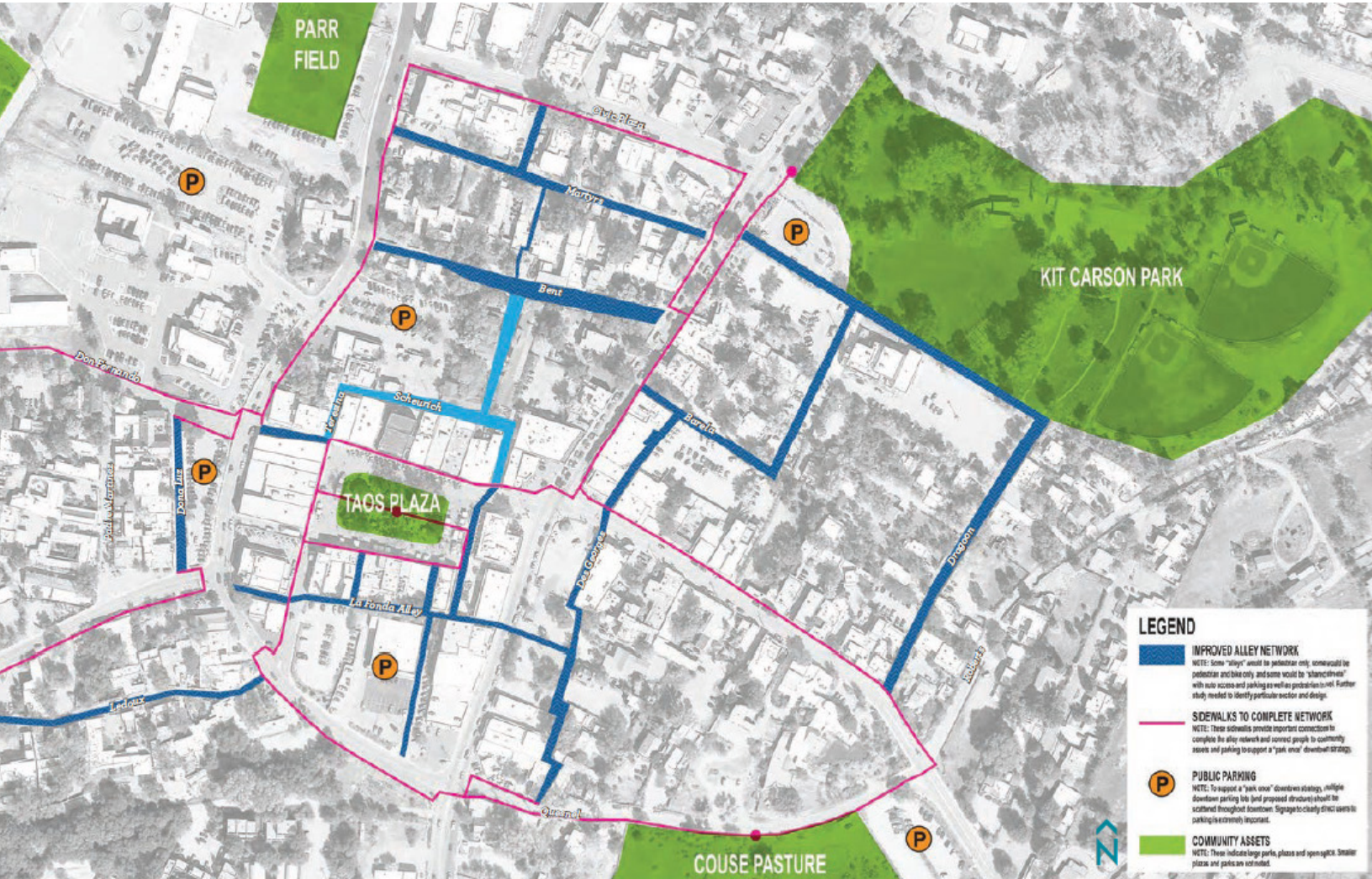


# TAOS ALLEYWAY NETWORK PROJECT



**LEGEND**

-  **IMPROVED ALLEY NETWORK**  
NOTE: Some "streets" exist in pedestrian only, some could be pedestrian and bike only, and some would be "bicycleways" with auto access and parking as well as pedestrian use. Further study needed to identify particular sector and design.
-  **SIDELINKS TO COMPLETE NETWORK**  
NOTE: These sidelinks provide important connections to complete the alley network and connect people to community assets and parking to support a "park once" downtown strategy.
-  **PUBLIC PARKING**  
NOTE: To support a "park once" downtown strategy, multiple downtown parking lots (and proposed structure) should be scattered throughout downtown. Signage to clearly direct users to parking is extremely important.
-  **COMMUNITY ASSETS**  
NOTE: These indicate large parks, plazas and open spaces. Smaller plazas and parks are not shown.



## TAOS ALLEYWAY NETWORK REPORT

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AUGUST 2022

COMPILED BY TAOS MAINSTREET

<https://taosmainstreet.com/>

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with New Mexico Mainstreet  
technical assistance from

**groundworkstudio**

[www.groundworkstudionm.com](http://www.groundworkstudionm.com)

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Albuquerque, NM 87110

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1. INTRODUCTION
2. PROJECT BACKGROUND
  - HISTORY & CONTEXT
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  - PROCESS
3. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT METHODS
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  - COMMUNITY WALKING TOURS
4. TAOS ALLEYWAY NETWORK ANALYSIS
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  - COMMUNITY INPUT RESULTS
5. COMMUNITY PRIORITIES
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  - OPPORTUNITIES VS. CHALLENGES
6. MOVING FORWARD
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# 1. Introduction

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## IN THIS SECTION

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REPORT  
OVERVIEW



WHY  
ALLEYS?

## Overview of the Downtown Taos Alleyway Network Project

Taos MainStreet has been working on visioning process for improving downtown Taos alleyways since the Strong at Heart plan was completed in 2018. After the depths of the COVID-19 pandemic, we resumed the work to analyze and prioritize the alleyways identified in Strong at Heart, with public input. This report outlines the process we took to prioritize alleyway improvement projects, including initial community engagement efforts and outcomes and an alleyway network analysis.

## Benefits and Importance of Alleyway Enhancement and Activation

Expanding and enhancing the downtown alley network is necessary for a well connected downtown transportation system and comes with substantial benefits. Increased and activated public space gives people new places to gather, socialize, and can decrease illicit activity. Improved connectivity can help make downtown more pedestrian friendly and have a positive impact on access and public safety. Local businesses can benefit by expanding access and creating new outdoor opportunities such as dining or display space. Some buildings downtown could even benefit by being able to open new store fronts with alley access. Finally, expanding and enhancing the downtown alley network will create a stronger sense of place while sustaining our authenticity and historic character.

## 2. Project Background

### IN THIS SECTION



PROJECT GOALS



PROJECT TIMELINE

## 2.1. History & Context

In 2019, the Strong at Heart: Downtown Strategy Report (Appendix A) was released, sharing a vision and strategy for both the preservation and growth of downtown Taos. Strong at Heart engaged the Taos community in a series of discussions and activities around shared values, goals, improvement strategies, and action planning. Through this public outreach, the community identified the following five goals as central to the redevelopment of downtown Taos:

1. A walkable and bikeable downtown
2. Places that are built for people
3. A strong economy where local businesses thrive
4. An authentic place designed for local residents
5. An affordable place to live

From these goals, the following strategies were developed to address them:

- Improve street life and walkability
- Expand and enhance the downtown alley network
- Create a safe and connected downtown bike network
- Enable quality downtown development

On June 25, 2019, the Taos Town Council adopted a resolution to include the Strong at Heart plan in the town's Comprehensive Plan (See Appendix B). The Town of Taos Infrastructure Capital Improvements Plan (2021-2025) supports the Strong at Heart goals, including funding for new Taos sidewalk design and installation, Taos Plaza reconstruction, improved Plaza lighting, restoration of shade trees and other projects to improve economic sustainability and community health (See Appendix C).

Taos MainStreet was birthed out of the Strong at Heart process, which identified a need for a community organization to

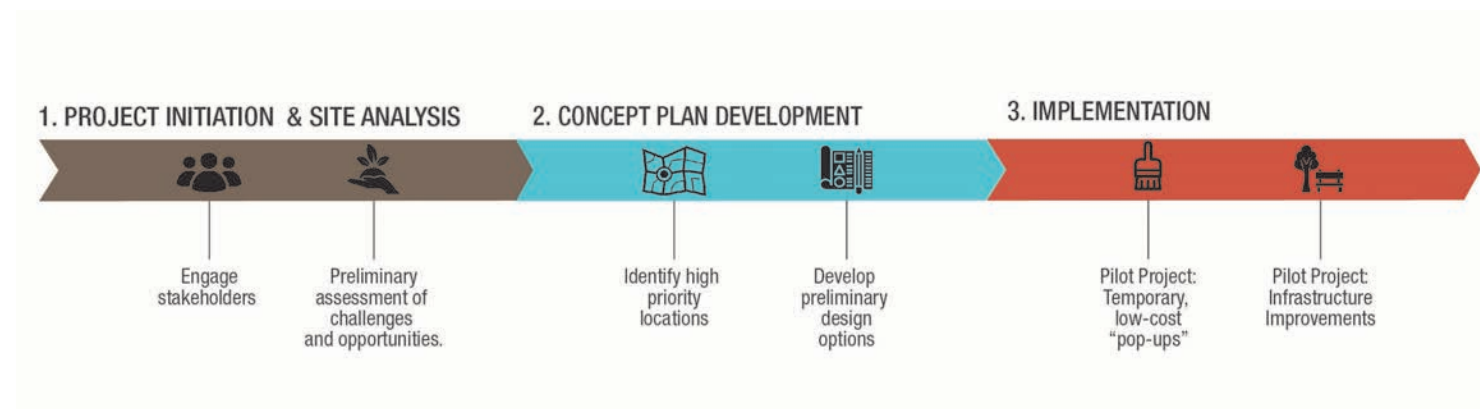
implement the identified strategies. To move many of the Strong of Heart strategies forward, Taos MainStreet has created a Downtown Taos Walkability Initiative. This encompasses infrastructure improvements such as alleyways, sidewalks, lighting, seating, etc. as well as economic vitality that encourages economic activity through walkability and wayfinding.

