



GUIDE FOR FACADES AND SIDEWALKS IN JOUN

This Master Plan for the town of Joun seeks to protect the town's rich architectural heritage while fostering an economically vibrant and visually appealing environment



Antoine J. Burkush, PhD

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First and foremost, I extend my heartfelt gratitude to the residents of Joun, whose voices, ideas, and aspirations have been the foundation of this work. Your willingness to share your thoughts and dreams for our town has been invaluable in shaping proposals that truly reflect our community's spirit and goals. Your participation in discussions, surveys, and community gatherings has been a testament to your **commitment** to Joun's future.

Special thanks to all whose contributions were instrumental in refining our vision.

To the local leaders and stakeholders who championed this project, your support has been a vital source of encouragement. Your leadership and understanding of Joun's unique challenges and opportunities have given depth to these proposals, grounding them in both our town's history and its potential for growth.

Finally, I would like to thank everyone who worked behind the scenes—whether gathering data, conducting research, or organizing meetings—your efforts have been crucial in bringing this work to life.

Together, we have created a roadmap for Joun's future that honors our heritage and inspires a brighter tomorrow. I am truly grateful to each of you for your contributions, enthusiasm, and dedication to this endeavor.

With sincere appreciation,

Dr Antoine J. Burkush, PhD

الشكر والتقدير

هذه المجموعة من المقترحات هي نتيجة رؤية مشتركة ورحلة تعاونية ، تسترشد بمدخلات وتفاني ورؤى عدد لا يحصى من الأفراد الذين يحملون جون قريبا من قلوبهم. لم يكن ذلك ممكنا بدون الدعم والمساهمات الثابتة من أعضاء المجتمع والخبراء وأصحاب المصلحة والقادة المحليين ، الذين قدم كل منهم وجهات نظره الفريدة إلى الطاولة.

أولا وقبل كل شيء، أعرب عن خالص امتناني لسكان جون، الذين كانت أصواتهم وأفكارهم وتطلعاتهم أساس هذا العمل. لقد كان استعدادك لمشاركة أفكارك وأحلامك لمدينتنا لا يقدر بثمن في تشكيل المقترحات التي تعكس حقا روح مجتمعنا وأهدافه. كانت مشاركتك في المناقشات والاستطلاعات والتجمعات المجتمعية شهادة على التزامك بمستقبل جون.

شكر خاص للذين كانت مساهماتهم مفيدة في صقل رؤيتنا.

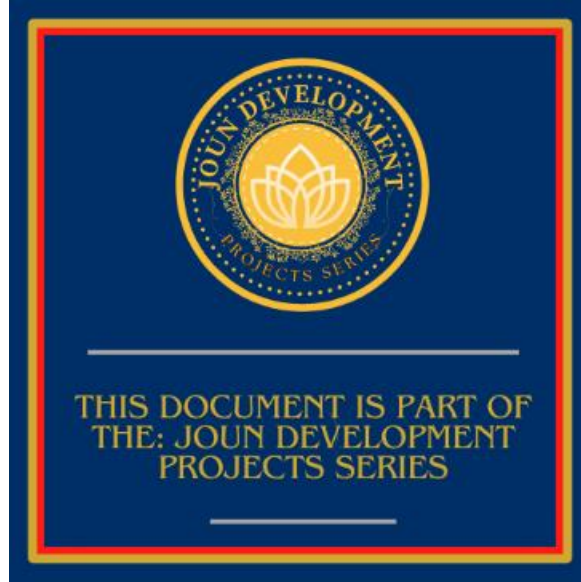
إلى القادة المحليين وأصحاب المصلحة الذين دافعوا عن هذا المشروع ، كان دعمكم مصدرا حيويا للتشجيع. لقد أعطت قيادتكم وفهمك لتحديات وفرص جون الفريدة عمقا لهذه المقترحات ، مما جعلها راسخة في كل من تاريخ مدينتنا وإمكاناتها للنمو.

أخيرا ، أود أن أشكر كل من عمل وراء الكواليس - سواء في جمع البيانات أو إجراء البحوث أو تنظيم الاجتماعات - كانت جهودك حاسمة في إحياء هذا العمل.

معا ، أنشأنا خارطة طريق لمستقبل جون تكرم تراثنا وتلهم غدا أكثر إشراقا. أنا ممتن حقا لكل واحد منكم على مساهماتكم وحماسكم وتفانيكم في هذا المسعى.

مع خالص التقدير،

د. انطوان جان البرخش



مشاريع
مبادرات شخصية
"من أجل الصالح العام"

Joun Development Projects

"Pro Bono Publico"

Dr Antoine J. Burkush, PhD

رؤية واحدة، هوية واحدة، مجتمع واحد

Preface

In a world where rapid change is the new normal, the importance of strategic, sustainable, and community-centered development is paramount. Joun, with its rich cultural heritage, natural beauty, and resilient community, stands at a crossroads—one that presents both challenges and extraordinary opportunities. As we look toward Joun's future, it is essential that our plans honor the town's heritage, respond to today's needs, and set a course for future generations to thrive.

