## **Great Blocks on MainStreet:** Revitalizing Rural Downtowns

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## **Great Blocks on MainStreet**

Focusing on a viable core two-to-three block commercial area, *Great Blocks on MainStreet* (GBoMS) is an innovative and intensive design redevelopment project within the MainStreet/Arts & Cultural district resulting in "shovel-ready" construction documents. This public infrastructure investment is meant to catalyze and leverage private sector reinvestment, resulting in higher economic performance.



## **Great Blocks on MainStreet**

The Municipality and local MainStreet/Arts & Cultural District organization develop a package of economic redevelopment and revitalization strategies and goals for:

- commercial property restoration and adaptive reuse;
- business retention/expansion; and
- private reinvestment/job creation in the core area.
- A focus in the NMMS "Economic Transformation Strategies"
- Implemented through public/private partnerships using the local Metropolitan Redevelopment Area (MRA) Plan



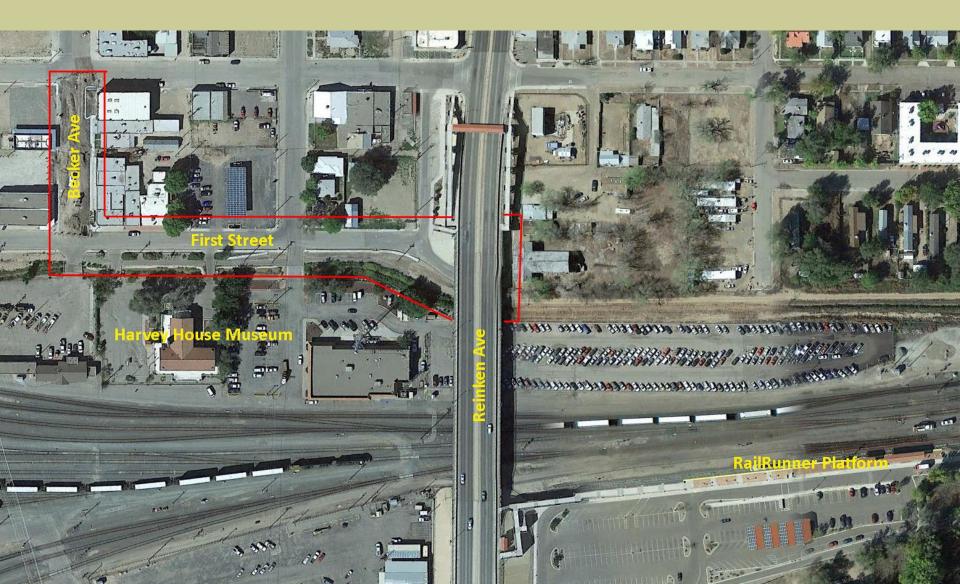
#### Great Blocks on MainStreet Funding Recipients

Belen MainStreet Tucumcari MainStreet MainStreet de Las Vegas Raton MainStreet/Arts & Cultural District



NEW MEXICO MAINSTREET A Program of the New Mexico Economic Development Department

