11. Streetscape Elements

Context & Character

Streetscapes are the inter-relationship of public spaces and buildings. Local amenity and identity are closely linked to the quality of the streetscape, which is defined by the character of the buildings, the space between them, ground surfaces, vegetation, walls, fences and furnishings that enrich the space.

Streetscape elements reinforce the unique character of a block, neighborhood, downtown or historic district. For example, shaded sidewalks on a residential street or benches in downtown encourage activity and create a lively, dynamic environment that contributes greatly to the overall livability of an area.

Design Objective

Retain and preserve original elements that combine to form the street scene. New streetscape improvements should respect the historic character of the area and complement historic scales, designs and landscaping.

General

11.1 The historic character of a streetscape should be protected and maintained.

- Retain the distinctive historic features that give a streetscape and/or district its distinguishing character.
- Original street lights should be preserved and maintained.

11.2 A historic feature of the streetscape that is too deteriorated to repair should be replaced using physical evidence to guide the new work.

CONTEXT & CHARACTER	11:1
DESIGN OBJECTIVE	11:1
GENERAL	11:1



Many downtown blocks display added street trees, traditional lighting and varying sidewalk paving materials.



South Temple has a unified treatment of streetscape features that contribute to the character of the district.



With steeper topography, steps become a significant element of the street scene.

11.3 New streetscape elements should be compatible in scale, design and style with the surrounding environment.

- This includes street furniture, trash receptacles, bike racks, planters and landscaping.
- New elements should be simple in design and compatible with the appearance and scale of adjacent buildings, structures and public spaces.
- Curb cuts, driveways and off street parking should be carefully planned to protect the historic character of the streetscape and/or district.
- Use indigenous plants for landscaping, when feasible.
- Signs are an integral part of the street scene; see the Design Guidelines for Signs for more information.
- An outdoor dining area should complement the building facade and streetscape in terms of design character, materials, finishes and color.

11.4 All streetscape elements should work together to create a coherent visual identity and public space.

- The visual cohesiveness and historic character of the area should be maintained through the use of complementary materials.
- Consider a compatible substitute material if using the same kind of material is not feasible.

11.5 New street lights should be compatible with the historic character of the district.

- The design of lighting fixtures and poles should be compatible in scale, design, material and illumination level with the setting.
- Simple new designs may be appropriate.