This series of proposals is the result of a deeply collaborative effort to envision Joun's path forward. Each plan reflects input from residents, local stakeholders, and community leaders, resulting in a shared vision that is both ambitious and respectful of our town's unique identity. These proposals encompass a comprehensive range of initiatives, from infrastructure and economic development to cultural preservation and environmental stewardship, with each component tailored to address Joun's specific strengths, challenges, and aspirations.

Our proposals emphasize a commitment to public infrastructure improvements, economic empowerment, environmental sustainability, and cultural continuity. From plans to enhance recreational facilities and community services to initiatives for sustainable tourism and green energy, each proposal aims to make Joun a model of progressive yet grounded development. The ultimate goal is to create a vibrant, inclusive, and resilient community—one that embodies the values, dreams, and talents of its people.

I extend my heartfelt gratitude to everyone who has contributed to this vision. Your dedication, ideas, and insight have been invaluable, illuminating the pathway to a future that aligns with Joun's core values while embracing growth and innovation. These proposals are an invitation to all residents of Joun to imagine, participate, and help build a community that harmonizes tradition with the possibilities of tomorrow.

As you review this collection, I encourage you to see not just plans, but a vision for what Joun can become. Let us move forward together, translating these ideas into action, and creating a brighter, thriving, and unified future for Joun.

With deep respect and optimism,

Dr Antoine J. Burkush, PhD

مقدمة

في عالم حيث التغيير السريع هو الوضع الطبيعي الجديد ، فإن أهمية التنمية الاستراتيجية والمستدامة التي تركز على المجتمع أمر بالغ الأهمية. تقف جون ، بتراتها الثقافي الغني وجمالها الطبيعي ومجتمعها المرن ، على مفترق طرق - مفترق طرق يمثل تحديات وفرصا غير عادية. بينما نتطلع إلى مستقبل جون ، من الضروري أن تكرم خططنا تراث المدينة ، وتستجيب لاحتياجات اليوم ، وتضع مسارا للأجيال القادمة لتزدهر.

هذه السلسلة من المقترحات هي نتيجة جهد تعاوني عميق لتصور مسار جون إلى الأمام. تعكس كل خطة مدخلات من السكان وأصحاب المصلحة المحليين وقادة المجتمع ، مما يؤدي إلى رؤية مشتركة طموحة وتحترم الهوية الفريدة لمدينتنا. تشمل هذه المقترحات مجموعة شاملة من المبادرات ، من البنية التحتية والتنمية الاقتصادية إلى الحفاظ على الثقافة والإشراف البيئي ، مع تصميم كل مكون لمعالجة نقاط القوة والتحديات والتطلعات المحددة لجون.

تؤكد مقترحاتنا على الالتزام بتحسين البنية التحتية العامة ، والتمكين الاقتصادي ، والاستدامة البيئية ، والاستمرارية الثقافية. من خطط تعزيز المرافق الترفيهية والخدمات المجتمعية إلى مبادرات السياحة المستدامة والطاقة الخضراء ، يهدف كل اقتراح إلى جعل جون نموذجا للتنمية التقدمية والمرتكزة. الهدف النهائي هو إنشاء مجتمع نابض بالحياة وشامل ومرن - مجتمع يجسد قيم وأحلام ومواهب شعبه.

وأعرب عن خالص امتناني لكل من ساهم في هذه الرؤية. لقد كان تفانيك وأفكارك ورؤيتك لا تقدر بثمن ، مما يضيء الطريق إلى مستقبل يتماشى مع القيم الأساسية لجون مع احتضان النمو والابتكار. هذه المقترحات هي دعوة لجميع سكان جون للتخيل والمشاركة والمساعدة في بناء مجتمع ينسق التقاليد مع إمكانيات الغد.

أثناء مراجعتك لهذه المجموعة ، أشجعك على رؤية ليس فقط الخطط ، ولكن رؤية لما يمكن أن يصبح عليه جون. دعونا نمضي قدما معا، ونترجم هذه الأفكار إلى أفعال، ونخلق مستقبلا أكثر إشراقا وازدهارا وموحدا لجون.

مع الاحترام العميق والتفاؤل،

د. انطوان جان البرخش

Guide for Facades and Sidewalks in Joun

Introduction

Creating a Design Guide for Facades and Sidewalks ensures that improvements align with the town's character, enhance the streetscape, and improve pedestrian safety and experience. This guide will provide a consistent approach to exterior design while allowing for some flexibility for individual expression.

Below is a comprehensive guide focused on facades and sidewalks for the town of Joun.

A- About Facade Improvement

A Facade Improvement Project focuses on enhancing the exterior appearance of buildings, particularly in commercial or historic areas, to revitalize neighborhoods, support local businesses, and improve the overall aesthetic appeal.