The Taos Alleyway Network Project is a key component of the Downtown Taos Walkability Initiative. The Alleyway Project looks to take previously identified goals for Taos alleys (specifically from Strong at Heart), develop them further, engage stakeholders in the planning, and roll out the implementation of the network improvements in phases.

## 2.2. Project Sequence

The Taos Alleyway Network Project is a key component of the Downtown Taos Walkability Initiative. The Alleyway Project looks to take previously identified goals for Taos alleys (specifically from Strong at Heart), develop them further, engage stakeholders in the planning, and roll out the implementation of the network improvements in phases.

### PROJECT SEQUENCE & MILESTONES



## 2.3. Process

Taos MainStreet began the work of assessing Taos' downtown alleyways starting in 2019 with an ad hoc Alleyway Network Committee. This committee was spearheaded by Jim Pollard, a former Taos MainStreet board member of Taos MainStreet. It also included Kari Malen, Doug Eichelberger, J. Matt Thomas, Jake Caldwell, Jeremy Landau, Lex Lyford, Tim Corner, Nathaniel Evans, and Amy Bell.

This work on Taos alleyways was set aside during 2020, due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The alleyway project was listed as a priority in Taos MainStreet's CY-2021 work plan. The first steps in continuing the Taos Alleyway Network Project involved creating an inventory of all alleyways in downtown Taos and identifying opportunities and challenges to improve each. In November 2021, Taos MainStreet staff began a preliminary review and analysis of downtown alleyways and research on other alleyway reports and improvements in other communities. They also began re-engaging Jim Pollard on the project, because of his deep knowledge of the history and the greater vision of downtown Taos improvements.

In February 2022, Taos MainStreet engaged Groundwork Studio (NMMS Revitalization Specialist), through New Mexico MainStreet, for greater assistance with the alleyway analysis. Together, the new team of Taos MainStreet staff (Charles Whitson and Claire Jordy), current Taos MainStreet board member (Doug Patterson), former Taos MainStreet board member (Jim Pollard), and Groundwork Studio staff (Amy Bell, Erika Robers, and Hollis Moore) began creating a plan for how to move forward on the Taos Alleyway Network Project Report and the larger goal of enhanced downtown walkability.

The group agreed that stakeholder and some public input was an important piece in the initial alleyway assessment. This information could be gathered from an interactive website/map and in-person walking tours of the alleyways.

# 3. Community Engagement Methods

---

## 3.1. Project Website

The Taos Alleyway Network Project website was created using ArcGIS Online with an interactive Social Pinpoint map embedded in the site. The website allowed for project updates to be publicly available, act as a resource for the Taos community to view alleyway improvement examples, and to interact with a map of the existing Taos alleyways. The website is accessible through computers and smartphones: <https://bit.ly/taosalleynetwork>.

Priority alleyways that have been previously identified for improvements are highlighted in one section of the website. Alleyway photographs, locations, surrounding businesses and artist renderings of possible site enhancements allow website users to consider existing challenges while visualizing improvement options.

### OPPORTUNITIES

Towns across the country have activated their underutilized alleys garnering multiple benefits. Through redeveloped alleyways, the public gains space to gather and socialize, improved walkability, better access to local businesses and a renewed sense of the historical identity of the community. The “Opportunities” section of the website showcases various improvements made to alleyways and provides visualizations to facilitate imagining the following interventions.

- 1 **Safety and Lighting:** While traditionally alleys have been seen as unsafe, increasing visibility through lighting can reduce security concerns. Additionally, security cameras could be added to improve public safety.
- 2 **Pedestrian Access to Local Businesses:** Creating more walkable alley spaces in downtown Taos will allow for improved access to and visibility for small businesses. Opportunities exist to expand dining and display space to the outdoors or open up additional entryways to shops off the alleyways.

#### IN THIS SECTION



INTERACTIVE  
WEBSITE



COMMUNITY  
WALKING TOURS

- 3 **Authentic Taos History & Culture:** Community members overwhelmingly support preserving the historic and cultural aspects of the downtown core. Activating the alleyways through landscaping, mural-making, improved signage and lighting would create a welcoming pedestrian space for all.
- 4 **Phasing Opportunities:** Small projects to activate the alleyways can be implemented before committing to larger redesign or redevelopment.
- 5 **Opportunities to Socialize:** Alleyways can be redeveloped as safe, car-free spaces for festivals and other events. Seating, shade structures and alternative paving materials give people a public space in which to gather and socialize.
- 6 **Improvement in Connectivity:** Creating a more developed alleyway network is intertwined with another Strong at Heart community goal- a walkable and bikeable downtown. Taos residents voiced concerns around gaps and obstructions in the downtown pedestrian walkway network. Activating the alley network could improve pedestrian safety while improving accessibility between various destinations.
- 7 **Universal Accessibility:** Inclusion was rated as one of the community's highest values in the Strong at Heart report. It's important to ensure that the alley network is accessible to all.
- 8 **Opportunities for Creative Place Making:** Art plays a central role in Taos history and culture. Activating alleyways downtown through events featuring the creation of public art can foster a sense of community.
- 9 **Green Space and Stormwater Catchment:** Many cities have used the redevelopment of alleys to create green stormwater capture areas and to provide additional green space for neighborhood residents, like:

**Shade and Seating Areas:** Adding seating and shade along the alley network is key to ensuring a comfortable outdoor space where people will want to gather.

**Wayfinding Signage:** Good signs are key to navigating and accessing downtown businesses. Improved signage would enhance pedestrian experiences and provide creative placemaking opportunities.



Community Walking Tour,  
March 2022



## 3.2. Interactive Alleyway Map

An interactive map of downtown Taos alleyways was created with Social Pinpoint, showing a basic basemap with street names and shapefiles of downtown alleyways by owner (town-owned street/alley vs. private property). The map was then embedded in the website to allow the public to enter comments in six different categories:

- ♥ Something I like
- 🚧 Opportunity to install lighting, seating, or shade
- ⚠️ Something that concerns me
- ⇄ Needs signage
- 🌊 Drainage/flooding/ice issues here
- 💬 Other ideas

The map and website went live on March 22, 2022. Taos MainStreet shared the link and a call for comment by various avenues including:

- Posted on TMS Instagram and Facebook pages on March 22, 2022
- Posted to prominent Taos Facebook groups (Ask! Taos and Taos Roots Project) on April 7, 2022
- Included in the Spring 2022 Newsletter sent to 487 recipients on April 7, 2022
- Shared information with Merchant Advisors in March and April meetings to spread the word to their fellow downtown merchants
- Flyers posted around downtown with QR code to website
- Targeted emails to stakeholders about the walking tours (more info below)

More details on these communication efforts can be found in the Appendix. The Alleyway team took a “snapshot” of the comments in the map on April 15, 2022. These comments (a total of 115) were cataloged by type and location; details are discussed in Section 4 below. The website and map are still live and open to receive comments.

## 3.3. Community Walking Tours

The public was invited to participate in two walking tours in March 2022, to discuss locations and desired improvements to multiple downtown pedestrian spaces. Groundwork Studio helped Taos MainStreet organize two guided walking tours of downtown alleyways. These walking tours were held at 10:30 AM and 1:30 PM on Tuesday March 22, 2022. Jim Pollard led the tours on a designed route, providing narration on the history of the work done on the alleyways as well as some of the vision. The rest of the team helped attendees insert comments into the digital interactive map as they all walked the route, and later on their own time as well. A total of 26 key stakeholders attended the walking tours. A list of attendees can be found in the Appendix.



Community Walking Tour, March 2022

## 4. Taos Alleyway Network Analysis

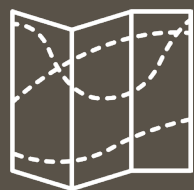
### 4.1. Project Extent

The Taos Alleyway Network Project is focused on downtown Taos. This is where most of the alleyways in Taos are located and it is inside the Taos MainStreet district and historic downtown district boundaries. This project area can be seen in the interactive map.

