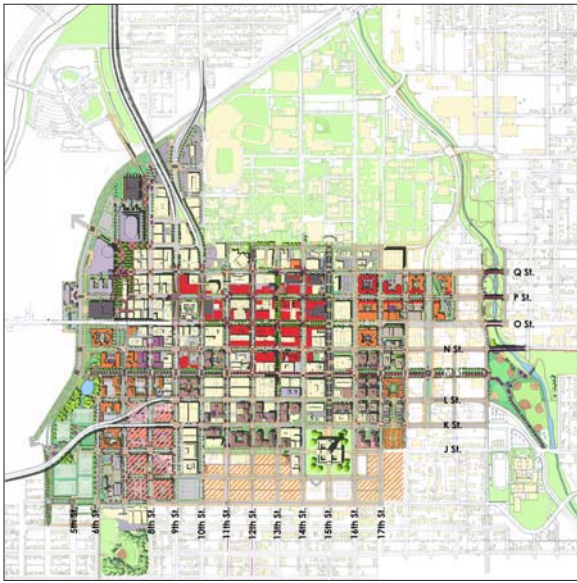
The Nebraska Capitol Environs Commission will hold a scheduled public meeting on Thursday, August 27, 2009. The meeting will convene at **8:00 a.m.** in **Room 206, County-City Building, 555 S. 10th Street**, Lincoln, Nebraska, to consider the following agenda. For more information, please contact the Lincoln/Lancaster County Planning Department at 441-7491.

Agenda of August 27, 2009

1. Approval of meeting notes of [July 23, 2009](#).

Discussion

2. [Centennial Mall redesign](#): preliminary discussion with design team.
 3. Staff report
 4. Miscellaneous
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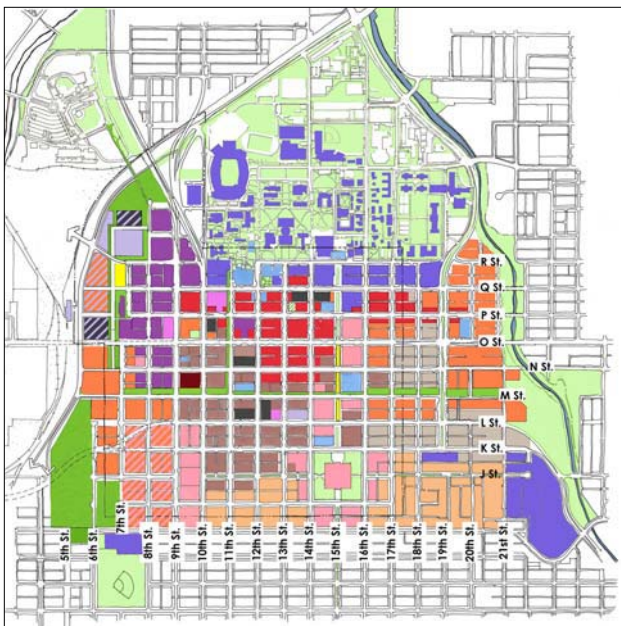
Lincoln Downtown **Master Plan**

Final Report
September 2005

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Lincoln Downtown Capacity Plan



