

Franklin, Tennessee

Construction is complete on the first two phases of the City of Franklin’s multi-phase street corridor infrastructure and enhancement program. Construction of 5th Avenue North and 3rd Avenue North was completed in the fall of 2009.

5th Avenue North is a busy commercial corridor within the core downtown area. Improvements include historic style street lighting, curb and gutter to provide proper storm drainage, a storm sewer system and water main, undergrounding of overhead utilities for improved service, an accessible concrete sidewalk system scored in a pattern that is reminiscent of stone slabs, brick accents within the sidewalk system, brick crosswalks, street trees and landscaping, historically detailed low brick walls to buffer parking lots, and site furnishings. The project required working closely with property owners to obtain donated easements to implement project improvements, including removal of pole mounted business signs and replacement with code compliant ground mounted brick signs.

3rd Avenue North is located within the historic residential district of Franklin. In this area, many of the historic homes now serve as offices for small businesses while still maintaining their residential character. The corridor infrastructure improvements, similar to 5th Avenue North, include storm sewer and water systems and undergrounding of overhead utilities, as well as reconstruction of the entire roadway with curb and gutter to provide proper profiles and to eliminate drainage problems. The accessible sidewalk system is 5’ wide, constructed of brick in a historic diagonal herringbone pattern to compliment the architecture. A 5’ wide grass strip with street trees separates the pedestrian sidewalk from the roadway. The project involved working closely with property owners to obtain easements to convert the overhead utility system to underground.

Construction on **Columbia Avenue**, which is an older and worn out commercial corridor, began in November 2009. Improvements along Columbia Avenue will include a new accessible concrete sidewalk system scored in a decorative pattern with brick accents, new decorative street lighting, curbed planters with street trees separating the pedestrian sidewalk from the heavy volume of traffic along Columbia Avenue, low brick walls to buffer parking lots and service yards, removal of pole mounted business signs and replacement with code compliant ground mounted signs on brick bases, and a new storm sewer system. Construction is scheduled for completion in the summer of 2010.