Working within these boundaries, we started with the alleyways denoted in Strong at Heart and the Town of Taos' alleyway map shapefiles. 34 alleyways were initially identified in this step. Taos MainStreet staff worked with Jim Pollard to narrow down this list to include only the core alleyways in downtown. Eighteen alleyways were selected for assessment, which can be seen visually on the interactive map and are listed below:

- Civic Plaza Drive, including the parking lot that connects Civic Plaza to Martyr's Ln
- Martyr's Ln
- Hallway connecting Martyr's Ln to Bent St
- Bent St
- John Dunn Shops
- Scheurich Ln
- Juan Largo Ln
- Teresina Ln
- La Fonda Alleys
- Taos Plaza/Tuesday Morning/McCarthy Plaza connections
- Northwest outlet of Taos Plaza, next to Ron Larimore's Gallery
- Southwest inlet of Taos Plaza, next to US Bank
- Southwest inlet/outlet of Taos Plaza, next to Reneux Consignments, connecting to Camino de Placita
- Ledoux St
- Quesnel St
- Des Georges property
- Dragoon Ln
- Barela Ln

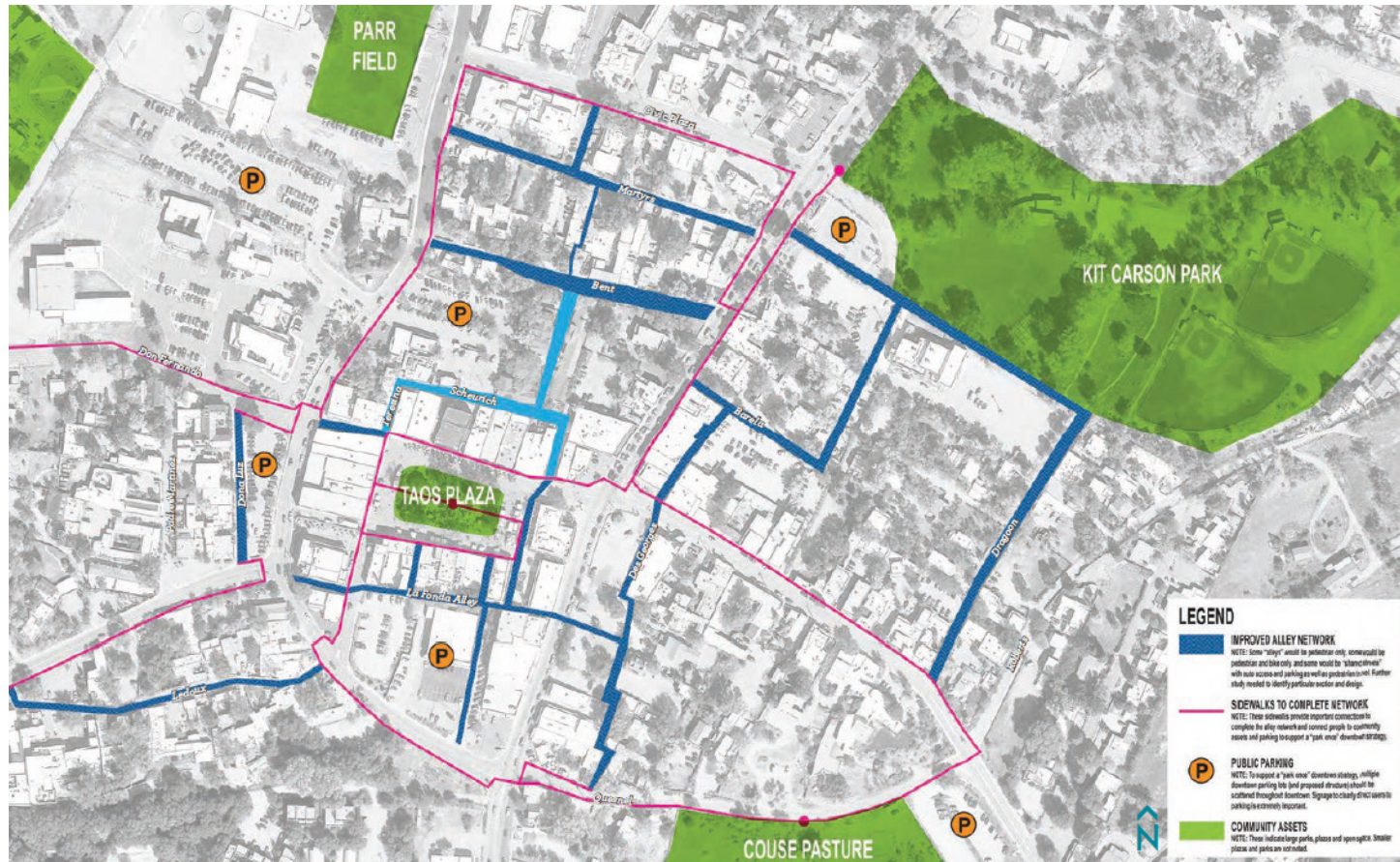
#### IN THIS SECTION



PROJECT  
EXTENT



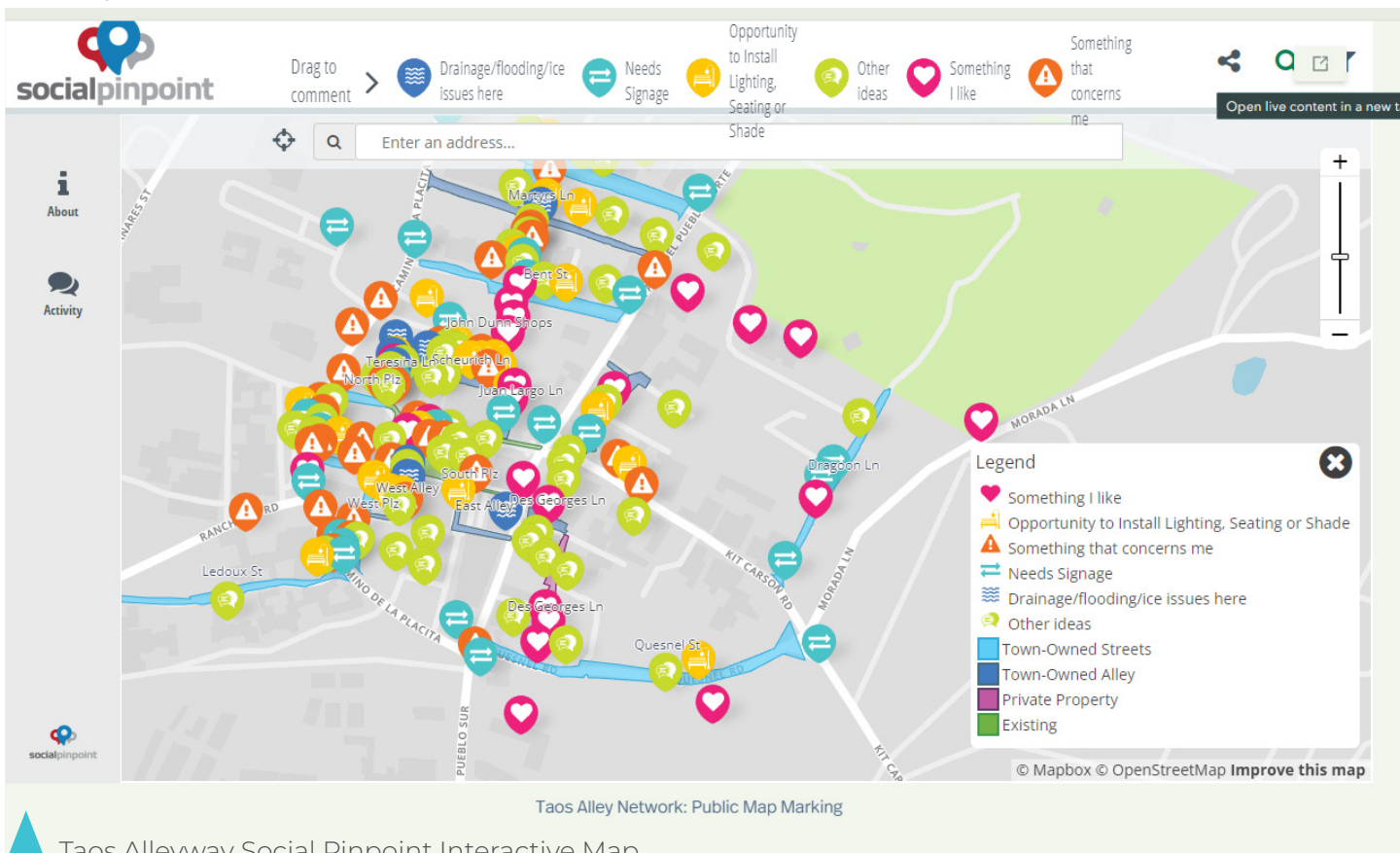
COMMUNITY  
INPUT RESULTS



Project Extent in Downtown Taos

## 4.2. Initial Alleyway Assessment

Taos MainStreet staff began an initial assessment of alleyways in November 2021 to gather some basic information on the alleyways. These assessment categories include ownership of the alleyway, number of businesses that currently and could potentially open onto the alleyway, and if there are any projects listed in the Town of Taos' ICIP plan for that alleyway. This data was later incorporated with other categories to determine priority for alleyway improvements.

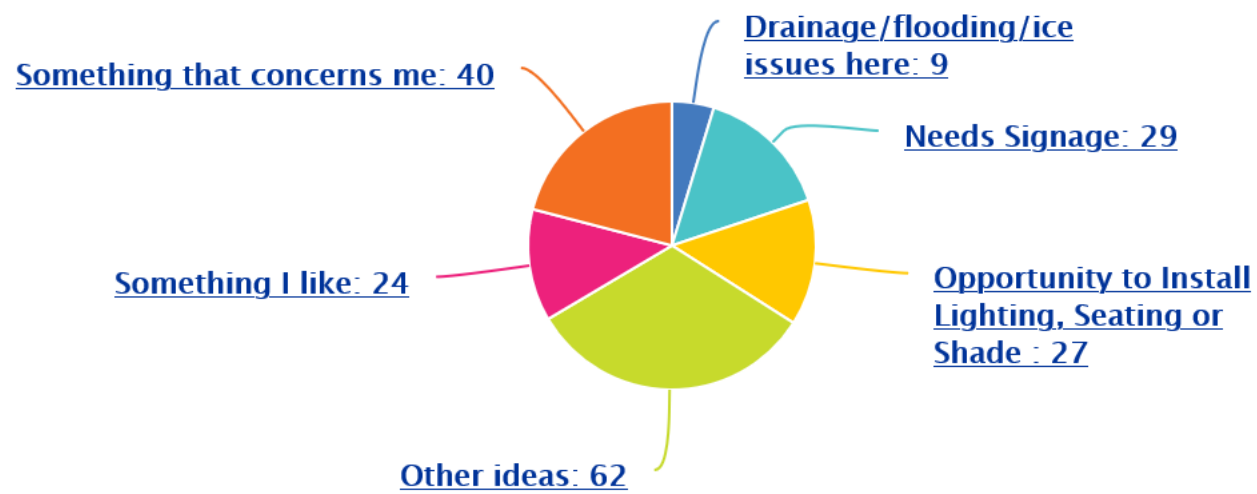


Taos Alleyway Social Pinpoint Interactive Map

## 4.3. Community Input Results

Through the interactive website/map and walking tours, we were able to collect community input on the alleyway conditions and potential improvements. A total of 115 comments were made on the Taos Alleyway Network map by 48 unique users. It is likely the number of unique contributors was higher, since some walking tour participants gave their feedback orally while the project team added comments to the map. Below is a breakdown of the number of comments in each category. A full list of comments can be found in the Appendix.