Lincoln Downtown Land Use Plan

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Implementation Program

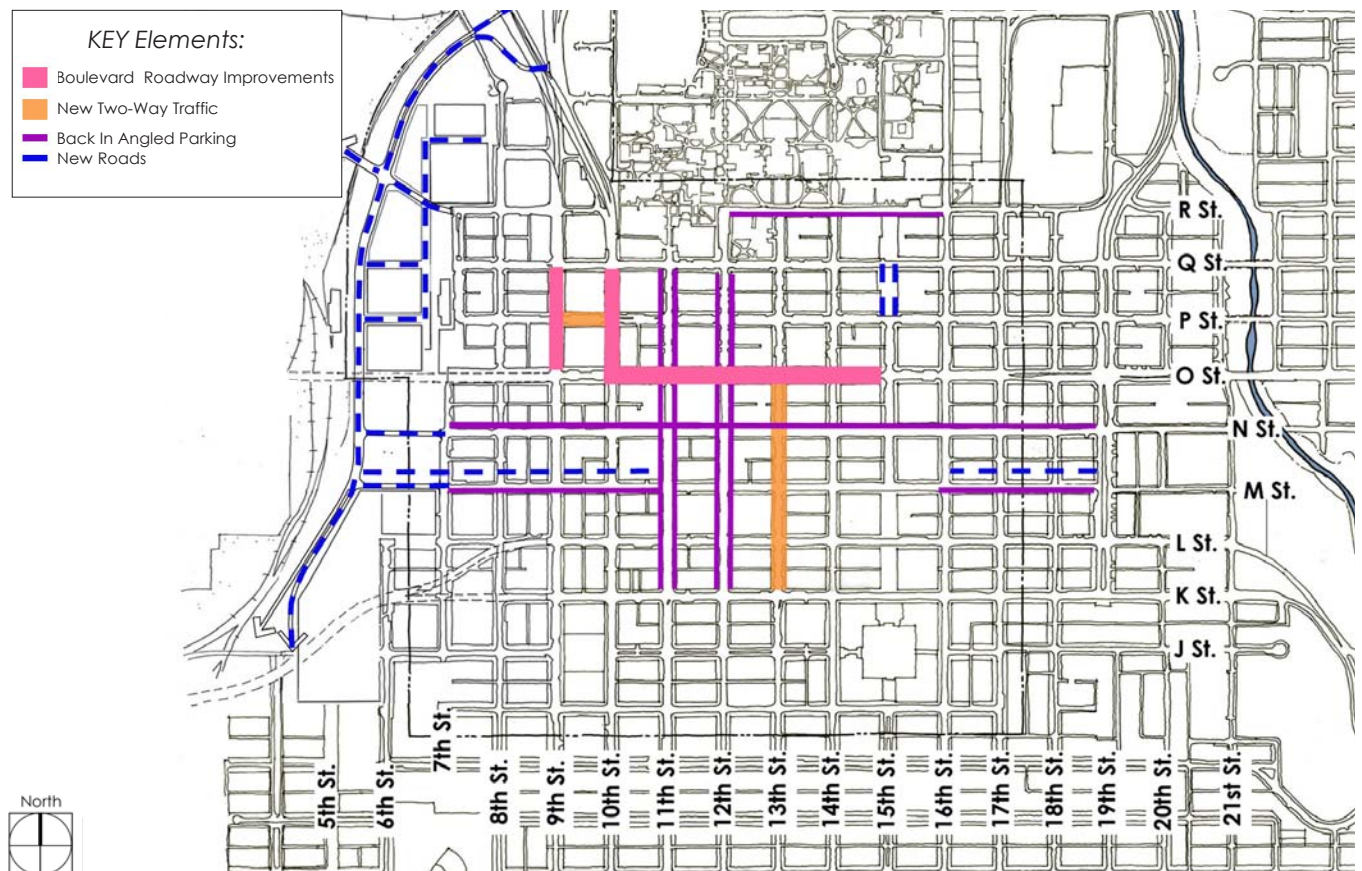
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Automobile Framework

Proposed components of the auto framework are described and identified below; each is detailed on separate pages that follow.

- **New Two-way Street Segments** – rerouting of streets to improve downtown access.
- **Back-in Angled Parking Streets** – re-striping of current head-in angle parking.
- **Boulevard Roadway Improvements** –include retail boulevard street
- **New Streets**– provide access to new and existing development while mitigating heavy traffic in existing districts.

improvements on O Street and boulevard grade-separation of portions of 9th and 10th Streets to improve traffic circulation and mitigate pedestrian/auto conflicts on P Street; improvements are within existing rights-of-way.