Here's a plan for developing and implementing a facade improvement project for a town like Joun:

1. Objectives of the Facade Improvement Project

- **Enhance Aesthetic Appeal:** Improve the visual appearance of buildings, making the area more attractive to residents, visitors, and potential businesses.
- **Preserve Historic Character:** Maintain and restore architectural features that reflect the town's history and heritage.
- **Boost Economic Activity:** Encourage more foot traffic and support local businesses by creating a visually appealing shopping and social environment.
- **Improve Property Values:** Increase property values and pride in the community through enhanced building facades.

2. Assess Current Conditions

- **Building Survey:** Conduct an assessment of current facades along the target streets or districts. Identify buildings that need repair or could benefit from aesthetic improvements.
- **Architectural Features:** Document existing architectural details, styles, and materials to ensure that improvements respect the character of each building.

- **Business Engagement:** Engage with property and business owners to understand their needs, challenges, and goals for facade improvements.

3. Develop Design Guidelines

- **Consistency and Diversity:** Establish design guidelines that balance architectural consistency with individuality for each business. This could include:
 - Appropriate color palettes.
 - Guidelines for signage size, type, and placement.
 - Recommendations for windows, doors, awnings, and lighting.
 - Preservation of historic features such as masonry, cornices, or ironwork.
- **Materials and Quality:** Encourage the use of high-quality, durable materials that are low maintenance and suitable for the local climate.
- **Lighting:** Incorporate recommendations for exterior lighting that enhances the building at night and improves safety for pedestrians.

4. Create a Funding Program

- **Grants or Matching Funds:** Establish a grant or matching fund program to help property owners cover the costs of facade improvements. This could be through:
 - Municipal funds allocated for town revitalization.
 - State or regional grants aimed at historic preservation or economic development.
- **Public-private partnerships.**
- **Loan Programs:** Consider offering low-interest loans to property owners for larger-scale facade renovations.
- **Incentives for Participation:** Provide tax incentives or fee reductions for businesses that participate in the project.

5. Project Phases and Prioritization

- **Phase 1 – High-Impact Buildings:**

- Focus on improving key or high-visibility buildings along Main Street or in the town center.
- Target historically significant buildings or businesses that serve as anchors for the community.
- **Phase 2 – Additional Businesses and Residential Areas:**
- Expand the project to include smaller or secondary businesses and mixed-use buildings.
- Consider including residential areas adjacent to commercial zones to create a cohesive streetscape.
- **Phase 3 – Side Streets and Alleys:**
- Extend facade improvements to side streets and alleys to enhance the entire district's appeal.

6. Application Process for Property Owners

- **Simple Application:** Create an easy-to-follow application process for property and business owners to apply for facade improvement funding or support.
- **Design Assistance:** Offer technical assistance by connecting business owners with architects or designers who can help plan improvements that meet the town's guidelines.
- **Approval Process:** Establish a committee or board to review and approve facade improvement applications based on design guidelines and available funding.

7. Streetscape and Surrounding Improvements

- **Complementary Public Projects:** Coordinate facade improvements with public works projects, such as sidewalk repairs, streetlight installations, and landscaping.
- **Public Art and Murals:** Encourage the incorporation of public art, such as murals or sculptures, to enhance the cultural and aesthetic value of the district.
- **Outdoor Spaces:** Consider adding street furniture, planters, and other outdoor amenities that complement facade improvements and make the area more inviting.

8. Community and Business Engagement

- **Workshops and Meetings:** Hold informational workshops for property and business owners to explain the benefits of the facade improvement project and the available funding options.
- **Involve Local Artists and Designers:** Encourage local architects, designers, and artists to participate in the project, ensuring that the improvements reflect the town's character and talent.
- **Public Awareness Campaign:** Promote the project through local media, social media platforms, and town meetings to generate interest and support.

9. Monitor Progress and Maintain Improvements

- **Regular Monitoring:** Implement a system for tracking the progress of individual facade improvement projects and ensure compliance with design guidelines.
- **Long-Term Maintenance Plan:** Encourage property owners to commit to long-term maintenance of their improved facades, including cleaning, repairs, and repainting when necessary.
- **Awards and Recognition:** Consider creating an annual facade improvement award to recognize outstanding work and encourage continued participation in the program.

10. Evaluate Success

- **Measure Impact:** After the project is completed, measure the impact through metrics such as increased foot traffic, business revenues, or property values.
- **Community Feedback:** Gather feedback from both business owners and the community to assess the success of the project and identify areas for improvement.
- **Adjust the Plan:** Based on evaluations, make adjustments to the facade improvement project guidelines or funding structure for future phases.

11. Sustainability and Long-Term Planning

- **Preserve Improvements:** Encourage businesses and property owners to adopt long-term strategies for maintaining and updating their facades as needed.

- **Expand the Program:** Once Main Street or the initial area is revitalized, consider expanding the facade improvement project to other parts of the town.

