

# City Square Design

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August 14, 2023  
City of Joliet





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# 1 Overview

# Project Team

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## City of Joliet

- Community Development
- Public Works



## Design and Engineering Consultant

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# City Square Location



# Design Goals



**City Square will bring a vibrant gathering place to Downtown Joliet. The Square will provide a “green oasis” and a place of respite and entertainment in the city center.**

- Open Lawn
- Planters with water features
- Trees in planters
- Small, permanent stage
- Space for larger, temporary stage
- Lighting
- Custom seating
- Shade structures
- Paver flex streets
- Community identifiers
- Flexible space for year-round activities and special events
- Safety

# Design Process & Public Engagement



## Initial Design Development

## Final Design Development

Fall 2022



Winter 2022 / 2023



Spring / Summer 2023

- » Community Input Group Meeting #1

SEPTEMBER 21, 2022

- » Community Input Group Meeting #2

JANUARY 25, 2023

- » Community Open House #1

FEBRUARY 23, 2023

- » Public Survey

MAY 25, 2023 — JUNE 16, 2023

- » Community Input Group Meeting #3

JUNE 22, 2023

- » Community Open House #2

JULY 20, 2023



# 2 Public Engagement



# What We Heard - Priorities



- Prioritize uses and amenities for daily residents, students and employees.
- Incorporate a water feature, green space, small stage, and shaded seating.
- Highlight Joliet's unique character throughout the space.
- Design a flexible space that accommodates a variety of activities, i.e. ice skating rink, holiday tree, food truck accommodations, etc.

## JOLIET CITY SQUARE DESIGN



### COMMENT FORM

Please write your question or comment in the area below.

Absolutely love all the forms of shade, the more trees the better (except for in front of the library)! ~~Ice~~ Ice rink is a YES, street parking is a NO, because of the two giant parking garages you can see from the square. No bars on the metal benches, I know why those are there. I don't really get the butterfly/bowl seating area, but that's for folks with families I suppose. Event stage is great, water features and seating are great, and this whole idea is dynamite! I hope this is the beginning of a more pedestrian-friendly downtown for all!

Project Website:  
[www.joliet.gov/CitySquare](http://www.joliet.gov/CitySquare)

# What We Heard – Design Concept Feedback



*Open House 1, February 2023*

## TO CONSIDER:

- › Coordination with nearby amenities
- › Design that celebrates City Square historical significance
- › Design in harmony with the Rialto Theater and greater downtown design.
- › Muted colors

## CONCERNS:

- › Maintenance
- › Durable materials
- › Safety



# 3 City Square Design

# Design Features – Looking Northeast



Small, Permanent Stage

Family Gathering Space

Paver Flex Streets

Open Lawn

# Design Features



Van Buren storefronts with trees in curb planters

Planter space with shade trees

Water feature

Limestone blocks cover water jet openings (Note: final shape and texture TBD)

