

Hotchkiss Placemaking and Downtown Beautification

Hotchkiss, CO

DECEMBER 2020 **SURVEY RESULTS**



UTA
UNIVERSITY
TECHNICAL
ASSISTANCE



Colorado Center
for Community Development
COLLEGE OF ARCHITECTURE AND PLANNING
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO **DENVER**



COLORADO
Department of Local Affairs

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SURVEY OVERVIEW

Hotchkiss has begun working with the University Technical Assistance Program at the University of Colorado Denver and sponsored by the Department of Local Affairs to provide an update to previous downtown plans for Hotchkiss that reflect the community today and into the future.

The opportunity to envision Bridge Street through town in a way that benefits the sense of place of Hotchkiss will benefit current and future generations by clearly presenting an environment that reflects the heart and soul of the community. The following survey was distributed on the town's website and aimed to set the foundation of a placemaking plan that will be translated into design and aesthetic enhancements to Bridge Street and Downtown.

The surveyed received an overwhelming **304 responses**, offering our team valuable insight into what the community of Hotchkiss would like to see in their downtown core and ways it can be improved. Our team will use these results to move forward in our design process, working to create a placemaking plan that truly reflects the people of Hotchkiss.

OVERALL EXPERIENCE

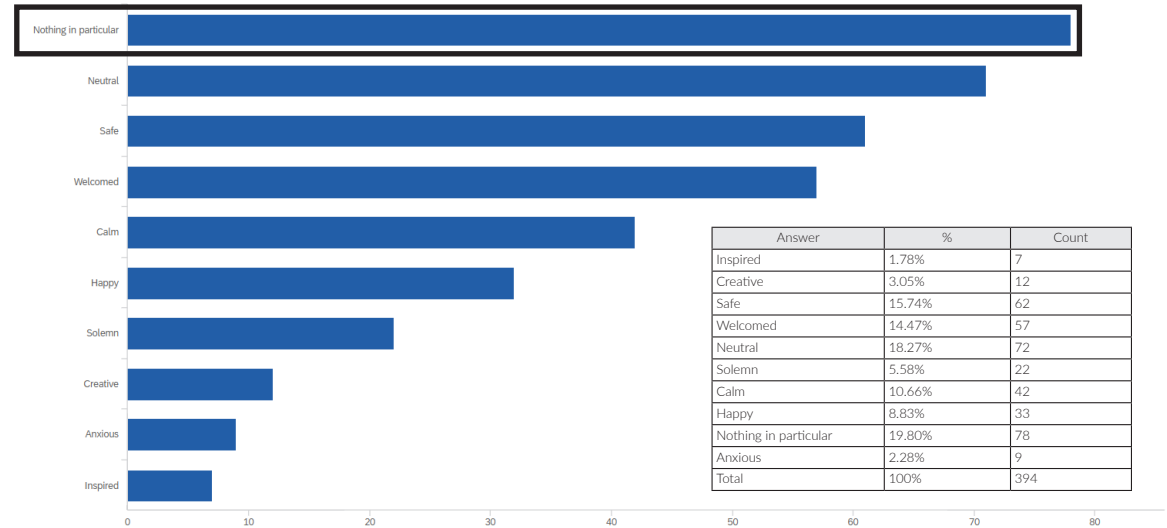


OVERALL EXPERIENCE

Overall experience describes the general character and current feeling people have towards Hotchkiss. There were a total of four overall experience questions, two in the beginning of the survey (#1-2) and two at the end (#18-19).

