

Leo-Cedarville Downtown Streetscape Improvements

In December of 2013, Leo-Cedarville adopted their Comprehensive Plan, “Envision” that mapped out a long-term path to a higher quality of life for the residents and business owners of the community. Through careful budgeting and planning as well as the support of residents and business owners, Leo-Cedarville is ready to commence with the core of their plan – make improvements to downtown that promote access and visibility to the local businesses, spur economic development, provide pedestrian safe walkways and gathering areas, promote special events and markets and offer a family friendly environment – all with connectivity to the interlocal trail and park system.

The planned downtown streetscape improvements include two blocks of Leo Rd (State Rd 1) between Hosler and Walnut St as well as Hosler Rd between Wayne St and Leo Rd. Today, a visitor driving down Leo Rd will observe a mix of small businesses spaced out along a sea of pavement, sidewalks that are missing or in disrepair, limited ADA accessibility, very little greenery, and few opportunities to gather outside – all of which deter from a positive and safe pedestrian experience. To accomplish the project goals the Town proposes to install new sidewalks, gathering spaces, light standards, sign posts, tree and planter areas, park benches and trash receptacles as well as implement needed drainage improvements. These improvements will offer continuity of the downtown corridor through the common lighting theme, furnishings, brick banding, landscaping and pedestrian walkway connectivity.

This initial project is intended to be a first phase of a longer-term investment that will provide the necessary infrastructure to expand upon in future phases. The downtown master plan calls for a new pocket park along the trail system, side street parking and a public overlook at the reservoir, all of which add to the pedestrian experience.

Impact:

- Improved appearance of the downtown area to create a high quality of place and to attract new businesses and commerce.
- To address an area in need of redevelopment through replacement of deteriorated sidewalks and stormwater infrastructure.
- Improved pedestrian walkway safety, accessibility, and connectivity.

Readiness:

- Local match funding over 10% of the estimated project is committed by Town of Leo-Cedarville resolution.
- Preliminary engineering is completed.
- Red flag survey conducted. No major environmental issues identified.
- Anticipated Permits: INDOT R/W
- No acquisition is anticipated. All improvements should be within public right-of-way.

Budget: \$1,065,000

Possible Funding Partners:

Town of Leo-Cedarville

Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs – Stellar CDBG Funds