### **Belen Great Blocks project**





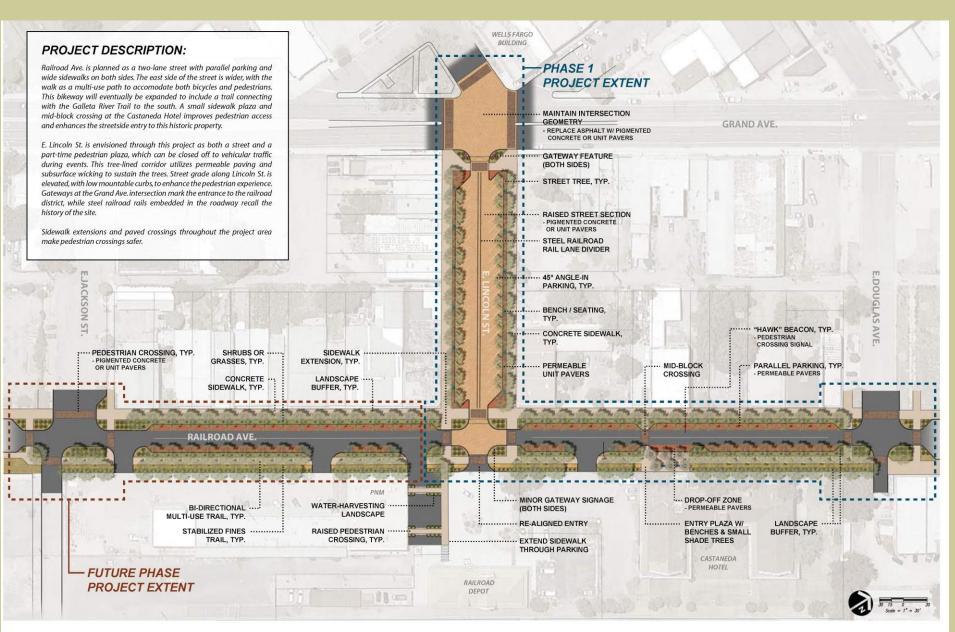
## **Tucumcari Great Blocks project**





#### Las Vegas Great Blocks project





#### Great Blocks on Mainstreet Conceptual Plan

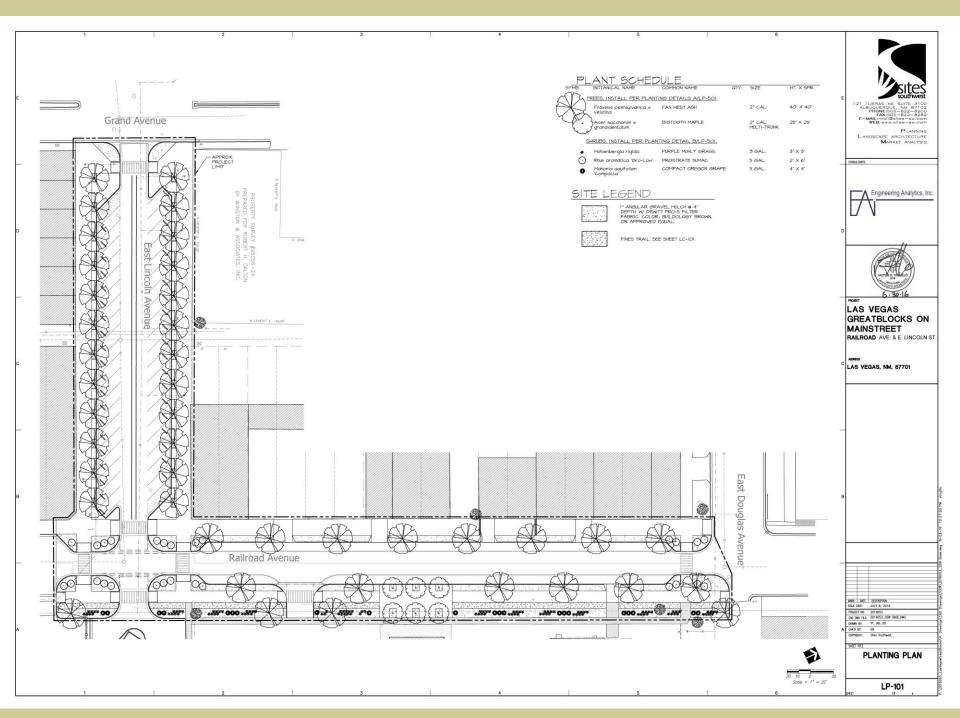
City of Las Vegas, NM







March 2016



RAILROAD AVE. SECTION









## Las Vegas Great Blocks Next Steps...

- Pursue Multiple Funding sources
- Implement the LV MainStreet *Economic Transformation Strategies*
- Update the Las Vegas MRA Plan
- Create partnerships/incentives with building and business owners within project on building improvements, adaptive reuses, etc

# **Raton Great Blocks Project**



## **Historic First Street**

#### OPALACE OF THE GOVERNORS PHOTO ARCHIVE

# **Raton Great Blocks Project**



PHASE I PLAN VIEW

• City of Raton has implemented several phases of First Street infrastructure improvements;

• Strong catalyst for commitment of private investment in a revitalization plan;

 Stimulate building renovation projects, business startups, increased visitation and tourism, and job creation in the historic railroad district of Raton. • Catalyst project/ momentum for funding of the Raton Railroad Depot renovation project;

 Increased usage of the Depot and visitation and tourism by Amtrak passengers, bus passengers, and highway travelers.