### CATEGORY TOTALS

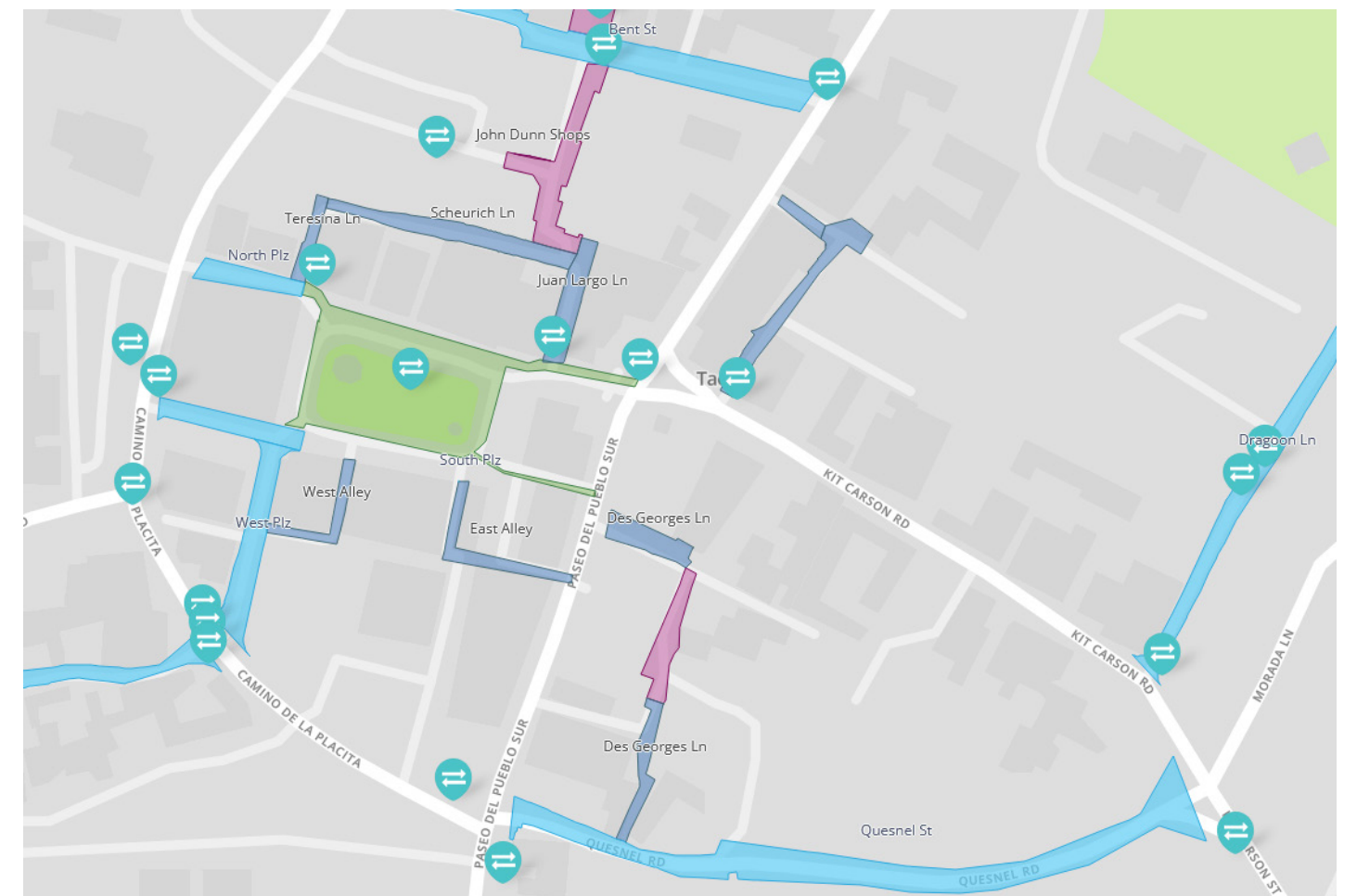


- Drainage/flooding/ice issues here
- Needs Signage
- Opportunity to Install Lighting, Seating or Shade
- Other ideas
- Something I like
- Something that concerns me

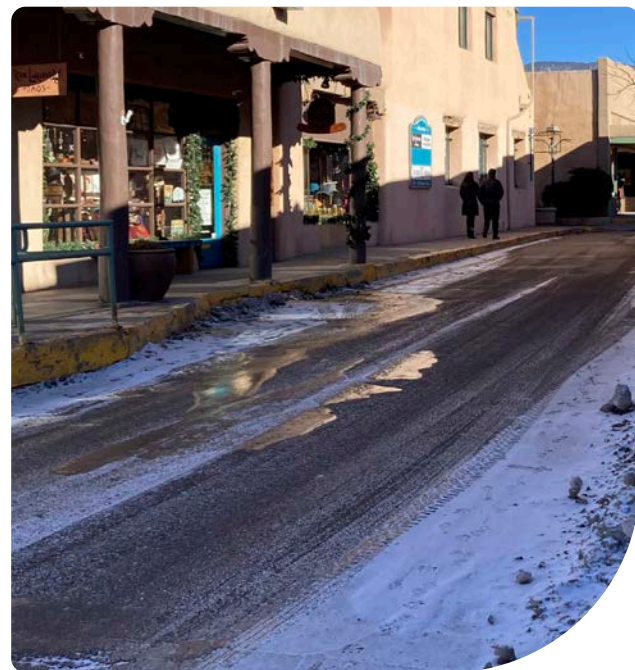
Teresina Ln

### ⇒ NEEDS SIGNAGE

Wayfinding signage was a common request throughout the community walking tours. Participants dropped pins to indicate a need for signage where alleys crossed or dead-ended at roadways. Alleyways leading to Paseo del Pueblo, Kit Carson Rd., and crossing Camino de La Placita were all areas in need of signs.

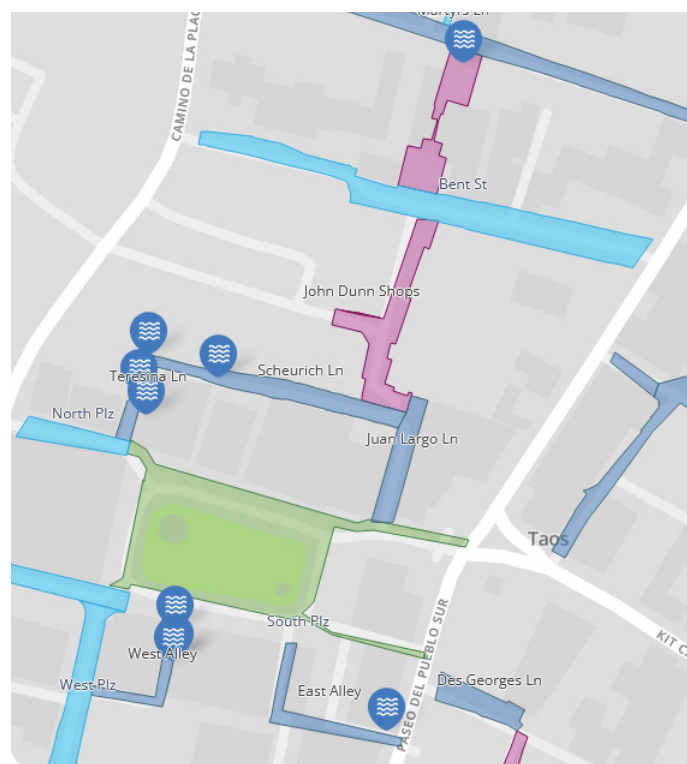


NW Plaza Outlet

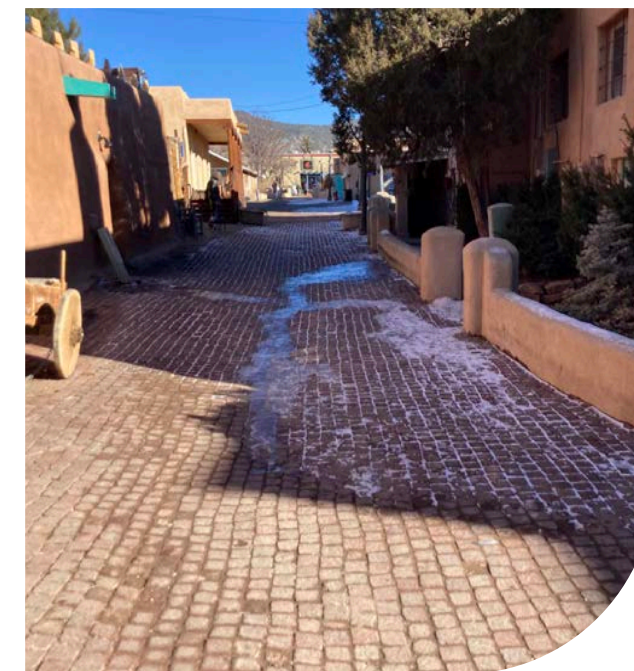


### DRAINAGE/FLOODING/ICE ISSUES

A number of alleyways contain inadequate or outdated drainage, leading to pooling, pavement erosion, and ice. Community members marked locations where improved drainage systems are needed.

