Energizing the Core: A Downtown Pflugerville Study



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Background

In 2024, the City broke ground on the new Downtown East Project, a mixed-use development just east of historic downtown core of Pflugerville. The Project, which includes a new city hall facility, will allow the City's administrative services to consolidate by vacating their existing facilities at 100 E Main Street and 100 W Main Street.

These existing facilities provide a unique opportunity for the City to support downtown vitality through strategic reuse and future redevelopment. The impact of municipal capital investments can be maximized by leveraging existing assets- both public and private- to support the community's vision for the future. These assets can be used both to enhance downtown's sense of place and its economic vitality.

This report highlights strategic opportunities for the City to harness existing resources with forthcoming capital investments to amplify positive community impacts, building on the full array of plans and interventions already underway, including not only the Downtown East project but the Downtown Action Plan, Streetscape Master Plan, Downtown Utilities Analysis, and public feedback received over the past several years.



Scope of Work

Assessing **Defining Objectives Recommendations Gathering Data Analyzing Findings Conditions** Confirming Asset mapping Near-term Opportunities & Market analysis project goals Physical (0-2 years) Retail challenges assessment Mid-term evaluation Facility reuse City facilities (2-6 years) considerations Case studies & condition Longer-term City property best practices assessment (6-10 years) Stakeholder value estimates feedback Priority sites



Project Goals

A Vibrant & Distinct Destination

A Connected & Complementary Neighborhood

Supported Businesses

Enhanced Identity & Placemaking

Improved Access

Leveraged Public Assets

Existing Conditions Summary

- Historic downtown core features a clustering of retail and services along Pecan Street & Railroad Avenue
- Some clustering of office uses around 2nd Street North
- Periphery is predominantly single-family housing
- Buildings are diverse in age and style
- Public sites are strategically located to support downtown revitalization
- Building coverage is relatively low, creating opportunities for expansions, adaptive reuse, or redevelopment
- Vacant land and surface parking lots present a low barrier infill development opportunities
- Some sites along commercial corridors could be strategic redevelopment opportunities



Physical Conditions Overview



Streetscapes: Sidewalks and pedestrian improvements are critical prerequisites for business attraction and retention



Parking & Circulation: Parking is sufficient but needs public parking plan, wayfinding, and the installation of bike racks. Some on-street and off-street parking changes are also needed to improve pedestrian access.



Storefronts: Diverse styles, age, and setbacks of buildings necessitate investment in district branding, sidewalk connectivity, landscaping, lighting, and signage.



Wayfinding & Gateways: City should build on existing public art and pocket park investments with gateways, banners, and additional art.









Facility Conditions Summary

Building	Current Use	Conditions	Reuse Potential
100 W Main St.	Pflugerville Planning & Development	Good, but reuse plans require additional due diligence	Front parking area activation; renovations to add front windows, improve lighting
100 E Main St. (Suites 100-400)	Pflugerville administrative services	Good for its age, needs interior renovations	Courtyard activation; ADA access; renovations to open interior spaces and activate E Main St.
100 E Main St. (Suite 500)	Pflugerville Communications Department	Good, features recent renovations	Minimal renovations needed, office or professional services reuse ready
105 E Pecan St.	Former barber shop, cigar shop	Historic structure, exterior repairs and code updates needed	Adaptive reuse for retail, continue as two businesses or combine as one larger business



Market Analysis Summary

- The City of Pflugerville is growing in both population and overall household income
- Retail in the Pflugerville submarket is strong, with year over year rental growth, low vacancy, and active construction.
- Office construction has slowed, and vacancies are on the rise, though rents remain relatively stable.
- Multifamily developments have seen strong absorption over the last year, but rents are likely to drop in the near future, creating feasibility challenges as costs continue to rise.
- Hospitality demand has slowed, occupancy is down, and more construction is underway.
- Market conditions suggest retail is the most viable market use for City buildings in the near-term, while mixed-use redevelopment may be possible in the longer term with successful activation efforts.
- Current retail and office rents do not support new construction.