Raised water feature with waterfall edge

Stone seat wall with oversized joints



# Design Features



Seating surface with oversized joints

Stone face

Planters on ends with shade trees and seat wall

# Architectural Components



Seating under shade structures

Design maintains visibility into City Square

Design could also include tables and chairs



Design provides shade while remaining open



Design could also include swings

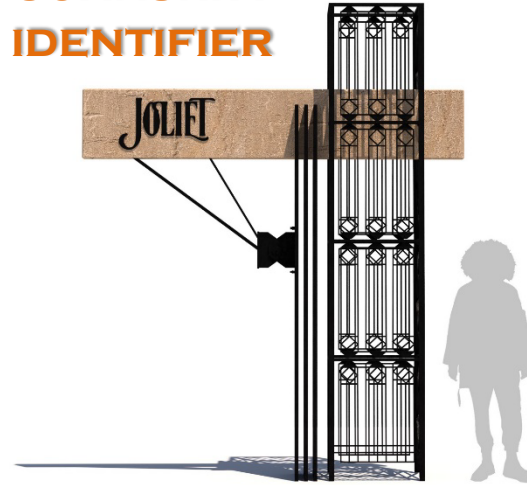
# Architectural Components



**STAGE WITH CANOPY**



**COMMUNITY IDENTIFIER**



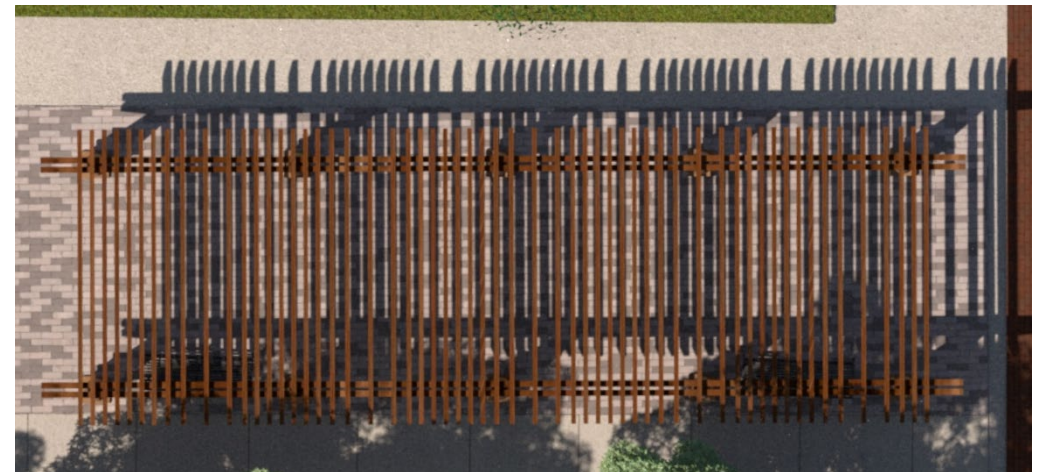