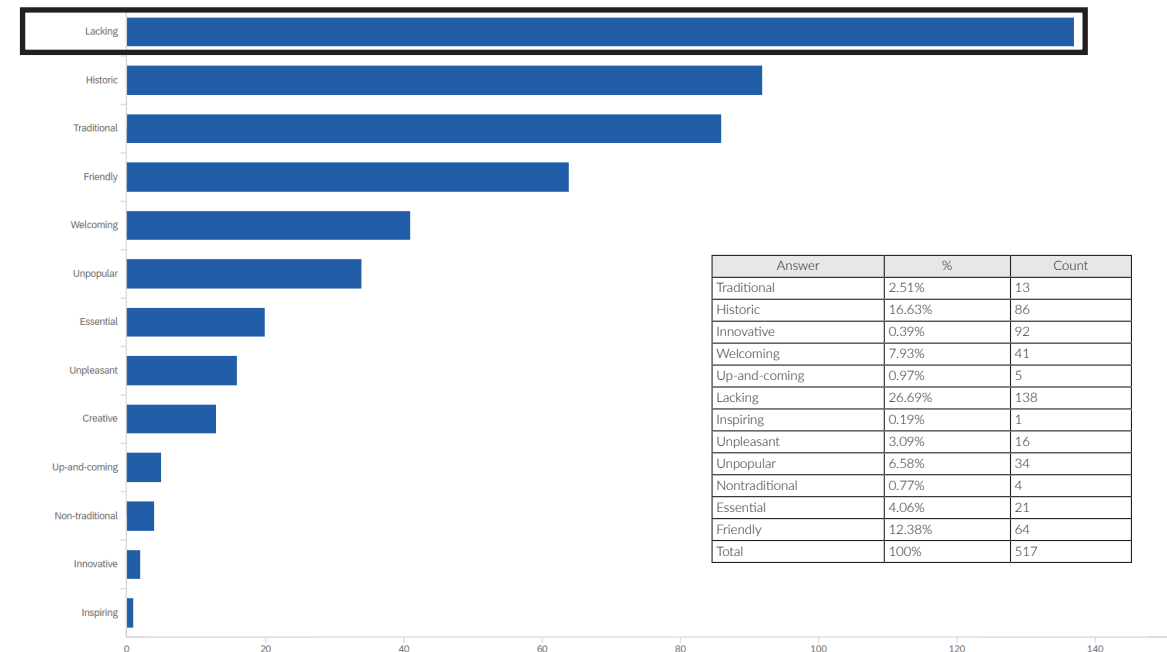
Q1: How does downtown Hotchkiss make you feel?

1. Nothing in particular
2. Neutral
3. Safe
4. Welcomed
5. Calm



Q2: What words would you use to describe Downtown Hotchkiss?

1. Lacking
2. Historic
3. Traditional
4. Friendly
5. Welcoming



OVERALL EXPERIENCE

Q18: What are things you love in downtown?



Local Businesses



Art



History



Natural Beauty



Walkability



Parking



OVERALL EXPERIENCE



Local Businesses

Book store! Mary's Church! Creamery! Gambles! trees on Main street, murals, Memorial Hall, the old look of the Hotchkiss Hotel Building

Farmers market

Ace Hardware and Coaltrain. as a local these are places I frequent but also I'm just stopping in to get what I need and leave.

The farmer's market

saturday farmers market

Wish the Rose or some other thrift store was still there. Diversity of business offerings. Love that drive-in diner that is closed. Wish it wasn't such a rat trap.. would be great to have something like that open serving great local food... kind of a central hub to the street with food trucks, music, live events. Could be a great pocket park space.

Local businesses

Stores open on sunday

The Creamery

The Creamery because if the art classes and access to the many very talented artists. The Park at the fairgrounds it's nice and I can imagine how nice it could be with a new playground!

Available business space

Ace Hardware

Fairgrounds, Creamery Arts, and basically the occupied spaces. J and M Plumbing is a beautiful first building I see when I enter town. I would love to see the weeds pulled and windows cleaned and pride shown so that our locals would support it!

Restaurants

The Creamery Arts Center and adjoining open space.

creamery, post office, library

The Post Office, Farm Runners

Creamery, farmers market, We have been to PJ's several times. Other restaurants less frequent but have gone. Ace almost weekly.

The creamery art center

Ace Hardware. Farm Runners.

PJ'S Pub, Gamble's Ace, the post office

The Creamery and its little park. The old brick buildings. The new bike racks and benches.

Ace hardware has just about anything you need.