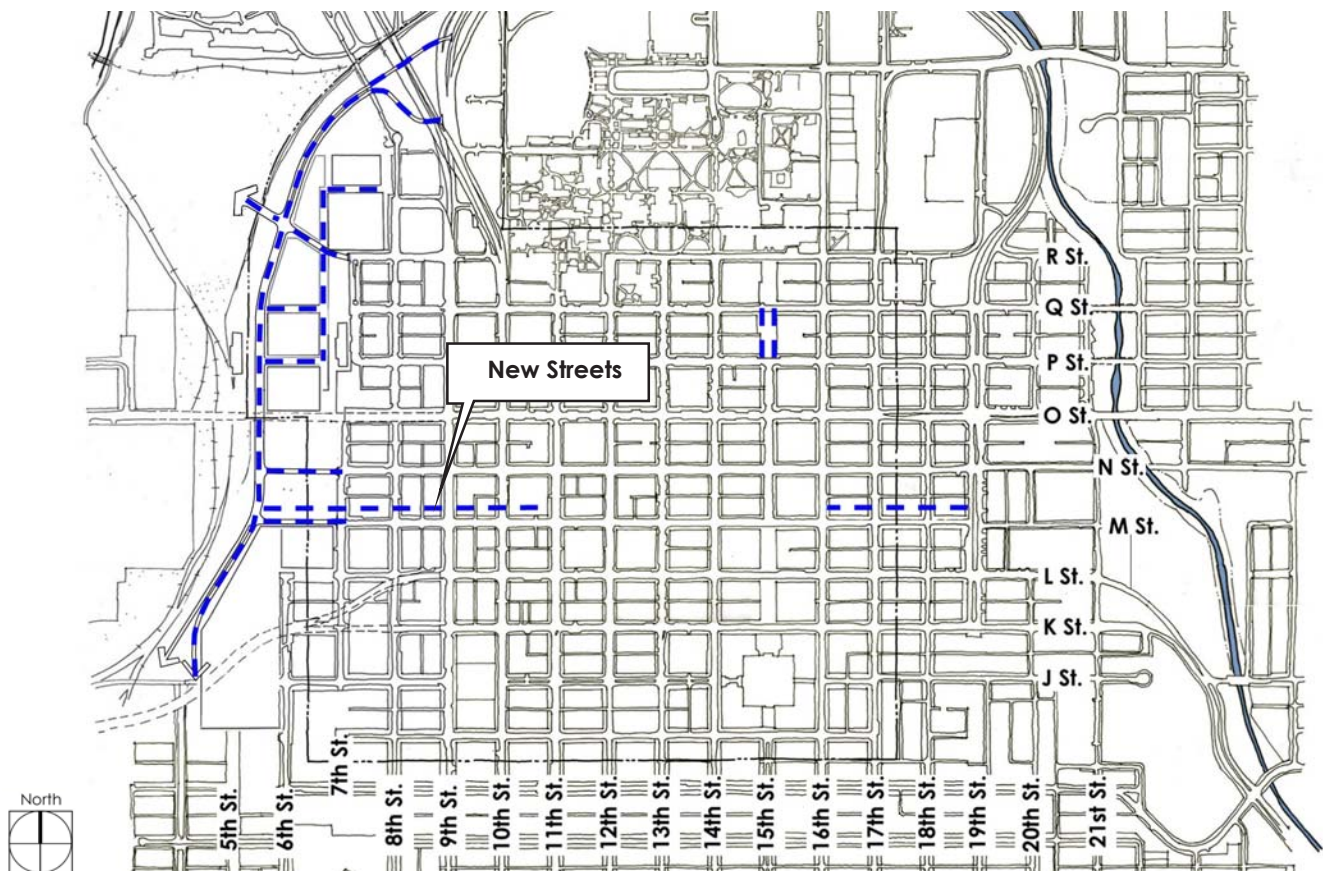


Automobile and Truck Framework

New Circulation Opportunities

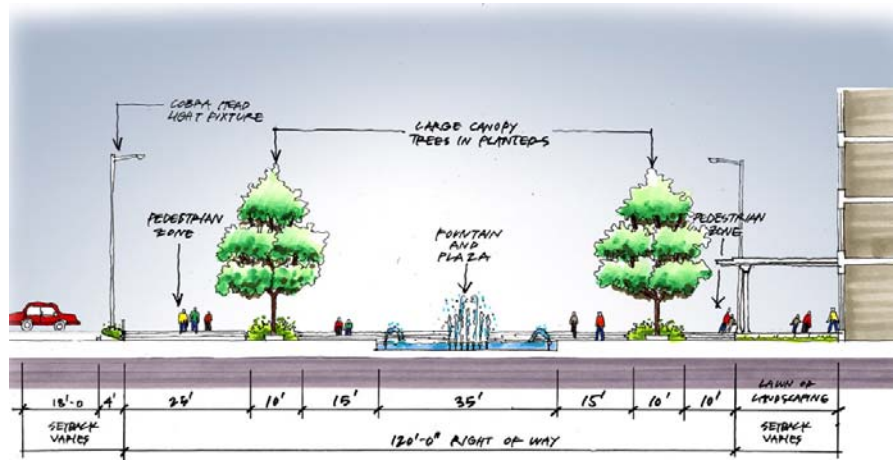
Possible street enhancements could provide circulation for new development and improve movement within existing districts. These streets may be constructed all at once or in phases as part of individual redevelopment proposals. The new streets could include:

- **West Haymarket** – a grid of streets within the redevelopment of the existing railyards.
- **M Street** – pedestrian-friendly access along the proposed M Street park blocks and adjacent development between 7th and 11th to the west, and 16th and 19th to the east.
- **Centennial Mall** – a new north/south “couplet” of streets on the block of Centennial between P and Q Streets at a minimum.