By following this detailed plan, Joun can successfully revitalize its Main Street or commercial areas, fostering economic growth, preserving its historical charm, and creating a more attractive and inviting environment for both residents and visitors.

Facades Design Guide

1.1 Architectural Style

- **Respect Historic Character:** Facade designs should reflect the historical and architectural heritage of Joun. Buildings with historic value should prioritize restoration over modern alterations.
- **Architectural Cohesion:** Ensure that buildings in close proximity have complementary styles, materials, and colors to create visual harmony along the street.
- **Adaptive Reuse:** For older buildings being repurposed, preserve as much of the original facade as possible while accommodating the building's new use.

1.2 Materials

- **Traditional Materials:** Encourage the use of materials that align with the historic character of Joun, such as brick, natural stone, wood, and iron. Avoid materials that look overly modern or out of place in the town's context.
- **Durability:** Use high-quality, weather-resistant materials for long-lasting improvements. Brick, stone, and treated wood are ideal for facades in areas prone to weather exposure.
- **Environmental Consideration:** Whenever possible, promote the use of eco-friendly materials that reduce energy consumption, such as reclaimed wood, permeable surfaces, and energy-efficient windows.

1.3 Colors

- **Natural and Neutral Palettes:** Emphasize the use of natural tones like beige, brown, off-white, and grey to complement the town's historic charm. Bright or bold colors should be reserved for accents or specific architectural details.
- **Consistency with Neighboring Buildings:** While individual businesses may choose distinct color schemes, they should blend with the broader color palette of the street to avoid clashing facades.
- **Historic Colors:** For buildings with significant historic value, use historically accurate colors when possible, especially if restoring original architecture.

1.4 Signage

- **Proportional and Legible:** Business signs should be proportionate to the building size, using fonts that are easy to read. Avoid oversized or overly complex signs.
- **Traditional Sign Materials:** Encourage the use of classic sign materials such as wood, wrought iron, and painted metal rather than plastic or neon. Handcrafted signs can add charm and character.
- **Positioning:** Signs should be located above door

Joun Main Street Facades Master Plan

This Main Street Facades Master Plan for the town of Joun seeks to protect the town's rich architectural heritage while fostering an economically vibrant and visually appealing environment. It aims to enhance the visual appeal, historic character, and functionality of its central thoroughfare.

This plan will serve as a guideline for property owners, business owners, and town planners to create a cohesive and attractive streetscape, making the area more inviting for residents, visitors, and businesses.

1. Objectives

- **Preserve Historic Character:** Protect and enhance the historical and architectural integrity of Joun's Main Street, respecting the town's cultural heritage.
- **Promote Economic Revitalization:** Improve the appearance of commercial buildings to attract new businesses, customers, and tourists to the area.

- **Create a Cohesive Aesthetic:** Encourage facade improvements that complement one another, fostering a unified and visually appealing streetscape.
- **Enhance Public Spaces:** Integrate building facades with pedestrian spaces, ensuring a welcoming and comfortable environment for people walking and gathering along Main Street.

2. Existing Conditions and Analysis

2.1 Building Inventory

- **Historic Buildings:** Identify buildings of historical significance and prioritize their preservation or restoration. Map out key structures that define the architectural heritage of Main Street.
- **Condition Assessment:** Evaluate the current state of facades, identifying areas with deterioration, poor maintenance, or aesthetic issues. Document any modern alterations that may be out of sync with the street's historic character.
- **Materials Audit:** Determine the types of materials currently used (e.g., stone, brick, wood) and assess their condition and appropriateness for preservation or replacement.

2.2 Street Layout

- **Pedestrian Traffic Flow:** Assess the flow of pedestrians along Main Street, identifying areas where facade improvements could enhance the pedestrian experience, such as through the addition of window displays, seating, or greenery.
- **Public Spaces:** Identify open areas or plazas along the street where facades interact with public spaces, allowing for potential integration with the streetscape.

3. Design Guidelines for Facades

3.1 Architectural Style and Restoration

- **Respect for Historical Styles:** Encourage the preservation or restoration of buildings in line with their original architectural style, whether that be traditional Lebanese stone structures, colonial designs, or other styles that reflect the town's history.
- **Façade Restoration:** Where possible, repair or restore original architectural elements like arches, windows, doors, and decorative features. Restoration should maintain the building's historic charm while incorporating modern materials subtly.
- **New Construction Compatibility:** For new buildings or modernizations, designs should be contemporary but complementary to the historic fabric. They should reflect Joun's character through scale, proportions, and materials.

3.2 Materials and Finishes

- **Preferred Materials:** Promote the use of natural, durable materials such as local stone, brick, wood, and wrought iron. Avoid synthetic or overly modern materials like aluminum siding, plastic, or mirrored glass.
- **Texture and Detail:** Facades should exhibit detailed craftsmanship, such as textured stonework, wood carvings, or iron accents, which reflect the artisanal traditions of Joun.
- **Environmental Sustainability:** Encourage the use of eco-friendly materials and construction practices, such as locally sourced stone, energy-efficient windows, and insulation that blends with the historic fabric.