A Phased Approach

- Current market conditions do not support immediate redevelopment of City facilities.
- Phasing reasonable public investments will:
 - Maintain activity downtown.
 - Leverage existing assets through lower cost interventions.
 - Encourage private investment as market conditions improve.



Best Practices Summary

Lessons from Case Studies

Nurture

Successful revitalization supports and builds on the existing community assets

- Preserve iconic buildings, landmarks, and institutions
- Support existing businesses and residents
- Implement existing plans and initiatives

Enhance

Make visiting comfortable, easy, and worthwhile.

- Invest in the Public Realm and Pedestrian Experience
- Facilitate Parking and Wayfinding
- Embrace Interim Uses
- Activate and Program Spaces

Attract

Success begets success. Make it easy for downtown to prosper.

- Incentivize New Development
- Leverage Public Property
- Commit Ongoing Resources



Retail Assessment Summary

Opportunities	 Retail clustering for food/beverage, entertainment, personal services, and youth-oriented businesses. Current events and activations are successful; can build upon and expand. Public sites can be leveraged to support retail clusters and intensify activity.
Challenges	 Lack of downtown branding. Inadequate pedestrian infrastructure. Lack of downtown business coordination.
Facility Reuse Considerations	 100 W Main & 100 E Main (Ste.100-200) provide opportunity for retail use through renovation (interim use). 100 E Main (Ste. 300-500) provides an opportunity for office/personal services use through minimal renovation (interim use). Both Main Street properties are opportunities for mixed-use redevelopment in the longer term (6-10 years). 105 E Pecan provides an opportunity for retail use through renovation (immediate & long-term).
Priority Development Sites	 City-owned properties are all located in priority locations to support downtown revitalization. Near-term acquisitions or incentives for development should focus on the sites near the three downtown retail "nodes" (Railroad/Main; 1st/Main; and 1st/Pecan). City should prioritize infill on vacant sites to intensify the built environment and support walkability.

Valuation and Investment Summary

Renovation

- Current land and property values are relatively low for the City's downtown facilities and do not support redevelopment.
- For long-term reuse sites like 105 E Pecan Street, the 20-year break-even investment estimate can inform either the maximum renovation budget or tenant improvement allowance.
- For near-term reuse of sites, such as 100 E Main and 100 W Main, the 10-year break-even investment estimate can inform either the maximum renovation budget or tenant improvement allowance, though funding renovations beyond the break-even estimate may be a desirable policy decision to support downtown activation.

Property	Anticipated Reuse	Square Feet
100 W Main Street	Retail	5,754
100 E Main Street (100-400)	Retail/Office	8,207
100 E Main Street (Ste. 500)	Office	2,112
105 E Pecan Street	Retail	1,845

Vacant Land Value	Property Value (if leased)	Break- Even Investment (10 yrs)	ln
\$427k	\$0.76m - \$1.33m	\$299k	
\$285k	\$0.86m - \$1.42m	\$456k	
\$356k	\$199k - \$284k	\$118k	
\$214k	\$242k - \$428k	\$96k	

Break-Even nvestment (20 yrs)