Medical access, eye glasses and exams, restaurants (though we could use a few more).

The mix of businesses, also the unique character that is not chain franchises and that it doesn't look like every strip development on every highway in America. This should be one of the things that is promoted by the powers that be in the town.

Restaurants

The Creamery and that is about it. Unfortunately way to many closed buildings, nothing to really make people want to stay right now. It is basically a drive through town and stop at City Market town to pick up groceries.

The creamery and their yard, farmers market. Ace hardware

The Creamery open space, our beautiful library, the small businesses that line our main street

The existing stores, the fairground park is kind of cute

The restaurants - PJ's Pub, Pat's, 133 and Zack's. Farm Runners, our fairgrounds with frisbee golf. Historic homes, our library.

Creamery, pocket park next to the Creamery, PJ's restaurant.

Creamery, farmers' market

I live that its small and all local businesses

Closeness to the Library, Town Hall, Memorial Hall. The Park Benches on Bridge Street. They are original pieces of art as well as functional.

Creamery Arts Center. The centrally located post office and nearby Memorial Hal and library. The used book store.

OVERALL EXPERIENCE



Art

murals

The planters, murals, seasonal decorations in the Ace Hardware yard. Would love to see the Coyote drive in either reopened as a restaurant or a regular recurring flea market site

Stupid pink elephants

The trees, flowers, and nice restored buildings

I like trees on the sidewalks. We don't hang out in town much because there is nowhere to hang out at. I love the community billboard, and the planters, but there could be more.

Flower boxes, friendly people.

Planters, library, pocket park, farmers market

Current Sculptures

Flower planters on the sidewalk

Entrance to PJs wrought iron and decoration and facade. Creamery art and porch.

Benches



History

Old buildings, crosswalk flags, book store, hardware store

Fairgrounds, pocket parks (when improved), historic buildings, general feel of the Hotchkiss Hotel/Creamery block, the potential for improvement

Historic buildings. Street facing west frames in Mount Lamborn

historic buildings

The older buildings.

Historic building backdrop.

The history and the historical spots

The historic brick buildings.

The old buildings and historic locations

History, kind people

The old town feel

Historic and unique buildings

old buildings, murals

History

The well preserved historical buildings.

Love the historical buildings

OVERALL EXPERIENCE



Parks/Natural Beauty

Trees, seats

The Creamery building and park is nice.

The small pocket-sized park near the bank. The elephant statue.

The friendly faces.

The flowers.

Fairgrounds park/ shade trees

The park and ball fields.

Views to the mountains, access to river



Walkability

I can walk to different establishments. The few but present bike racks. Increasing art.

Reasonably easy to walk but there are some real scary gaps.

I live downtown and I love how easy it is for me to walk to the clinic, walk to the post office, walk to Ace hardware etc.

That you can walk everywhere.

It is easily accessible for most people.

Good sidewalks. A few nice decorative pieces of art (including metal bike racks, and sculpture). Nice, older buildings (some could use a little TLC).

Convenient to walk around from business to business.

That it is locals walking around getting errands done. It is quite. That there are little poke throughs to short cut, like the way through near Shade Scapes



Parking

Parking

Parking is easy to find and the streets are wide.

Ease of parking

Easy parking,

Parking and key businesses along bridge street.

There is lots of easy parking

OVERALL EXPERIENCE



Other

No stop lights.

It Use to have a relaxed easy going pace, a peacefulness, respectful way to all people

Just the way it is

Nothing a love...just some practical uses such as hardware, grocery. No business really stands out to me besides Farm Runners.

Not a lot. The town is functional, but I am not going to make time to go for a stroll downtown.

Not much it's a drive through

It's quiet, peaceful and comfortable.

weekender sports and ace is about the only reason to go to town

Very small town. It's amazing.

The simplicity

It hardley ever changes

Everything

Everyone minds their business

Honestly I really have to think about this. One would be relatively easy to go from door to door to purchase something

It is safe

It has what you need

Quaint houses

New streets

It's such a cute street!