3.3 Color Palette

- **Traditional Tones:** Use a muted and natural color palette that harmonizes with the town's landscape and existing structures. Preferred colors include earth tones such as beige, warm browns, grey, terracotta, and light pastel shades.
- **Accent Colors:** Accent elements like doors, window shutters, or signage can feature bolder colors (reds, blues, or greens) to provide contrast, but should be used sparingly to maintain harmony.

- **Consistency in Adjacent Buildings:** Encourage adjacent properties to coordinate color schemes to avoid clashes and ensure visual continuity along the street.

3.4 Windows, Doors, and Entrances

- **Traditional Proportions:** Windows and doors should respect the traditional proportions and align with the building's architectural style. Large, open windows with divided panes are ideal for shops, while residential buildings should feature smaller, more intimate windows.
- **Decorative Frames and Shutters:** Encourage the use of wood or metal shutters and decorative window frames. Restoring original window and door frames can add to the authenticity of the building.
- **Welcoming Entrances:** Entrances should be clearly defined with canopies, awnings, or decorative arches to enhance the building's street presence. Storefronts should feature transparent windows to engage pedestrians.

3.5 Signage

- **Proportional and Subtle:** Signage should be appropriately scaled to the building facade, avoiding oversized or flashy signs. Signage should complement the building's architectural style and not overpower it.
- **Traditional Materials for Signs:** Use materials like wood, wrought iron, or painted metal for business signage. Handcrafted or artisan signage is encouraged to reflect the local culture and craftsmanship.
- **Illumination:** Lighting for signs should be subtle and focused, using traditional light fixtures like gooseneck lamps. Avoid neon signs or backlit panels, which detract from the historic atmosphere.

3.6 Awnings and Canopies

- **Simple and Functional Design:** Awnings should be simple, retractable, and made from materials like canvas or metal, avoiding overly modern or glossy

materials. They should fit within the overall color scheme and architectural style of the building.

- **Size and Placement:** Awnings should be sized appropriately to cover windows or doorways without obstructing the sidewalk or adjacent buildings. They should align with neighboring storefronts to maintain visual continuity.
- **Complementary Colors:** Awnings should use colors that match or complement the building facade. Striped or solid designs in neutral tones work best, with the option for subdued accent colors.

3.7 Lighting

- **Architectural Lighting:** Use exterior lighting to highlight the architectural features of facades, such as cornices, columns, and windows. Warm, low-level lighting should be used to create a welcoming atmosphere in the evening without causing glare.
- **Traditional Fixtures:** Lighting fixtures should match the historic feel of Main Street, using materials like wrought iron, bronze, or brass. Traditional lantern-style lights are ideal for maintaining a consistent visual theme.
- **Energy Efficiency:** Encourage the use of energy-efficient lighting, such as LED bulbs, which provide long-lasting and environmentally friendly illumination.

4. Integration with Public Spaces

4.1 Sidewalk Interaction

- **Outdoor Seating and Displays:** Where possible, allow businesses to extend their presence onto the sidewalks with outdoor seating, plant displays, or retail kiosks, creating a lively and engaging streetscape.
- **Greenery and Planters:** Encourage the use of planters, hanging baskets, or small trees along facades to soften the built environment and provide shade for pedestrians.

- **Pedestrian-Friendly Spaces:** Ensure that facades facing public spaces, plazas, or pedestrian streets include inviting features like open storefronts, balconies, or outdoor seating areas.

4.2 Accessibility

- **ADA Compliance:** Ensure that all facades are accessible to individuals with disabilities, including providing ramps at entrances, wide doors, and accessible signage.
- **Clear Pedestrian Zones:** Avoid placing signage, seating, or displays in a way that obstructs pedestrian movement. The design should promote an easy, clear flow along the sidewalk.

5. Implementation Strategy

5.1 Incentives for Property Owners

- **Facade Improvement Grants:** Offer financial incentives, such as matching grants or low-interest loans, for property owners who undertake facade improvements in line with the master plan.
- **Design Consultation:** Provide free or subsidized design consultation services to help property owners plan facade improvements that align with the town's guidelines.
- **Tax Credits:** Explore the possibility of offering tax credits for investments made in restoring historic facades or improving building exteriors.

5.2 Phased Rollout

- **Priority Areas:** Begin with the most visible and historically significant parts of Main Street, particularly the areas with the highest pedestrian traffic and tourist activity.

- **Public Awareness Campaign:** Conduct workshops and informational sessions to educate property owners and businesses on the benefits of the facade improvement plan, explaining the available resources and the long-term vision for Main Street.

5.3 Maintenance and Long-Term Care

- **Regular Maintenance Requirements:** Establish guidelines for regular maintenance of facades, including painting, cleaning, and repairs to ensure that the improvements remain in good condition over time.
- **Annual Inspections:** Conduct annual inspections of facades to identify any wear and tear, addressing issues before they become major problems.