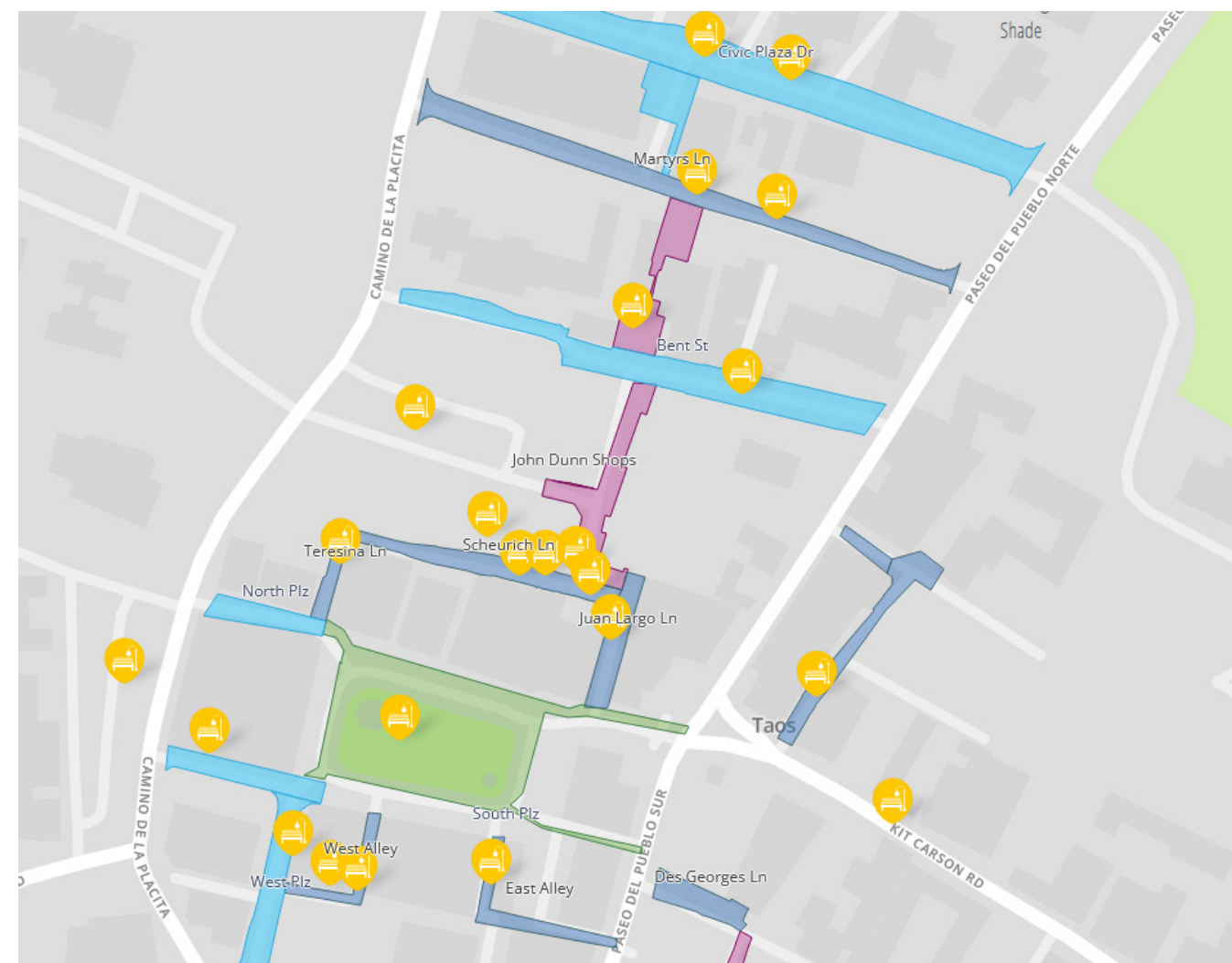


Sheurich Ln



### OPPORTUNITY FOR LIGHTING, SEATING, OR SHADE

In addition to comments asking for additional lighting, seating or shade in the alley network, community members noted other desired improvements. Parklets, resurfaced or widened sidewalks, food trucks, more greenery, and murals were some of the suggestions to make downtown Taos more inviting. Comments expressed support for increased and improved lighting to deter crime, improve visibility, and increase pedestrian safety.



John Dunn Shops 



♥ “SOMETHING I LIKE”

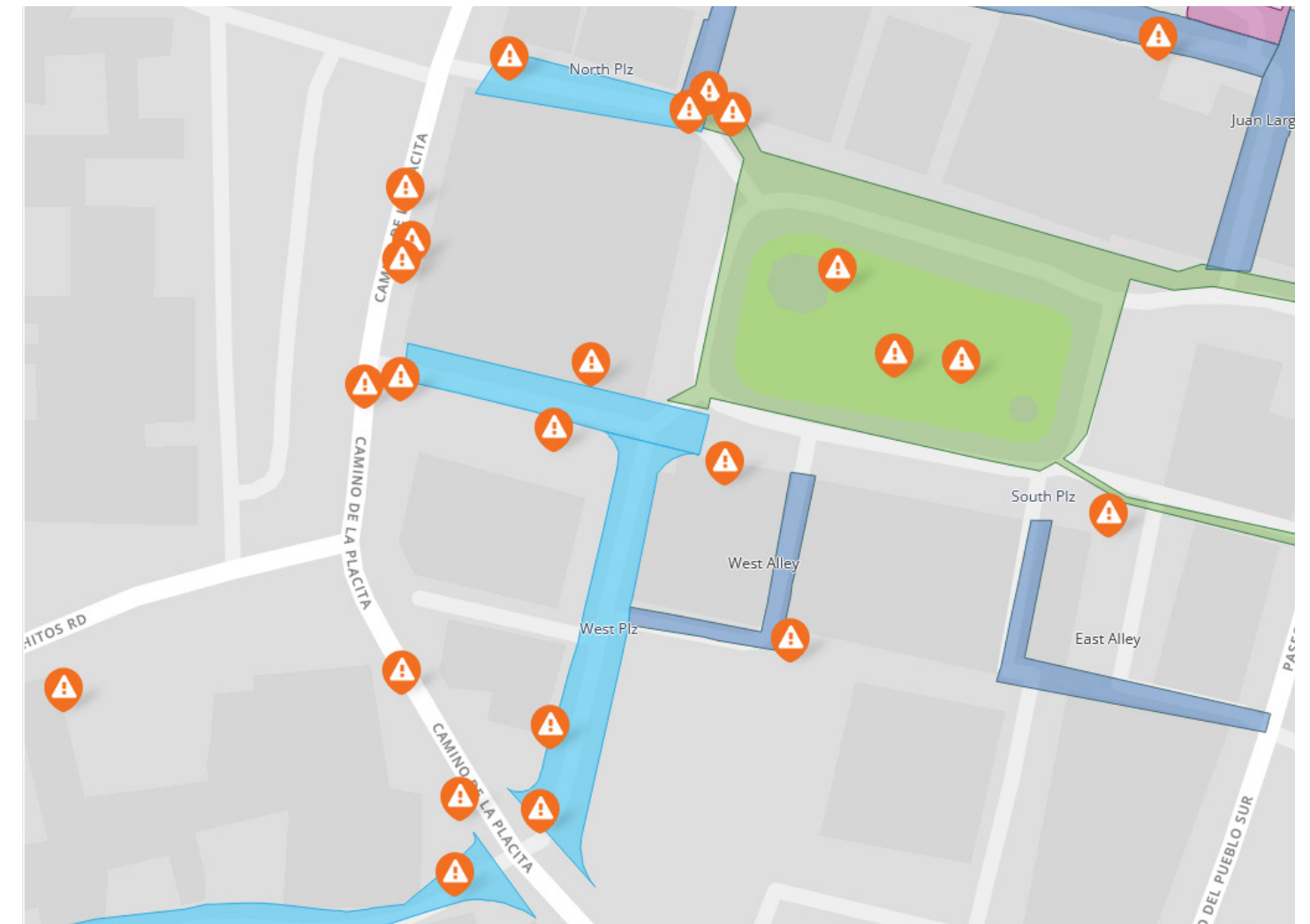
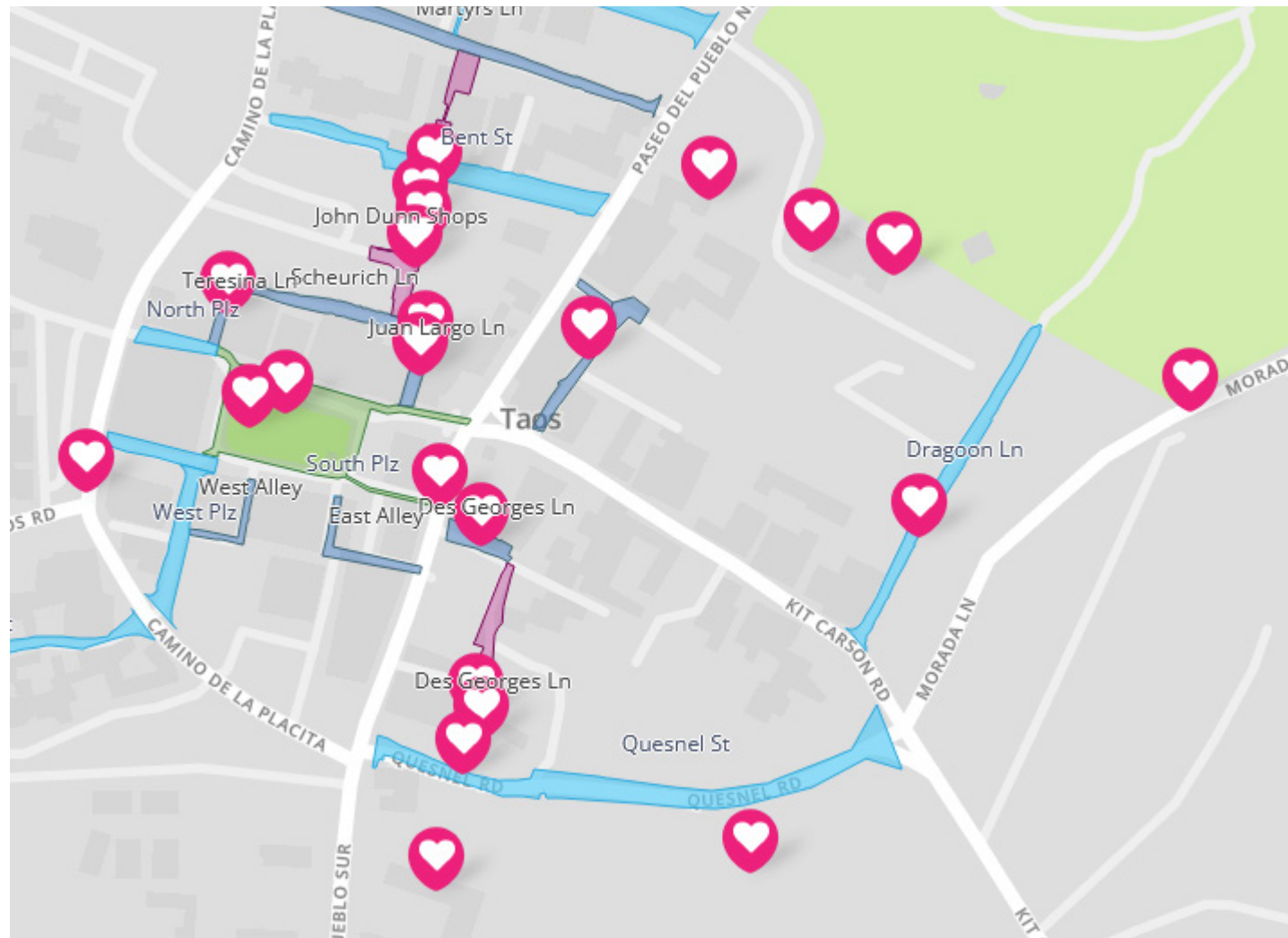
Participants dropped pins with hearts in locations containing community assets. The John Dunn shops and Des Georges Lane were sites containing assets participants would like to see more of in other locations. Some of the noted assets included:

- outdoor seating areas near restaurants
- alleys with planters, seating and business access
- businesses with open doors and regular business hours
- murals

⚠️ “SOMETHING THAT CONCERNS ME”

People expressed concern in various locations regarding pedestrian safety, accessibility, and missed opportunities for economic development. Many of the concerns clustered along Camino de la Placita where there are traffic hazards for pedestrians as well as the unofficial narrow alleyway between Bent Street and Martyrs’ Lane. The most common concerns centered on:

- uneven walkways and need for ADA access
- vacant buildings
- need for public easements on private property
- narrow sidewalks
- need for improved striping or flashing lights at crosswalks
- poor driver visibility

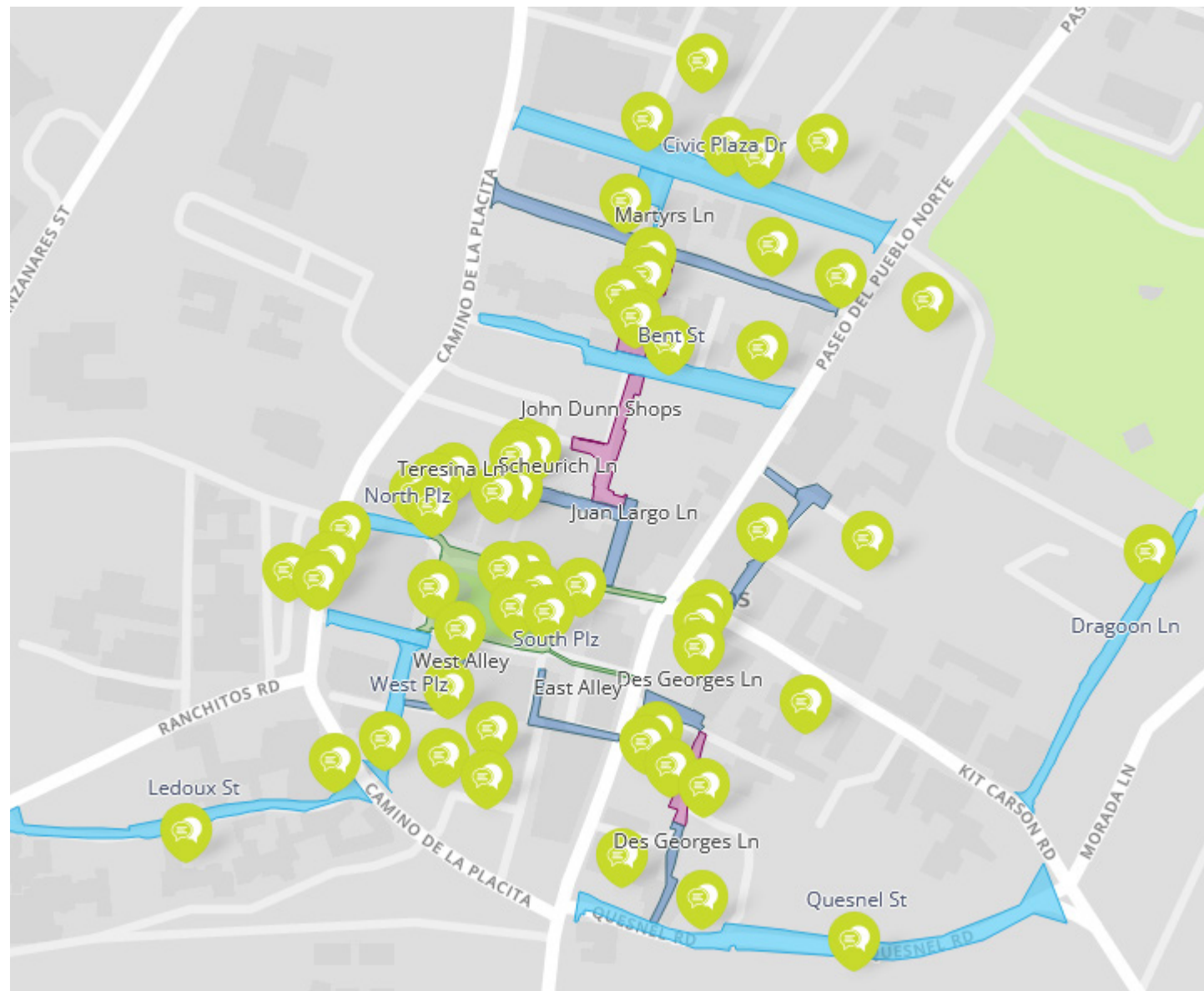


## OTHER IDEAS

This section of the map and comments allowed for participants to write in suggestions that did not fall into the previous categories. The following list includes a few of the ideas noted by community members. A more detailed list can be found in the Appendix.

- Space for food trucks and vendors

- Crosswalk murals
- Replace parking lots with underground parking
- Pop-up parks
- Green stormwater infrastructure
- Consolidate parking meters to a central kiosk and/or app



# 5. Community Priorities

Through the community mapping process, participants on the walking tours discussed options for improvements and made suggestions about what they would like to see in the Plaza and surrounding alleyways.

**IN THIS SECTION**

- COMMON CONCERNS
- LIGHTING
- SEATING AND SHADE
- WAY-FINDING SIGNAGE
- DRAINAGE
- SOMETHING I LIKE
- OTHER IDEAS

## 5.1. Themes

### COMMON CONCERNS

Taos residents and business owners marked areas of concern on the Taos Alleyway Network Map and noted their distress regarding the following issues.

- Vacant buildings
- Dark alleys with low-visibility could be unsafe
- Vandalism facilitated by hidden spaces with low-visibility
- Bathroom disrepair
- Dangerous intersections without sufficient crosswalks/signage/lighting
- Lack of ADA accessibility, disrepaired and narrow sidewalks
- Better signage to direct pedestrians
- Pedestrian and car conflicts

### LIGHTING

Many comments expressed a need for additional and improved lighting along the Taos downtown alleyway corridors. Participants desired more lighting for improved safety and to create a more inviting aesthetic encouraging visits to local businesses. Themes included:

- Better lighting to prevent break-ins
- Improved lighting at crosswalks
- Installing lighting alongside seating for outdoor dining

Santa Fe Plaza String Lights





## OUTDOOR SEATING AND SHADE

Feedback pointed to not only additional outdoor seating and shade, but also the addition of small parklets in the re-designed alleyways to allow for greenery and play. A number of comments mentioned a desire for food trucks and vendors in and around the plaza.

## WAYFINDING SIGNAGE

Areas lacking signage were marked on the map. Sites noted as needing improved wayfinding signage are:

- Rio Fernando Hall and UNM
- New sign needed for John Dunn Shops and Bent Street
- Improved and additional signage for public bathrooms
- Signage and pedestrian map needed at the Guadalupe Lot
- Signage connecting the plaza to various alleys and shops
- Sign at the entrance to Ledoux St.
- Signage for Ledoux st at Paseo and Placitas
- Signage about the Kit Carson Shops
- Signage for the Barela Lane walking network connection



## SOMETHING I LIKE

Downtown Taos has many assets to highlight and maintain. Community members noted things they enjoyed about various sites along the alleyway network.