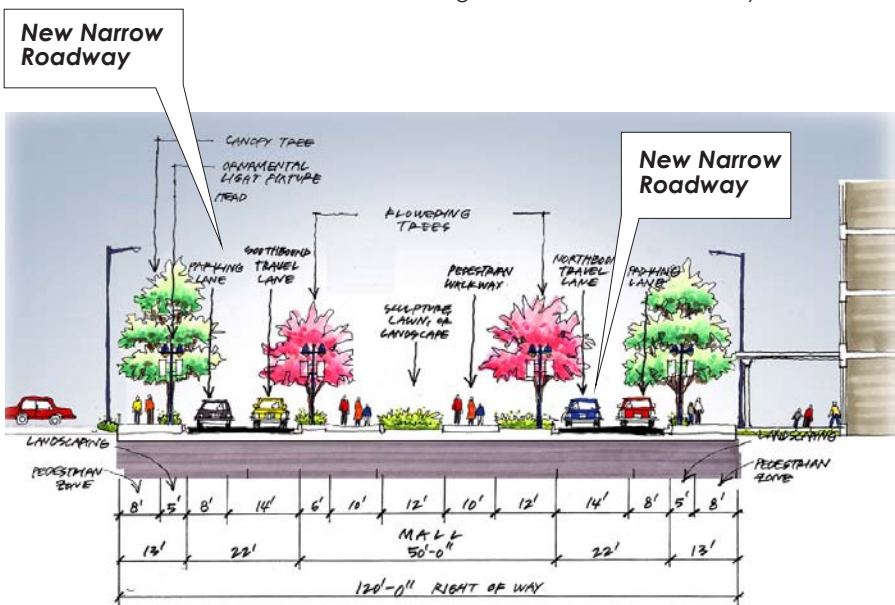


Centennial Mall

While the new north/south street couplet should be provided on the block of Centennial between P and Q streets at a minimum, consideration should be given to providing the same system of one-way auto access along the mall between Q and R Streets.



Existing Centennial Pedestrian-Only Mall Section



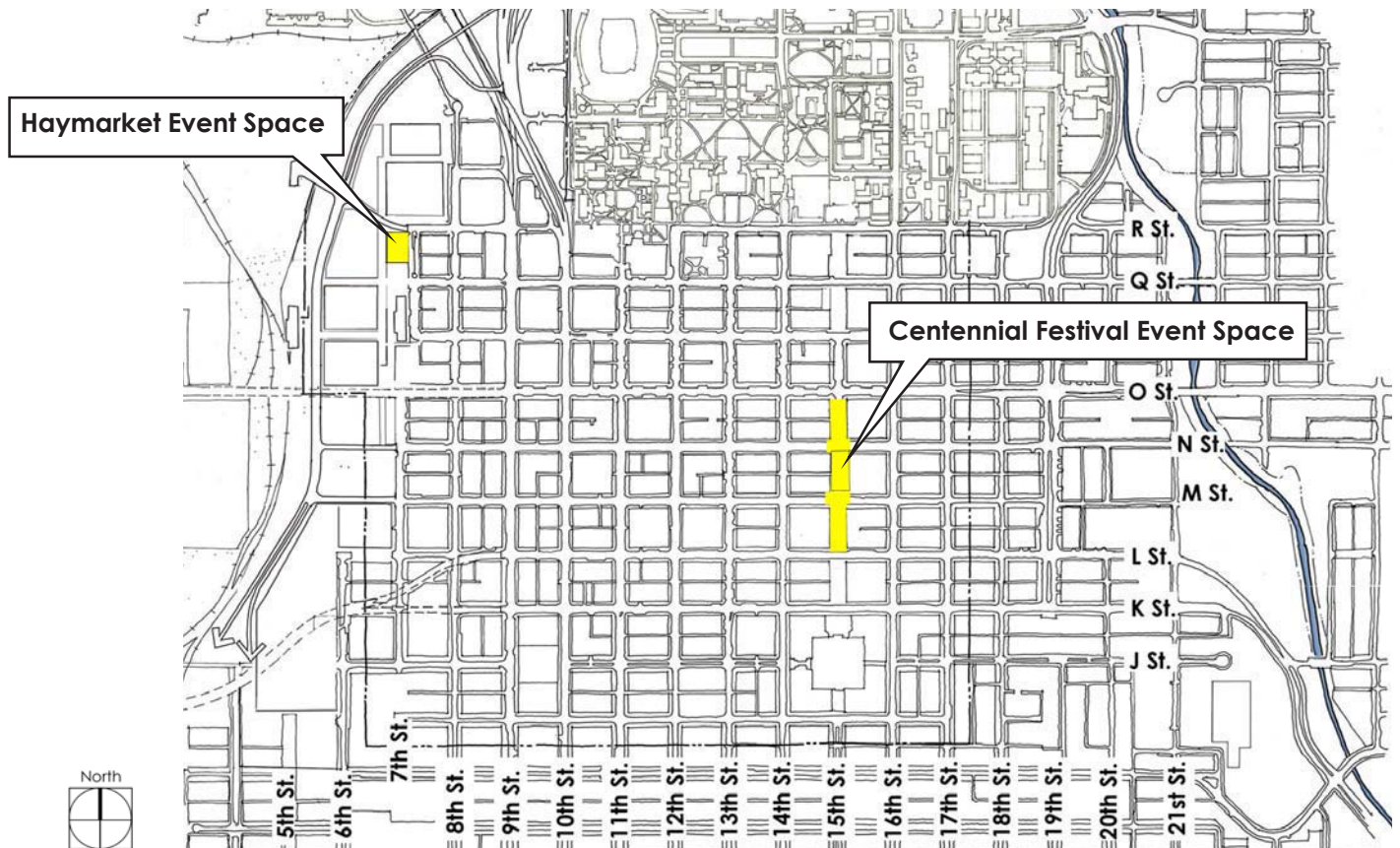
Proposed Centennial Mall Section with New North/South Couplet Street

Festival/Event Spaces

Festival and event spaces are intended to provide permanent event staging sites and infrastructure for a variety of celebrations.