B- Sidewalks Master Plan for the town of Joun

The Sidewalks Master Plan for the town of Joun would focus on improving pedestrian safety, accessibility, and connectivity while preserving the town's charm.

Below is an example of how such a plan might be structured:

Town of Joun Sidewalks Master Plan

1. Objectives

- **Enhance Pedestrian Safety:** Ensure that all sidewalks are safe, well-maintained, and accessible for all users, including the elderly, children, and individuals with disabilities.
- **Improve Connectivity:** Create continuous pedestrian pathways that link key areas of the town, such as schools, markets, residential areas, public spaces, and historic sites.
- **Encourage Walking and Outdoor Activity:** Promote walking as a primary mode of transportation within Joun by creating pleasant, walkable streetscapes.
- **Preserve the Town's Character:** Integrate sidewalk improvements into the town's aesthetic and architectural identity, ensuring any new construction aligns with Joun's heritage.

2. Existing Conditions and Assessment

2.1 Sidewalk Audit

Conduct an audit of all existing sidewalks in Joun, focusing on:

- **Width:** Ensure sidewalks are wide enough for pedestrian traffic, ideally 1.5 to 2 meters in residential areas and 3 meters in commercial zones.

- **Condition:** Identify areas where sidewalks are cracked, uneven, or obstructed and prioritize them for repair.
- **Continuity:** Identify gaps in the sidewalk network and places where sidewalks are missing, particularly in high-traffic areas.
- **Accessibility:** Ensure sidewalks are ADA-compliant with smooth surfaces, curb ramps at intersections, and accommodations for individuals with mobility issues.

2.2 Traffic and Pedestrian Flow

- **High Foot Traffic Areas:** Map areas with the highest pedestrian traffic, such as near schools, markets, places of worship, and community centers.
- **Dangerous Intersections:** Identify intersections and streets where pedestrian safety is a concern due to speeding vehicles or lack of crosswalks.

3. Design Standards

3.1 Sidewalk Width

- **Residential Areas:** Sidewalks should have a minimum width of 1.5 to 2 meters to allow safe passage for pedestrians.
- **Commercial Areas:** In busier zones like the town center or market streets, sidewalks should be 3 meters wide or more to accommodate higher foot traffic and outdoor activities such as seating or retail displays.

3.2 Materials

- **Durable Materials:** Use materials that complement Joun's aesthetic and withstand the local climate, such as cobblestone, brick, or stamped concrete.

- **Permeable Pavers:** Consider using permeable materials where appropriate to manage storm water and reduce flooding risks, particularly in areas prone to heavy rains.
- **Slip-Resistant Surfaces:** Ensure all sidewalks are slip-resistant, particularly in areas prone to rain or snow.

3.3 Street Furniture and Greenery

- **Benches and Seating:** Place benches at regular intervals, particularly near public spaces, parks, and bus stops, to encourage rest and social interaction.
- **Trash Bins:** Install trash bins along sidewalks, ensuring they are placed near busy areas to maintain cleanliness.
- **Landscaping:** Integrate trees, planters, and flower beds where possible to create a pleasant walking environment and provide shade. Tree grates should be installed to protect roots and maintain pedestrian space.

4. Accessibility and Safety Features

4.1 Curb Ramps and Crosswalks

- **Curb Ramps:** Ensure all intersections are equipped with curb ramps to make sidewalks accessible to those with disabilities, strollers, and bicycles.
- **Crosswalk Visibility:** Use high-contrast paint and textured surfaces to mark crosswalks clearly. Consider raised crosswalks in areas where pedestrian traffic is heavy to slow down vehicles.
- **Pedestrian Signals:** Install pedestrian signals at busy intersections, ensuring there are clear countdown timers or auditory cues for those with vision impairments.

4.2 Lighting

- **Street Lighting:** Ensure adequate lighting along all sidewalks to improve safety and visibility at night. Use energy-efficient LED lights that align with the town's aesthetic (e.g., traditional-style lamp posts).
- **Low-Height Lighting:** Consider installing low-height lighting along pathways and pedestrian crossings to ensure a well-lit environment without causing light pollution.

5. Key Zones for Sidewalk Development

5.1 Town Center

- **Focus Area:** The heart of Joun, including the market square, civic buildings, and cultural landmarks. Sidewalks here should be prioritized for width, aesthetic improvements, and high-quality materials to reflect the importance of the area.
- **Outdoor Activity:** Encourage outdoor cafes, small vendors, and seating areas along wider sidewalks to activate the public space and attract more foot traffic.

5.2 Residential Zones

- **Safe Routes for Schools:** Ensure that all sidewalks leading to schools are well-maintained, well-lit, and equipped with crossing guards or pedestrian signals at major intersections.
- **Neighborhood Paths:** In quieter residential areas, focus on creating comfortable walking routes with sufficient greenery and minimal obstacles.