- John Dunn Shops- great lighting, music and sense of welcome
- Juan Largo Lane- great outdoor tables and seating
- Scheurich Lane- business entrances from the alley, planters and benches
- The Plaza- farmers' markets and fiestas
- Quesnel- scenic view of Couse Pasture
- Des Georges- Amigos Bravos mural, cafe sign and view
- Barela Lane- side entrances to businesses that open to the alley
- Dragoon Lane- nice connection between Kit Carson Park, Morada, and Taos Center for the Arts
- Taos Center for the Arts- drive-in theater

## DRAINAGE

Most of the alleyways have water pooling and consequent sidewalk damage due to drainage issues off of surrounding buildings. Flooding in area parking lots and pavement erosion has led to a need for resurfacing and updated water catchment. In the winter, this can also create safety hazards from icy walkways. Drainage concerns present an opportunity for green stormwater infrastructure through installation of rain gardens, bioswales and rainwater harvesting. Capturing stormwater will allow for more green space and vegetation in the alleys.



The Raincatcher,  
Santa Fe

## OTHER IDEAS

- Crosswalk and pavement murals
- Food trucks and vendor hook-ups
- Create a designated festival street
- Create more public art
- Construct pop up parks
- Install flashing LED lights at crosswalks
- Construct roof top bars
- Install additional informational kiosks and bathrooms
- Use green stormwater infrastructure to re-route stormwater
- Replace parking meters with an app
- Install electric vehicle charging stations
- Divide commercial buildings to allow for multiple businesses
- Connect Guadalupe Plaza with the Main Plaza
- Transition parking lots to pedestrian space and build underground garage
- Make Ledoux Street pedestrian only with removable bollards



Floating crosswalk in Santa Rosa

## 5.2. Opportunities vs Challenges

Based on these recommendations from stakeholders and the public, we created a spreadsheet to help prioritize which alleyways we are going to use as our pilot activation projects. The alleyway team picked which categories to assess each alleyway:

- Owner of Alleyway
- If alleyway has any projects listed on the Town of Taos 2020-2025 ICIP Plan
- Number of businesses that open to the alleyway
- Number of potential businesses that could open to the alleyway (have a door that is unused)
- High Impact - pedestrian traffic and visibility
- Public Safety Concerns
- Barriers to Activation
- Challenges
- Opportunities

Using this criteria, which includes the comments made in the interactive map and on the walking tour, we selected three alleyways for our pilot activation project:

1. **Bent Street**
2. **Des Georges Property**
3. **Tuesday Morning to Taos Plaza**

These three were selected for a variety of reasons. Although there may be other alleyways that are more visible or make sense for activation (i.e. Scheurich Ln), there are too many barriers to activation at this moment. These three alleyways are owned by both private and public entities, they are used by the public daily, and they have short-term and long-term solutions to improvement.

1 BENT STREET

2 DES GEORGES PROPERTY

Bent Street  
Facing West



Des Georges Property  
Facing South



Bent Street  
Facing East



Des Georges Property  
Facing South



3 TUESDAY MORNING TO TAOS PLAZA



Tuesday Morning Facing South



Tuesday Morning Ramp with Mural Facing North

# 6. Moving Forward

IN THIS SECTION

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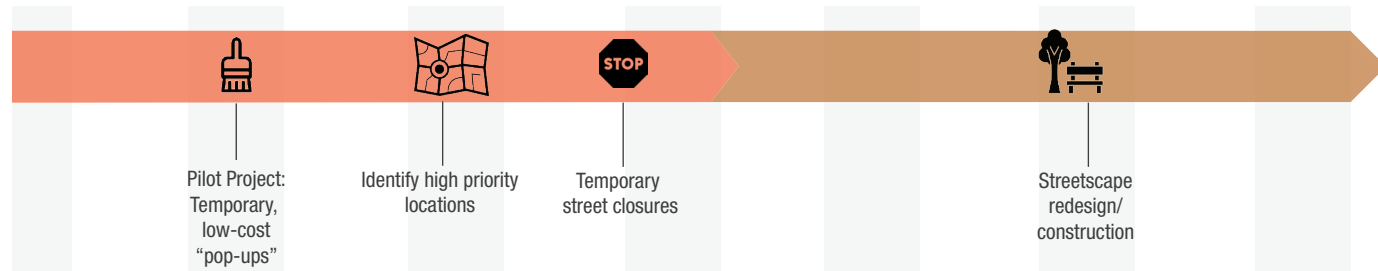
1 →

2 →

3 →

NEXT STEPS

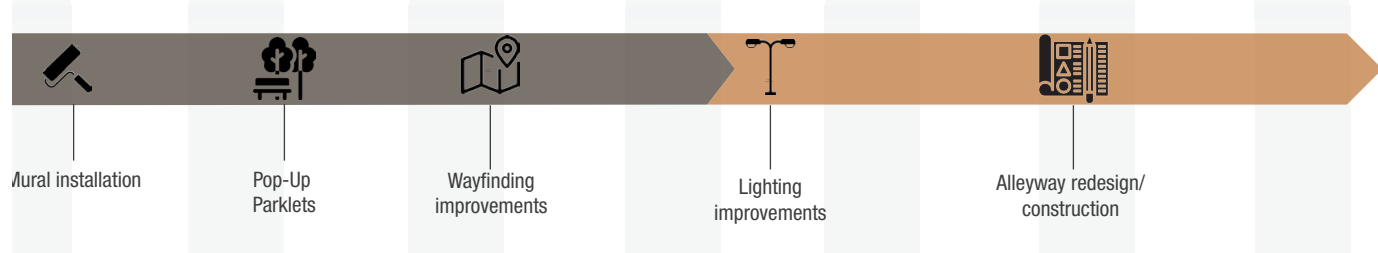
## BENT STREET



## DES GEORGES PROPERTY



## TUESDAY MORNING TO TAOS PLAZA



Based on our timeline shown above, this report completes Step 1b: Preliminary assessment of challenges and opportunities. The next step is to take the prioritized alleyways, present information to the Town council, engage more stakeholders specifically related to these priority alleyways, and develop preliminary designs.

We will begin, still with the help of Groundwork Studio and NMMS technical assistance, with short-term activations in these alleyways such as a pop-up parklets, art installations, temporary lighting, and events. This will begin the alleyway activation, engaging locals and visitors in these spaces, making them more friendly and inviting. At the same time, we will be working on long-term solutions such as closing off alleyways to cars, improved lighting and signage, food vendors, and more.

# 7. Appendices

## A. TAOS STRONG AT HEART REPORT

## B. TAOS INFRASTRUCTURE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PLAN

## C. COMMUNICATIONS

ALLEYWAY NETWORK PROJECT/  
COMMUNICATION FOR PUBLIC INPUT  
TAOS MAINSTREET FACEBOOK POSTS

## D. WALKING TOUR INSTRUCTIONS

## E. WALKING TOUR ATTENDEES

## F. WALKING TOUR IMAGES AND SUGGESTION LISTS

## Appendix A. Taos Strong at Heart Report



### READ THE REPORT **HERE:**

(<https://www.taosgov.com/DocumentCenter/View/1396/Strong-At-Heart-Downtown-Public-Planning-Process-Report>)

# Appendix B. 2020 Taos Infrastructure Capital Improvements Plan (ICIP)

Town of Taos Infrastructure Capital Improvements Plan 2021-2025									
Project Ranking									
Project Name	2021-2025 ICIP Year/ Rank	2022-2026	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Total	Description
Ranchitos Road (Infrastructure)	2021-9	2022-1	\$ 1,410,153					\$ 1,410,153	<b>PROJECT IN PROGRESS:</b> Ranchitos Road (NM 68) provides traffic relief to NM 68 between Ranchos de Taos and the Taos Plaza. Ranchitos Road is currently experiencing an increase in traffic volumes due to rapid growth to the south of the project limits. The existing roadway between Salazar Road and Carabajal Lane is a paved 2-lane roadway with narrow shoulders and surfacing tapers located in a 35-40 foot right-of-way. There are short sections of curb and gutter at the intersections of Carabajal Road, Santistevan Lane, and Valdez Road. Pavements will be designed to New Mexico Department of Transportation (NMDOT) Specifications and will be based on design R-values along the project alignment and future traffic conditions. A surfacing schedule will be provided on the plan set for the contractor reference. Construction of curb, gutter and sidewalk should only be considered on the north side of the roadway. An urban typical section is proposed throughout the limits of the project area including curb and gutter on the north side of the roadway. Storm water runoff will be conveyed in curbs and gutters on the north side, collected in drop inlets and discharged into existing facilities within the project limits. All other storm water will sheet flow into roadside bar ditches. The storm sewer system will discharge into existing flow paths that cross within the project limits. Hydrology and runoff calculations will be in accordance with NMDOT drainage criteria. MAP funding for engineering work is in place. Consistent with the Town's Bicycle Plan, Strong at Heart and NMDOT Arterial Improvement Plan. Eligible for CDBG & Capital Outlay Funding. RFP has been issued and responses received for engineering services. Responses will be evaluated in July with contract recommendation to Council in August.
Affordable Housing (Public Health & Safety)	2021-7	2022-2	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000		\$200,000	(A) Mary Medina 1.5 acre site as a public/private partnership. Conduct a feasibility study for rehabilitation and construction of an artist based housing project. (B) Chamisa Verde Phase III - Multifamily workforce housing. (C) Artspace - 70 unit artist housing. (\$50,000 - Legal consultation for each project.) Consistent with Town's Affordable Housing Plan & recommendation of the Affordable Housing Task Force
Replacement of Town HVAC (Safety)	2021-8	2022-3	\$ 629,000	\$ 363,500	\$ 495,000			\$ 1,487,500	Coronado Hall - \$629,000 Town Hall - \$363,500 Library - \$495,000 Eligible for Capital Outlay
Airport Industrial Park Development Plan (Infrastructure) (Plan)	2021-10	2022-4	\$ 3,500,000					\$ 3,500,000	Obtain funding to conduct a feasibility study, business plan and site development plan, including utilities for aviation related warehousing, manufacturing and commercial light industrial park with airport access. Eligible for CDBG, USDA and EDA funding.

