

City of Asheville

State of Downtown

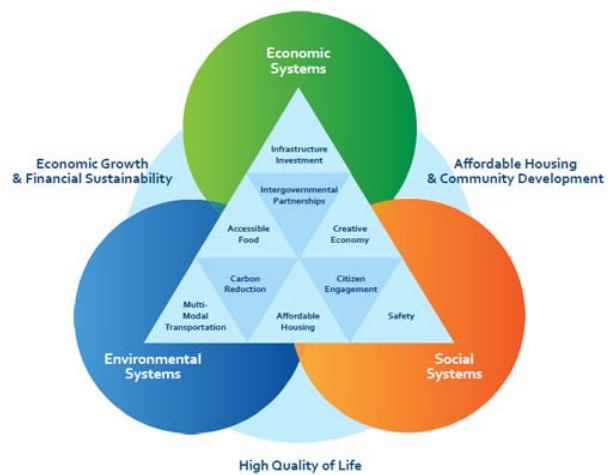
Mayor Esther Manheimer



City Council Strategic Planning

3 Main Focus Areas

- Economic Growth and Financial Sustainability
- Affordable Housing and Community Development
- High Quality of Life



Economic Development Capital Improvement Plan



Asheville's lauded quality of life should be supported by a sustainable business model that will allow us to maintain and expand community values of economic prosperity, community vibrancy and environmental stewardship.

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Downtown Summit

Going Well

- Tourism
- Focus on Local and Independent Businesses
- Entertainment and Public Space

Opportunities

- Cleanliness: trash cans, graffiti, litter
- Pedestrian Safety: sidewalk repair, crosswalks, increased APD presence
- Nuisance Behavior: Noise, loitering, panhandling

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Downtown Today

Parking Improvements

- Passport Parking has increased parking meter revenue by 6% +
- First hour **free** in parking garages helps 155,000 visitors annually
- QR Codes on parking meters provide information about restaurants, hotels, parking, transit and events. A partnership with the Chamber of Commerce.



Sidewalk Repairs: Patton Avenue



BEFORE



AFTER

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Graffiti

- City of Asheville Public Works graffiti removal program focuses on removal from public property
- Removes 8,000 to 10,000 tags from public property per year
- City Staff is conducting a public input study regarding graffiti removal from private property and will report back to the Public Safety Committee



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Eagle Market Place



Vision for the Future

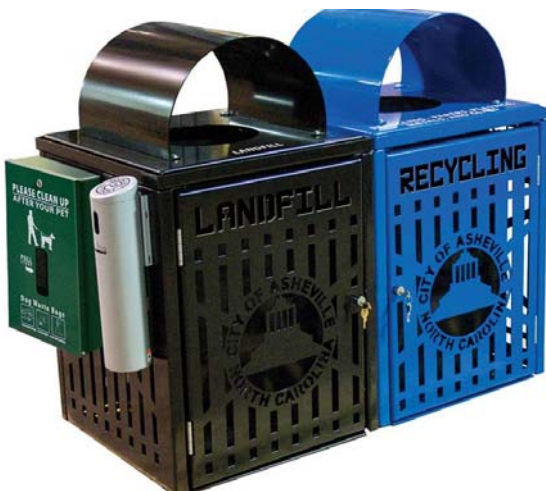
Undergrounding Utilities



- Staff continues to work with Duke Energy to place power lines underground.

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New Trash Cans and Downtown Recycling



- 140 garbage containers will be upgraded to 165 waste stations across downtown
- Waste Stations will include garbage and recycling collection as well as cigarette ash tray and pet waste bag dispensers.

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Demolition of Handy Park

- Bid Opening – January 16
- Demolition – Estimated for completion by early March 2014



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Development Downtown

4 projects

\$80 million in new construction costs

New Development



Hyatt Place Hotel, 183 Haywood Street



Cambria Suites, Battery Park and Page Avenues

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New Development



Eagle Market Place



City Center, 311 College Street

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Focus on the South Slope



Buxton Avenue

Coming Soon:

- New Breweries
 - Three Ring Brewing
 - Twin Leaf Brewery
 - Green Man Brewery Expansion
- Restaurants
 - Buxton Hill Restaurant
 - Nightbell
- Commercial Space

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Creating Jobs through Creative Economic Investments

The installation of the U.S. Cellular Center's terrazzo floor is part of an ongoing \$12 million renovation of the facility. Funding for the renovations comes from the City of Asheville, Buncombe County, the Tourism Development Authority and U.S. Cellular. Ongoing projects include the expansion of convention and box seating spaces and the exterior lobby entrance. The enhancements are a large part of attracting new business and events like the SoCon Basketball Championships to Asheville.

<http://coablog.ashevillenc.gov/>

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