The two spaces, at Haymarket and at Centennial Mall, supplement the proposed Civic Square, and provide places for events that are too large for the square or inappropriate in that location. The event spaces would:

- Allow for closing of streets or limiting auto access.
- Be accessible for those with disabilities.
- Be securable to allow for the consumption of alcohol.
- Provide private hook-ups, locations for potable water and public restrooms.
- Be within walking distance of parking structures.
- Not conflict with adjacent uses in terms of hours of operation or types of activities allowed.



Festival/Event Spaces Diagram

Centennial Festival Space

This space will be the forecourt for a possible relocated Bennett Martin Public Library. Its location on Centennial Mall between M and N Streets provides a desirable space for Updowntowners sponsored events.



Updowntowners Annually-Sponsored July Jamm Festival



Existing Festival Space Area



Proposed Festival Space Concept

Promenade

The Promenade is intended to provide a highly-identifiable pedestrian loop around the downtown core. It should serve as an amenity for development and provide safe and convenient access to downtown districts and attractions.

A New Recreation Loop

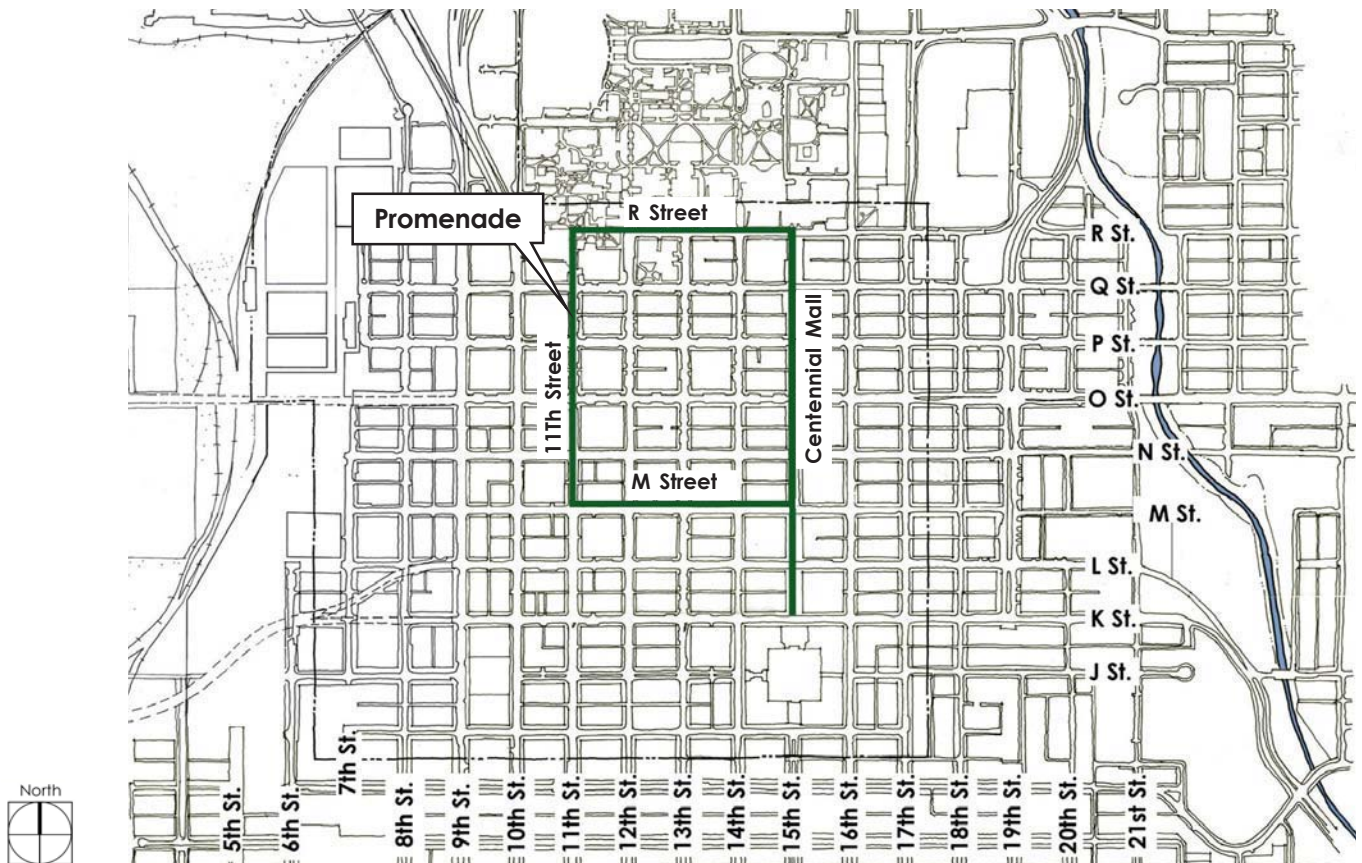
The Promenade would be wide enough to provide for a variety of different users. The users of the Promenade would include.