\$466k

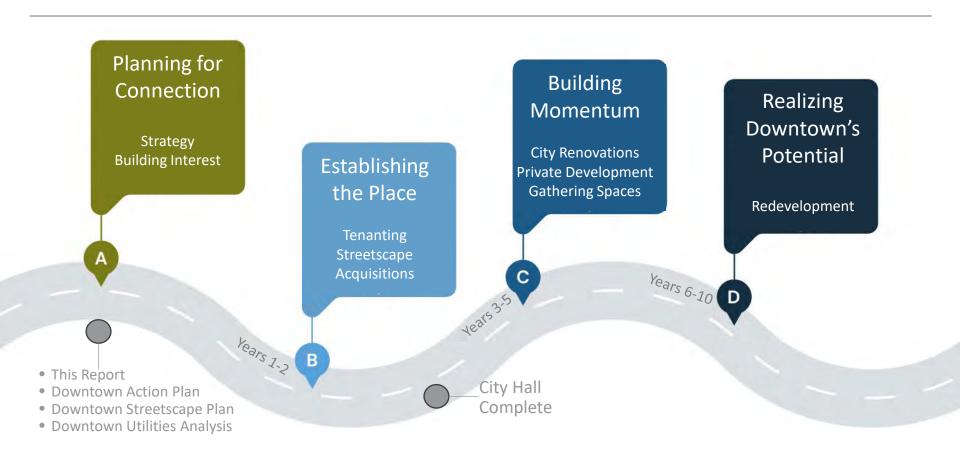
\$711k

\$183k

\$149k



Roadmap





Roadmap

Phase 1: Establishing the Place

Initial investments to **increase foot traffic**, **improve visibility of downtown** by drivers, and **acquire strategic parcels** for future development.

Timeframe: 0-24 months



Tenanting

- 105 E Pecan Street
 - Leasing & TI
- City Facilities RFI/RFP
 - 100 E Main
 - 100 W Main

Real Estate

Acquire strategic parcel(s)

Infrastructure

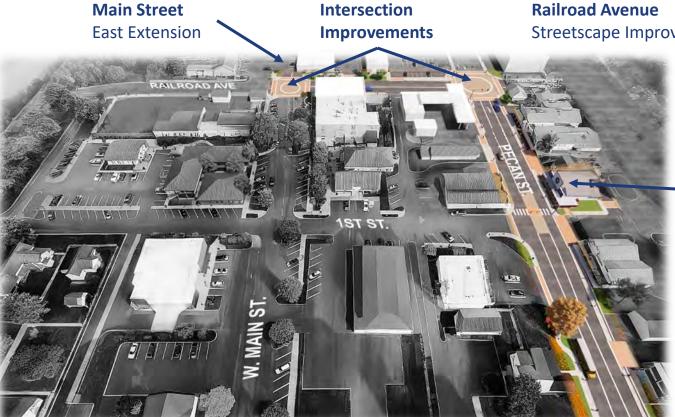
- Main Street Extension
- Pecan Street Improvements
- Railroad Avenue Improvements

Placemaking

- Public art
 - Murals marking gateways (key nodes)
- Poles & banners (Pecan, Railroad, Main)
- Parking Signage



Phase 1 Investments



Streetscape Improvements

Art, banners, street furniture

105 East Pecan Lease & reuse

Pecan Street Streetscape **Improvements**

Strategic Acquisition(s)

Phase 1 Investments



Pecan Street Improvements



Pecan Street Pedestrian Crossing



Pecan & Railroad Intersection Improvements



105 E Pecan Building Reuse



Roadmap

Phase 2: Building Momentum

Focus on repurposing City facilities to **activate Main Street** along with infrastructure and streetscape improvements.

Timeframe: 2-6 years



Tenanting

- 100 E Main Street (Suites 100-500)
- 100 W Main Street

Real Estate

- Renovations
 - 100 E Main, Ste. 100-200
 - 100 W Main
- Private (re)development

Infrastructure

- Main Street improvements
- 1st St. N Improvements
- District Parking

Placemaking

- Gateway development (Main/Railroad)
- Downtown signage

Phase 2 Investments

100 East Main (Ste. 300-500) Lease

100 East Main (Ste. 100-200) Renovate & Lease

100 West Main Renovate & Lease

Outdoor Space Activation

Strategic Acquisition(s)

Main Street
Streetscape
Improvements

1st Street N Streetscape Improvements

Private Redevelopment





Phase 2 Investments



Renovations for retail use at 100 W Main (above) and 100 E Main (below)



Roadmap

Phase 3: Realizing Potential

Improved infrastructure, market conditions, and coordination allow City sites to be redeveloped as **mixed-use**, **multi-story** structures. Infill development on adjacent sites creates an integrated downtown.