5.3 Historical and Scenic Areas

- **Tourist Pathways:** Create scenic walking routes that guide visitors through Joun's historic sites, including well-maintained sidewalks and clear signage for cultural landmarks.

- **Sidewalk Materials:** Use materials that reflect the historic charm of the town, such as cobblestones or natural stone, to enhance the visitor experience.

6. Connectivity and Integration

6.1 Pedestrian Networks

- **Interconnected Sidewalks:** Ensure that sidewalks connect seamlessly across all areas of the town, linking residential areas to commercial centers, schools, parks, and public transportation.
- **Trails and Pathways:** Explore the creation of pedestrian-only pathways or nature trails that extend the sidewalk network into green spaces, providing a more immersive walking experience for both residents and visitors.

6.2 Bicycle and Scooter Integration

- **Shared Paths:** Where space allows, integrate shared pedestrian and bicycle paths to encourage cycling as an alternative mode of transport. Clearly mark lanes for different users to avoid conflicts.
- **Bike Racks:** Install bike racks along sidewalks near commercial areas, schools, and public spaces to encourage cycling and reduce reliance on cars.

7. Implementation Strategy

7.1 Prioritization of Projects

- **Immediate Repairs:** Prioritize repairing damaged sidewalks in high-traffic areas or near schools to address safety concerns.
- **Phased Construction:** Roll out new sidewalk installations or major upgrades in phases, starting with areas that have the highest pedestrian traffic or safety concerns.

- **Public Involvement:** Involve the local community in identifying priority areas for sidewalk improvements and gather feedback on design proposals.

7.2 Funding Sources

- **Municipal Budget:** Allocate part of the town's budget to cover sidewalk repairs and new construction.
- **Grants and Partnerships:** Seek funding from regional or national government programs focused on urban development, pedestrian safety, or transportation improvements.
- **Public-Private Partnerships:** Engage local businesses in funding sidewalk improvements, particularly in commercial zones where the upgrades would directly benefit foot traffic.

7.3 Maintenance Plan

- **Regular Inspections:** Establish a system for regular sidewalk inspections to identify maintenance needs, ensuring that sidewalks remain in good condition and free from hazards.
- **Seasonal Maintenance:** Create a plan for snow removal, leaf collection, and the repair of any seasonal damage to sidewalks.

8. Monitoring and Evaluation

- **Performance Metrics:** Track pedestrian counts, foot traffic, and user satisfaction before and after improvements to measure the plan's success.
- **Community Feedback:** Regularly solicit feedback from residents and business owners to understand the impact of sidewalk improvements and adjust the plan as needed.
- **Long-Term Adjustments:** Revisit the Sidewalk Master Plan periodically to adjust priorities, secure additional funding, and incorporate new ideas from the community.

This Sidewalks Master Plan for Joun would support a more connected, safe, and walkable town, enhancing the quality of life for residents while preserving the town's historical charm. By following these guidelines, the town can enhance its cultural identity and create a welcoming atmosphere for both residents and visitors.

Sidewalk Zones

Below is a detailed breakdown of the different sidewalk zones:

1. Pedestrian Zone

Description:

- This is the primary area where pedestrians walk.
- It should be free from obstructions and wide enough to accommodate foot traffic comfortably.

Design Guidelines:

- Width: Minimum of 1.5 meters (5 feet) to allow two people to walk side by side. In busier areas, consider increasing this to 2 meters (6.5 feet) or more.
- Surface: Smooth, even, and non-slip materials. Avoid using materials that can become slippery when wet.
- Accessibility: Ensure a continuous path without steps or abrupt level changes. Use curb ramps at intersections and crossings.

2. Furniture Zone

Description:

- This area is located between the pedestrian zone and the curb. It accommodates street furniture, utilities, and landscaping.
- It helps keep the pedestrian zone clear of obstacles.

Design Guidelines:

- **Width:** Typically, 0.5 to 1 meter (1.5 to 3 feet), but can vary based on the availability of space and the needs of the area.
- **Street Furniture:** Install benches, waste bins, bike racks, streetlights, and other amenities. Ensure they do not obstruct the pedestrian zone.
- **Landscaping:** Include trees, planters, and green spaces to enhance aesthetics and provide shade. Trees should be spaced to avoid crowding and allow for root growth.

3. Curb Zone**Description:**

- This is the buffer area between the sidewalk and the street.
- It accommodates the curb and any drainage systems.

Design Guidelines:

- **Width:** Typically, 0.3 to 0.5 meters (1 to 1.5 feet).
- **Curb Design:** Ensure curbs are high enough to prevent vehicles from encroaching onto the sidewalk but low enough to be navigable by pedestrians, particularly at crosswalks.
- **Drainage:** Include drainage systems to prevent water from pooling on the sidewalk. Consider incorporating green infrastructure such as bioswales to manage storm water.