- Pedestrians.
- Strollers.
- Low-speed bicyclists – especially children and families.
- Rollerbladers or rollerskaters.
- Joggers.

The new pedestrian loop would:

- **Be constructed within existing public rights-of-way** – except short segments along R Street between 11th and 12th and 11th between O and R Streets where it crosses the UNL campus. This location needs further review to determine a suitable route that does not disrupt or interfere with UNL activities and facilities
- **Comprise four segments** – north-south on 11th Street from the UNL campus to M Street; east-west on M Street from 11th to Centennial Mall; north-south the length of Centennial Mall (from M to R Streets as well as south to K Street); and east-west from Centennial Mall at R Street to 11th.

The following pages describe in detail each of the four segments.



Off Street Bike and Pedestrian Emphasis Streets Diagram

Centennial Mall Promenade

Centennial Mall was designed to highlight Nebraska's historical capitol building, giving visitors a perfectly framed view of this architectural wonder.

Over the years the formal arrangement of paved and grassy areas has offered both gathering space and relief from the grid of wide downtown streets. Today, however, the mall has become fragmented, is in poor physical condition, and requires considerable maintenance. Furthermore, it presents barriers to those with physical disabilities.

The future proposed for Centennial Mall in this Master Plan is but one possible vision. Other visions have also been crafted and formally recognized by the Nebraska Capitol Environs Commission. The Downtown Master Plan's vision for Centennial Mall offers a number of thoughtful components which should be considered in conjunction with the Mall's future. The Master Plan acknowledges the Mall's present planning and maintenance situation and encourages further broad community dialogue regarding the Mall's eventual renovation and use.

New Primary Uses

The Centennial Mall should be redesigned to support the following uses :

- Limited auto movement
- Recreational amenities for strolling, passive sitting and viewing.
- Occasional festival or events staged by the Updowntowners and other organizations.

New Design

A new Mall design should incorporate the following concepts:

- Additional green space on the three blocks between P and N Streets, where currently there is none.
- Simplification of the 32'-0" wide promenade by removing fountains.
- Incorporation of universal design features to provide access for all.