Timeframe: 6-10 years

Real Estate

- Main Street facilities redevelopment (100 E & W Main)
- Additional private redevelopment

Infrastructure

- Activated Alleyway
- Street/Utility Improvements
 - Downtown Action Plan
 - Utility Analysis
 - Streetscape
 Master Plan



Phase 3 Investments

Alleyway Activation

Private Redevelopment

100 East Main Mixed-Use Redevelopment

100 East Main Mixed-Use Redevelopment





Phase 3 Investments



100 W Main Redevelopment



100 E Main Redevelopment



Investment Recommendations

City-Owned Facilities

Building Potential Future Use(s)			Likely Renovation Requirements	Timing	Estimated Renovation Costs*	Break-Even Values
• Food & Beverage • Retail		Beverage	 Selective demolition (merge spaces) Exterior improvements Accessibility improvements Plumbing upgrades & roof repairs 	 Solicit lessee within the next 6 months Tenant Improvement (TI) allowance 	• \$124k	• \$149k (20-Yr Return)
	Suite 100	Retail	 Selective demolition (open space) Glazed openings for storefront, new finishes Minor plumbing, HVAC, utility, and electrical upgrades 	 Request for Interest (RFI) prior to relocation Renovations in 2027 	• \$150k	• \$152k (10-Yr Return)
100 E Main St.	Suite 200	• Retail	 Selective demolition (open space) Glazed openings for storefront, new finishes Minor plumbing, HVAC, utility, and electrical upgrades 		• \$182k	• \$152k (10-Yr Return)
	Suite 300 & 400	 Professional/ Personal Services 	Paint; minor plumbing, HVAC, utility, and electrical upgrades		• \$57k	• \$152k (10-Yr Return)
	Suite 500	 Professional Services 	Paint; minor plumbing, HVAC, utility, and electrical upgrades		• \$41K	• \$118k (10-Yr Return)
100 W Main St.		RetailGalleryGym/DanceBeverage	 Major exterior improvements, including plaza Glazed openings for storefront, new finishes Minor plumbing, HVAC, utility, and electrical upgrades 	 Request for Interest (RFI) prior to relocation Renovations in 2027 	• \$510k	• 299k (10-Yr Return)

Investment Recommendations

Investments by Phase and Type

	Phase	Timing (mos.)	Tenanting	Real Estate	Infrastructure and Parking	Placemaking
Establishing a Place	1	6-24	105 E Pecan StreetLeasingTI package	Acquire strategic parcels	 Pecan St.& N Railroad Ave. Improvements Parking signage Poles/banners 	 Public art Murals marking gateways (key nodes) Poles & banners (Pecan, Railroad, Main) Parking Signage
ing ntum	2a	36	• 100 E Main (Ste. 300- 500)	City building renovations	District parkingMain St. Extension	Gateway (Railroad/Main)Downtown Signage
Building Momentum	2b	48-72	100 E Main (Ste. 100- 200)- renovated100 W Main- renovated	Privately owned parcel (re)development	Main St. & 1st St. N roadway/streetscape improvements	
Realizing Potential	3	72-120		 100 E Main & 100 W Main Redevelopment Privately owned parcel (re)development 	 Additional street and utility improvements (Downtown Action Plan, Utility Analysis, Streetscape Master Plan) 	Activate Alleyway behind E Main (lighting, murals, furnishings, food trucks)



Timeline

Near-Term

- Capital Improvements
 - Railroad Avenue
 - Pecan Street
- Building Leases
 - 105 E Pecan (2026)
- Strategic Site Acquisition

Mid Term

- Capital Improvements
 - Main Street
 - 1st Street N
- Building Renovations
 - 100 W Main
 - 100 E Main (Ste. 100-200)
- Building Leases
 - 100 E Main
 - Ste. 100-200 (2030-)
 - Ste. 300-500 (2028-)
 - 100 W Main (2030-)

Longer-Term

- Capital Improvements
 - Alley Activation
 - Later Phase Investments from Existing Downtown Plans
- Site Redevelopment
 - 100 W Main (2030s)
 - 100 E Main (2030s)