4. Flex Zone (Optional)**Description:**

- An additional zone that can be used for flexible purposes like outdoor dining, temporary displays, or bike parking.
- Common in commercial areas.

Design Guidelines:

- **Width:** Varies based on the use, typically 1 to 2 meters (3 to 6.5 feet).
- **Usage:** Clearly delineate this zone from the pedestrian zone. Use planters, bollards, or pavement markings.

Integration and Coherence

Continuous Path:

- Ensure a continuous, unobstructed path for pedestrians. Avoid disruptions due to utility poles, mailboxes, or other installations.

Consistency:

- Maintain consistent design elements along the entire length of the sidewalk to create a uniform look and feel.

Coordination:

- Coordinate with local utilities and transportation departments to ensure that installations and maintenance activities do not disrupt pedestrian flow.

Safety Features:

- **Lighting:** Provide adequate lighting to enhance visibility and safety.
- **Signage:** Include clear signage for pedestrian crossings, directions, and information.
- **Bollards:** Use bollards to prevent vehicles from encroaching onto the sidewalk while allowing pedestrian movement.

These guidelines will help create a functional, safe, and appealing sidewalk system in Joun. By considering the needs of all users, these designs can enhance walkability and the overall quality of public spaces.

Sidewalks Design Manual

1. Vision and Goals

Vision:

To create a network of safe, accessible, and aesthetically pleasing sidewalks that enhance the walkability and connectivity of Joun.

Goals:

- Ensure pedestrian safety.
- Promote accessibility for all.
- Enhance the visual appeal and functionality of public spaces.

2. Design Principles

Safety:

- **Width:** Minimum width of 1.5 meters (5 feet) to allow for two people to walk side-by-side.
- **Clear Zones:** Keep a clear zone free from obstacles such as street furniture, signage, and landscaping.
- **Lighting:** Install adequate street lighting to improve visibility and safety at night.

Accessibility:

- **Curb Ramps:** Include curb ramps at intersections and pedestrian crossings, complying with ADA standards.
- **Surface:** Use smooth, non-slip surfaces for all sidewalks. Avoid materials that can become slippery when wet.
- **Detectable Warning Surfaces:** Install tactile paving at curb ramps and crossings to assist visually impaired pedestrians.

Aesthetics:

- Materials: Use high-quality, durable materials that complement the local architecture and environment.
- Landscaping: Integrate trees, plants, and green spaces along sidewalks to enhance visual appeal and provide shade.
- Street Furniture: Include benches, waste bins, and bike racks strategically placed without obstructing pedestrian flow.

3. Sidewalk Zones

Pedestrian Zone:

- Primary walking area, free from obstacles.
- Minimum width: 1.5 meters (5 feet).

Furniture Zone:

- Area for street furniture, lighting, and landscaping.
- Placed between the pedestrian zone and the curb.

Curb Zone:

- Buffer area between the sidewalk and the street.
- Used for drainage, curbs, and utilities.

4. Intersections and Crossings

Crosswalk Design:

- Markings: Use high-visibility markings, such as zebra stripes.
- Signals: Install pedestrian signals with adequate crossing time.
- Curb Extensions: Consider curb extensions to shorten crossing distances and improve visibility.

Mid-Block Crossings:

- Placement: Install at strategic locations where pedestrian traffic is high.
- Safety Features: Use signage, lighting, and raised crossings to enhance safety.

5. Maintenance and Management

Routine Maintenance:

- Inspections: Conduct regular inspections to identify and address issues such as cracks, uneven surfaces, and obstructions.
- Cleaning: Ensure sidewalks are clean and free from debris, litter, and leaves.

Repair and Rehabilitation:

- Timely Repairs: Address damage promptly to prevent hazards.
- Upgrades: Periodically upgrade sidewalks to meet current standards and improve usability.

6. Community Involvement

Feedback Mechanisms:

- Surveys and Polls: Gather input from residents on sidewalk conditions and needed improvements.
- Public Meetings: Hold community meetings to discuss sidewalk projects and gather feedback.

Volunteer Programs:

- Adopt-a-Sidewalk: Encourage residents and businesses to adopt sections of sidewalks for maintenance and beautification.

7. Funding and Partnerships

Government Grants:

- Apply for local and national grants focused on infrastructure and community development.

Public-Private Partnerships:

- Partner with local businesses and organizations for funding and maintenance support.

Community Fundraising:

- Organize events and campaigns to raise funds for sidewalk projects.

8. Monitoring and Evaluation

Performance Metrics:

- Usage Rates: Measure pedestrian traffic to assess sidewalk utilization.
- Safety Incidents: Track accidents and safety incidents to identify problem areas.

Regular Reviews:

- Conduct annual reviews to assess the condition and effectiveness of sidewalks.
- Gather feedback from residents and make necessary improvements.

This design manual ensures that the sidewalks in Joun are safe, accessible, and visually appealing, enhancing the overall quality of life for its residents.

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