View from the Capitol

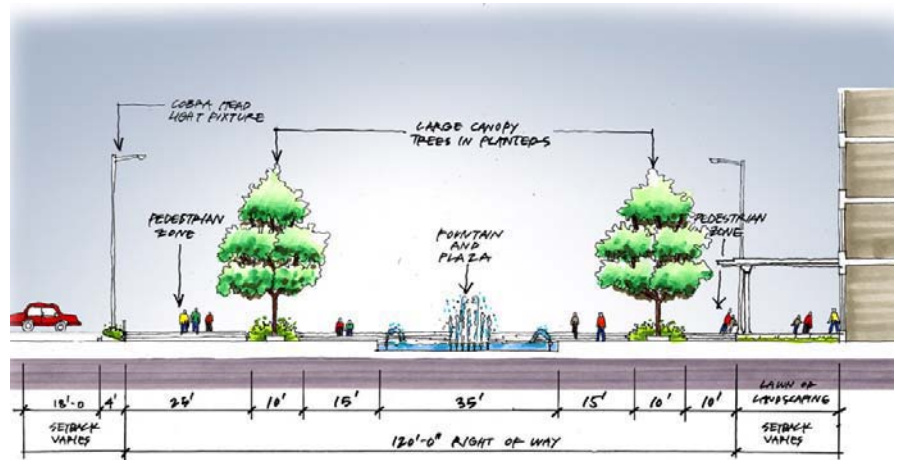


View from the Nebraska Historical Society

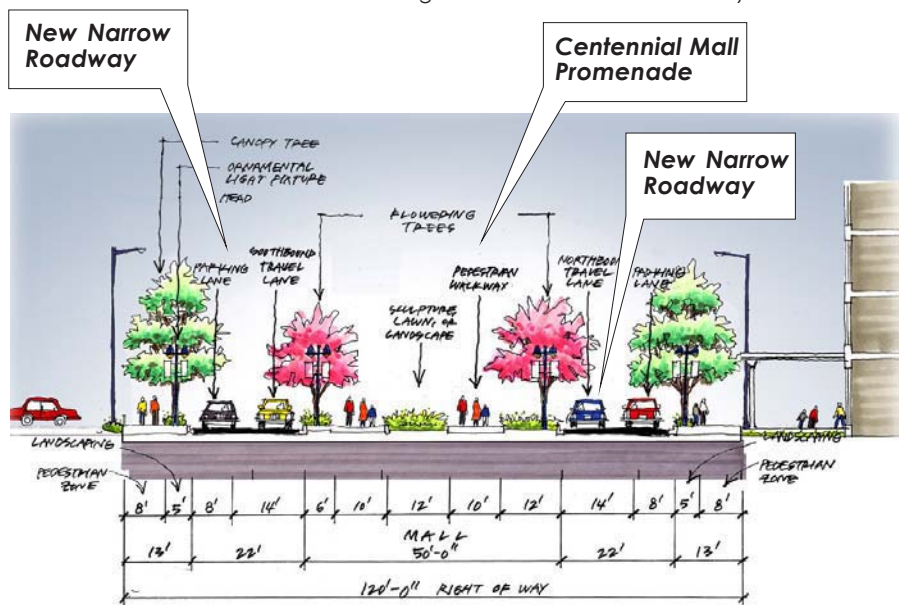
Centennial Mall Promenade

The Centennial Mall portion of the Promenade would extend from the State Capitol at K Street to R Street. Improvements will:

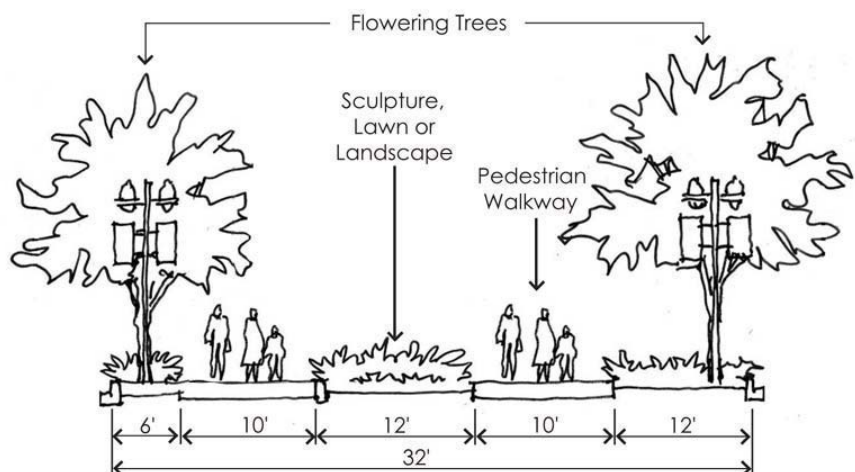
- Provide a continuous, uninterrupted paved linkage for recreational users along a central greenway.
- Include generous pedestrian walkways.
- Have raised intersections wherever possible to emphasize and prioritize pedestrian access and safety.
- Frame views of the capitol with ornamental columnar plantings lining the edges of the walkway. The tree variety selected would have a light canopy so views are not obstructed.
- Include a paved activity area (see Festival/Event Space) to the Pershing Center.
- Re-establish vehicular access between Q and P Streets as a priority (see Transportation Framework).



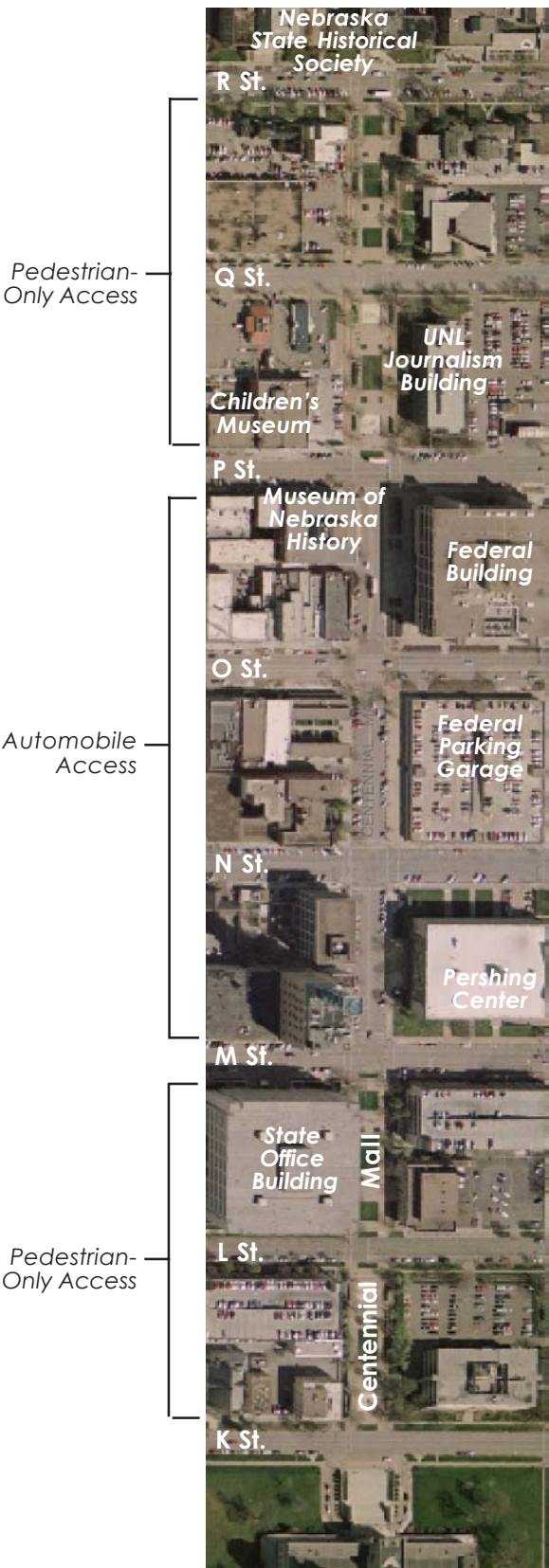
Existing Centennial Pedestrian-Only Mall Section