**LIGHT POLE COMMUNITY IDENTIFIER**



**SHADE STRUCTURE ALONG CHICAGO ST.**

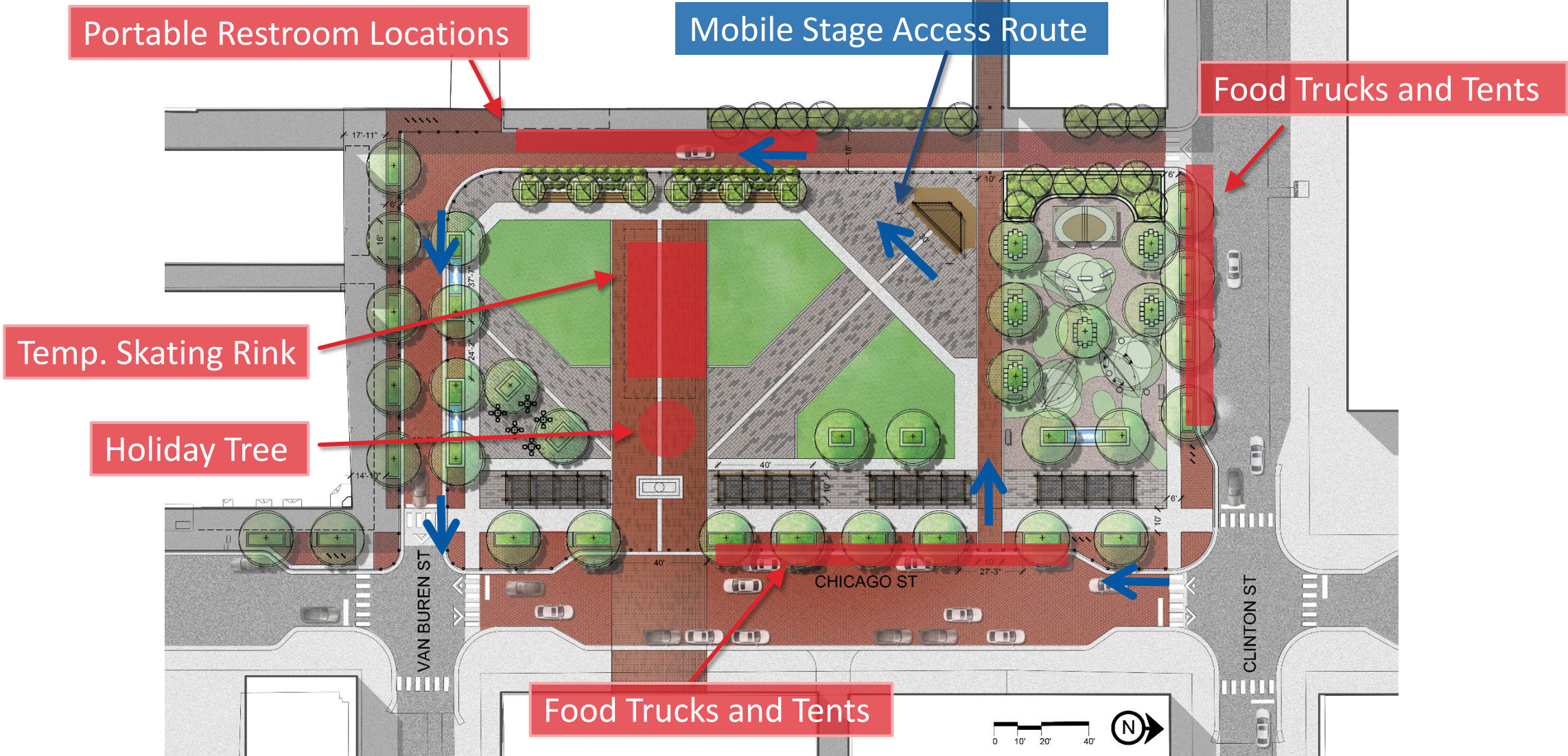


**OVERHEAD VIEW OF SHADE STRUCTURE**

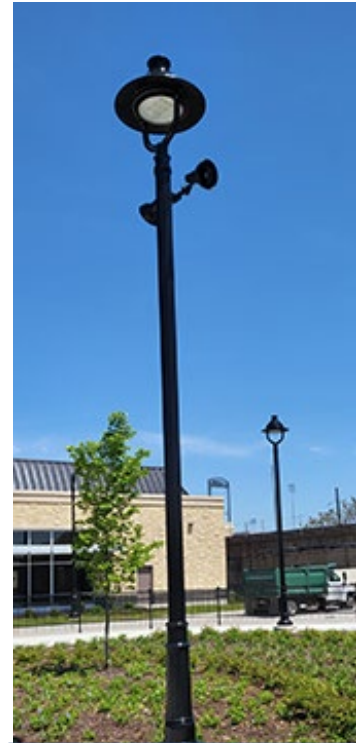




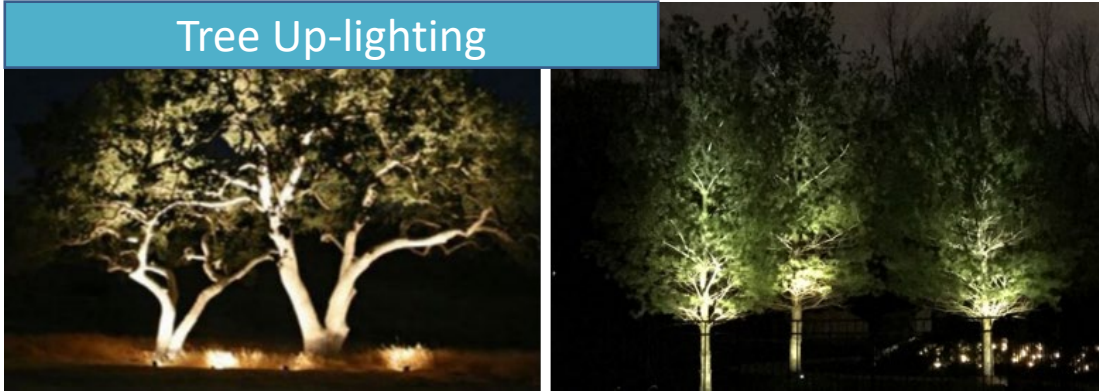
# Design – Potential Event Use



# Lighting and Site Furniture



The Plaza Light Pole



Tree Up-lighting



Festoon Lighting

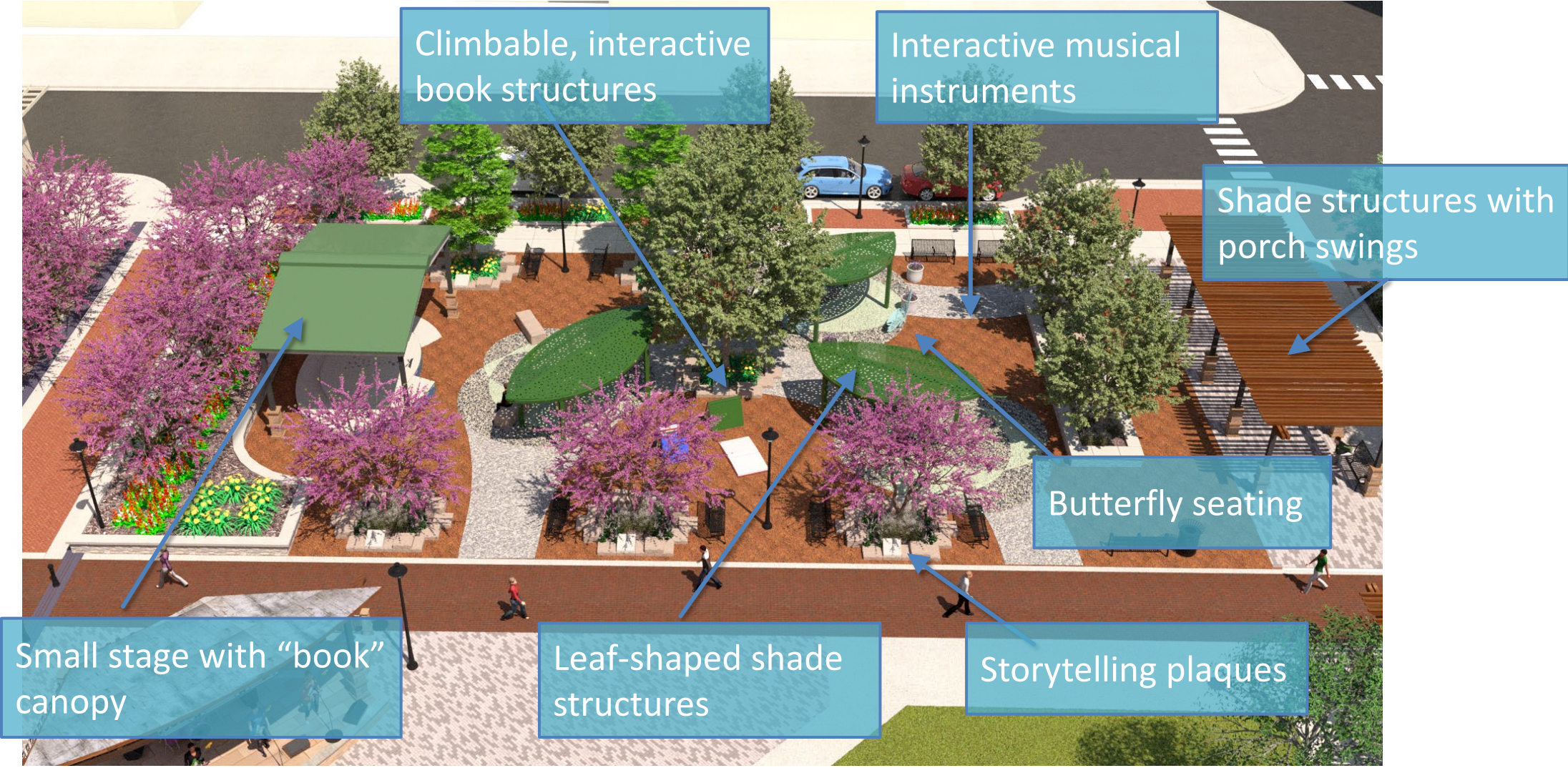


R-7530 Bollard



Scarborough Bench and Litter

# Family Gathering Space



Climbable, interactive book structures

Interactive musical instruments

Shade structures with porch swings

Butterfly seating

Small stage with "book" canopy

Leaf-shaped shade structures

Storytelling plaques

# Family Gathering Space



# Family Gathering Space



# Family Gathering Space





# Next Steps

# Next Steps



Updates available at  
[www.Joliet.gov/citysquare](http://www.Joliet.gov/citysquare)







**Thank you!**

[www.joliet.gov/citysquare](http://www.joliet.gov/citysquare)

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