**READ THE PLAN HERE:**

([https://www.boarddocs.com/nm/taosgov/Board.nsf/files/BTKVCU802570/\\$file/ICIP.pdf](https://www.boarddocs.com/nm/taosgov/Board.nsf/files/BTKVCU802570/$file/ICIP.pdf))

# Appendix C. Communication Examples



Facebook post on March 22, 2022

Do you have suggestions for downtown Taos alleyway improvements?



Flyer posted around downtown Taos

Submit your ideas or concerns in this interactive map by April 10th



## Appendix D. Walking Tour Instructions

- DESCRIBE WHAT WE'RE GOING TO SEE & WHAT WE WANT FROM PARTICIPANT
- GATHER AT SW CORNER OF PLAZA
  - PROCEED WEST - US BANK ALLEY TO PLACITAS
  - ① STOP ACROSS STREET IN SUADALUPE PARKING LOT - POINT OUT SIDEWALKS, REAR ENTRY FOR BUILDINGS, SCULPTURE GARDENS, BLDG. SIDEWALK IN FRONT OF SHOPS.
  - ② PROCEED SOUTH ON PLACITAS - DISCUSS CONNECTION TO & FUNDED IMPROVEMENT OF RANCHITAS RD.
  - ③ PROCEED SOUTH TO CORNER OF LEDOUX - DISCUSS AUTO ACCESS - LOOK DOWN TO PUEBLO SQ.
  - ④ PROCEED NORTH - POINT OUT ACCESS BEHIND LAFONDA. DISCUSS PROPOSED MERCADO/ UNDERGROUND PARKING GARAGE & ACCESS THRU TUESDAY MORNINGS TO PLAZA
  - ⑤ CONTINUE NORTH TO WEST SCHERUCH ALLEY STOP AT COURTHOUSE - DISCUSS COURTHOUSE, IMPROVED RESTROOMS, VISITOR CENTER, PUBLIC SAFETY STATION, DEDICATED ADA PARKING & SHADED REST AREA/PARKLET
  - ⑥ CONTINUE EAST ON SCHERUCH - STOP AT MCCARTHY, & MAN & ANITA. - DISCUSS NEW REAR ENTRY POSSIBILITIES
  - ⑦ REVERSE - GO THRU JOHN DONO WALK STOP ON BOST STREET - DISCUSS PROBLEMATIC ROAD - FUNCTIONS ONLY AS DESTINATION PARKING LOT FOR BOST ST. SHOPS.
  - ⑧ GO THRU CABOT WALKWAY TO MARTYRS DISCUSS NEED FOR EASEMENT/NEGOTIATION WITH OWNER DISCUSS MARTYRS LANE POSSIBILITIES AND PROBLEMS LIKE DRAINAGE, POWER LINES, PARKING ACCESS, ETC.
  - ⑨ PROCEED NORTH THRU EL POEBLO HALL TO CIVIC PLAZA DRIVE. DISCUSS MANY SUGGESTED IMPROVEMENTS

- ⑩ PROCEED EAST TO TRAFFIC LIGHT - DISCUSS THIS IS NORTH END OF ALLEYS POINT OUT POSSIBLE USES AS A FESTIVAL STREET.
  - ⑪ EAST ON CIVIC PLAZA EXTENSION TOWARD THE TCA - DISCUSS POSSIBLE TRM IMPROVEMENTS & CONNECTION TO KIT CARSON PARK.
  - ⑫ EAST TO DRAGON CANE - DISCUSS THE PARK, CEMETARY & DRAGON ACEQUIA & ROADWAY IMPROVEMENTS.
  - ⑬ SOUTH ON DRAGON TO KIT CARSON RD. DISCUSS COUSE PASTURE, COUSE MUSEUM, GALLERY ROW, ETC.
  - ⑭ WEST ON KIT CARSON RD TO BARELA POINT OUT LARGE PARKING AREA & CONNECTIONS FOR FUTURE DEVELOPMENT.
  - ⑮ SOUTH ACROSS KIT CARSON TO CABOT PARKING LOT. DISCUSS DES GEORGES DEVELOPMENT & FUNDED TOWN IMPROVEMENTS.
  - ⑯ GO ACROSS PUEBLO SQ AT CROSSWALK GO THRU ONE OF M. SCARTHY PLAZA ALLEYWAYS
- END - DISCUSSION -  
REPEAT "WHAT DO WE WANT PARTICIPANTS TO DO?"



# Appendix E. Walking Tour Attendees

## March 22, 2022 Morning Tour Attendees

Name	Affiliation
Aurora Valdez	Taos Pueblo Community Health, TMS Board
Darlene Vigil	Taos County Commissioner
Kristina Ortez	Taos Land Trust, NM House Rep
Rita O'Connell	Martin Heinrich Field Officer
Brad Hockmeyer	KTAO
Ruthanne McCarthy	Downtown property owner
Juniper Leherissey	Harwood Museum of Art, TMS Board
Doug Patterson	Living Design Group, TMS Board
Shamai Rodriguez	Harwood Museum of Art
Dave Ryan	Harwood Museum of Art
Albert Deveux	Downtown property owner
Maureen Dodd	Plant Based Café, downtown business owner
Mary Hunzicker-Dunn	TCA

## March 22, 2022 Afternoon Tour Attendees

Name	Affiliation
Matt Thomas	Paseo Project
Davison Koenig	Couse-Sharp Historic Site
Sonya Struck	LOR Foundation
Lynda Perry	Town of Taos
Karina Armijo	Town of Taos
Andrew Gonzales	Town of Taos
Marietta Fambro	Town of Taos
Rome Chelsi	TCA Board
James Day	TCA Board
Chelsea Reidy	TCA
Lindsey Pfaff-Bain	Taos County Chamber of Commerce
Katie Ritter	Taos County Chamber of Commerce
Pat Pollard	Citizen

# Appendix F. Walking Tour Images and Suggestion Lists

## THE MAIN PLAZA

- Improve lighting
- Remove parking and replace it with parking around the perimeter; park once and walk or implement a trolley
- Update or redesign memorials, statue and kiosk with a map
- Add a downtown wireless network
- Improve and add wayfinding signs to direct public to shops
- Divide buildings to allow for multiple shops and entrances
- Add more signage for the public restrooms
- Attract locals with food carts
- Instal web cameras for security
- Consolidate parking meters into a central location or app
- Add outdoor dining space with shaded seating
- Possible crosswalk mural in the southwest corner of the Plaza



Walking tour group meeting on Taos Plaza



## TERESINA LANE

- Flooding from poor drainage in the alleyways is eroding pavement and cobble. Improve drainage by installing rain gardens to capture runoff.
- Re-surface and level pavement and cobbles to make alleys ADA accessible
- Divide the buildings and allow for back and side entrances to businesses
- Block off North Plaza Alley temporarily for pop-up vendors or festivals
- Re-stripe crosswalk and re-grade pavement to improve accessibility
- Install wayfinding signs for restrooms and businesses
- Construct a pedestrian walkway on the south side of the North Plaza Alley to improve safety and accessibility



Teresina Lane, looking south towards Taos Plaza

## SCHEURICH LANE

- Improve restrooms
- Construct park-style shaded seating
- Add patios and improve lighting in the area for more gathering space
- Install signage for ADA parking
- Create a visitor center or information kiosk and police sub-station
- Construct a roof-top bar
- Re-design trash collection area
- Re-stucco and re-install umbrellas in bancos
- Re-plant flower beds
- Create a parklet
- During the courthouse renovation, open up alleyway as a walkway connecting the site to the Plaza
- Improve drainage to prevent danger of icy walkway in winter



Scheurich Lane leads the walking tour behind Taos Plaza

## CAMINO DE LA PLACITA; LEDOUX STREET, RANCHITOS ROAD AND GUADALUPE LOT INTERSECTIONS

- Install more prominent signage that identifies the streets and connects the Plaza, Ledoux Street and Ranchitos Road
- Clearly mark the entrance to Ledoux Street
- Install a painted crosswalk leading to the Plaza from both streets
- Install flashing LED lights at crosswalks for increased pedestrian safety
- Widen and fix crumbling sidewalks on both sides of Camino de la Placita along this strip
- Create a pedestrian refuge at Ledoux and Camino de la Placita
- Install improved street lighting
- Create ADA access to businesses and parking along Ledoux and Ranchitos
- Made Ledoux Street pedestrian only with removeable bollards to allow for emergency vehicles
- Repair and widen sidewalk on the east and west sides of Camino de la Placita. Make it ADA accessible
- The crossing between the Plaza and the Guadalupe lot is faded and unsafe. Install flashing lights for pedestrians.
- Connect the Guadalupe Plaza to the Main Plaza with a large crosswalk mural.
- Add a parklet and an outdoor cafe to the Guadalupe lot.
- Add wayfinding signage and a map to the Guadalupe lot.
- Create murals mounted on wooden panels to install on sides of buildings.
- Create access to businesses from the rear of the buildings.

Crosswalk on Camino de la Placita, leading to Taos Plaza



Narrow sidewalk leading pedestrians from Taos Plaza to Ledoux St



Narrow sidewalk on  
Camino de la Placita



## LA FONDA ALLEYWAYS: SOUTHWEST CORNER OF THE PLAZA

- Improve restrooms
- Construct park-style shaded seating
- Add patios and improve lighting in the area for more gathering space
- Install signage for ADA parking
- Create a visitor center or information kiosk and police sub-station
- Construct a roof-top bar
- Re-design trash collection area
- Re-stucco and re-install umbrellas in bancos
- Re-plant flower beds
- Create a parklet
- During the courthouse renovation, open up alleyway as a walkway connecting the site to the Plaza
- Improve drainage to prevent danger of icy walkway in winter

Crosswalk from Plaza to  
Guadalupe lot on  
Camino de la Placita



Alley off of Taos Plaza,  
next to La Fonda Hotel