• Community benefit is realized through increased employment and economic activity, expansion of the tax base, and stabilization of the downtown business environment.

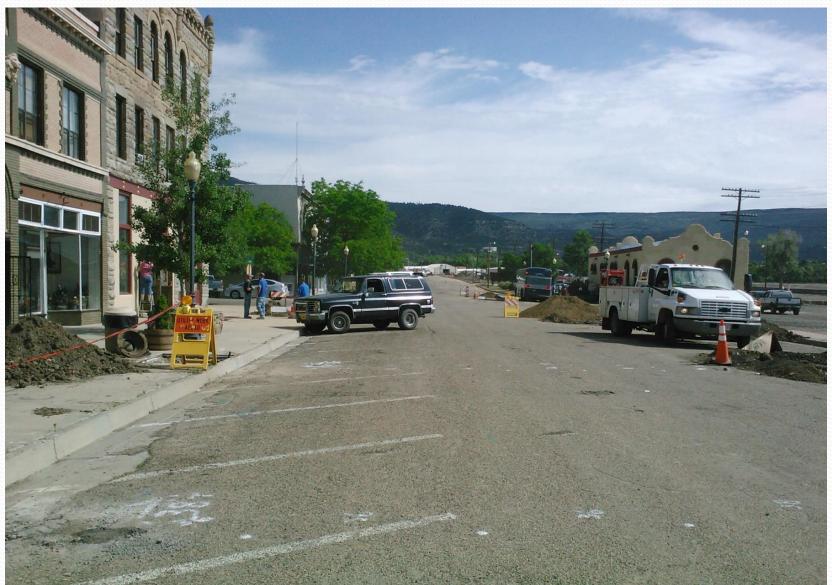
# First Street 2015



## First Street 2015



## First Street 2015



# Wells Fargo Building

# Multimodal Area Before



# Multimodal Area After

Comparative History



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# First Street Today



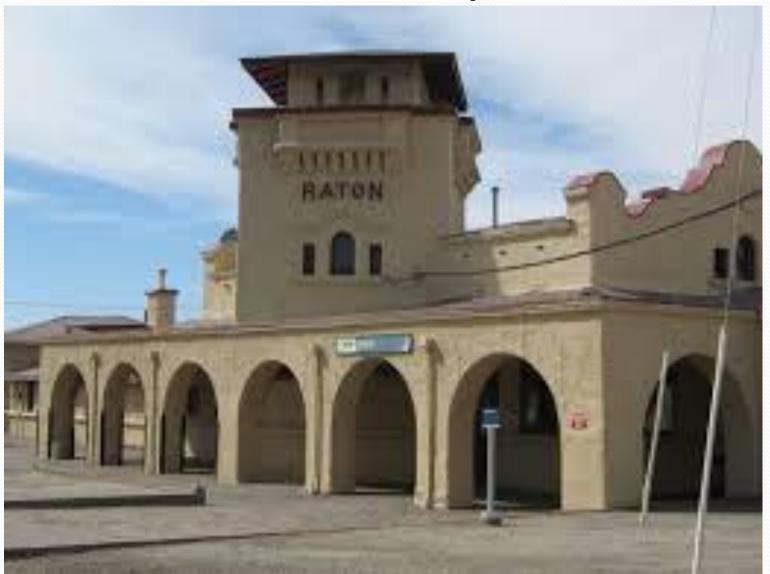
# **First Street Today**



## The Palace – Open for Business



## **Raton Depot**



## Great Blocks = The Future



PHASE I PLAN VIEW



 Project is "Shovel Ready" and construction is partially funded"

•Multiple Pending Funding Applications including public and private monies.

•Consistent with Downtown MRA Master Plan goals of revitalization and on ICIP.

• Active public/private partnerships utilizing City Owned Buildings in the project area including the Old Pass Gallery and the Center for Sustainability.

•Palace Building restoration and reopening indicates the willingness of Private Parties to buy in to First Street Revitalization