

Legion Square & Depot Commons

Sikeston, Missouri

Legion Square is a small park in the heart of Downtown Sikeston, Missouri. The park, a memorial to local veterans, is the primary open space in the central business district. The Sikeston Depot is the historic former train depot, across New Madrid Street from the park. The depot currently serves as a visitor center and art gallery. New Madrid Street is the primary entry to Downtown Sikeston.

PGAV was commissioned to develop concept plans for the park and depot area, with the goal of revitalizing the public spaces. The design team analyzed each public space, then developed various concept plan alternatives which were presented to the Downtown stakeholders. Final plans were developed for both Legion Square and the Depot Commons with the goal that the two spaces be designed and programmed to serve as the new “civic front door” for Downtown Sikeston.

The PGAV design team developed a new plan for Legion Square which increased the park’s function, visibility, and most importantly established a new identity for the park. The focus of the plan was a new plaza with a cotton ball icon in the pavement, along with at grade fountains. The cotton ball is reflective of the crops’ prominence in local commerce, history and culture. The plan also proposes a bandstand, similar to a historic bandstand in nearby Malone Park. The bandstand will serve as the stage for civic events and festivals. Lighting, signage and landscaping are other components of the park plan.

The plan for the Depot building and site focused on flexibility of use and adding green space. The existing facility was surrounded by pavement for parking. The plan for the Depot provides much needed lawn areas, landscaping, and shade trees. Parking was better defined through new pavement and landscaping, resulting in 50 spaces for weekly use. A small plaza adjacent to the north entry of the Depot building was designed to accommodate pedestrians and through traffic. The flexibility of the design allows for festivals and farmer’s markets to take place on the site during weekends, while serving primarily as a parking lot during the weekday for local customers, employees and visitors. PGAV also developed a new name for the site as the Depot Commons to further enhance the identity of the site and historic structure. PGAV provided conceptual design, preliminary design, cost estimates, graphics and programming for the project.



park planning

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