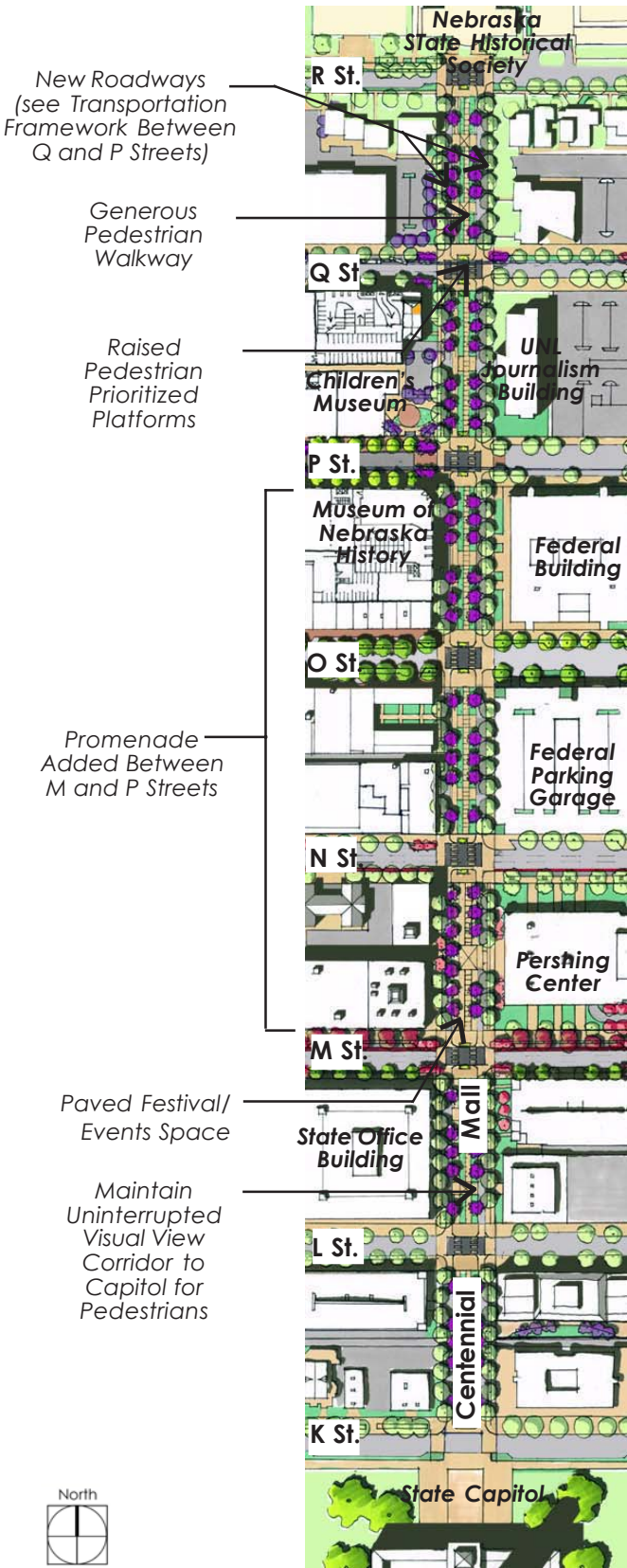
Proposed Centennial Mall Section



Centennial Mall Promenade Requirements



Existing Centennial Mall Aerial



Proposed Centennial Mall Plan