Old cowboys drinking coffee at the short dtop

Not much, nothing new or exciting to see because the town doesn't want to change.

Quaint and Friendly. Small town feel.

Honestly, not much. It would be great to see more business that are for entertainment and social activities.

Most everything I need is downtown.

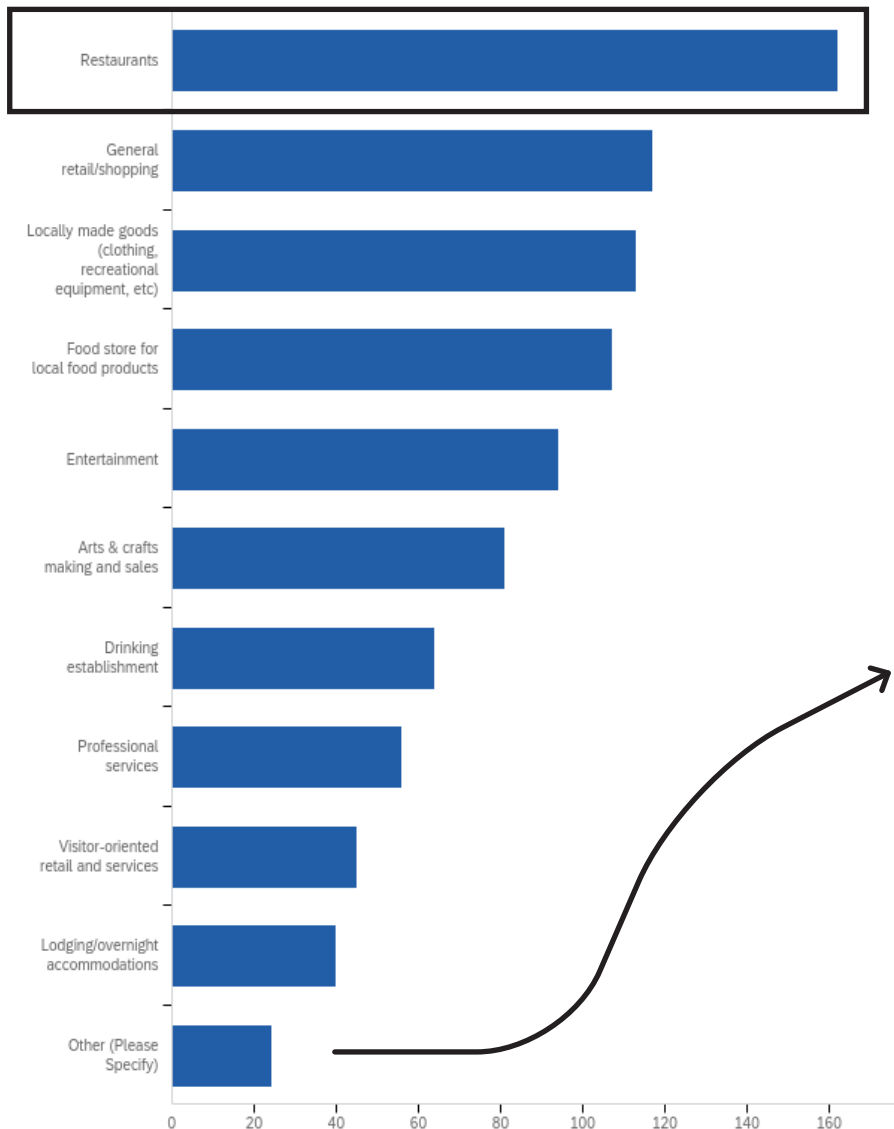
Not much. too many hidden dangers and not enough room to expand for parking, foot traffic and maintaining the flow of traffic.

practical and friendly

Overall, people appreciate the unique local businesses, such as The Creamery, Farm Runners, and the local farmer's market, Downtown Hotchkiss has to offer and hope to see more in the future. They also enjoy the small size, making it easy to walk and park in the Downtown core. There is a strong sense of community in Hotchkiss and many people would like to highlight and preserve the historic western feel of the town.

OVERALL EXPERIENCE

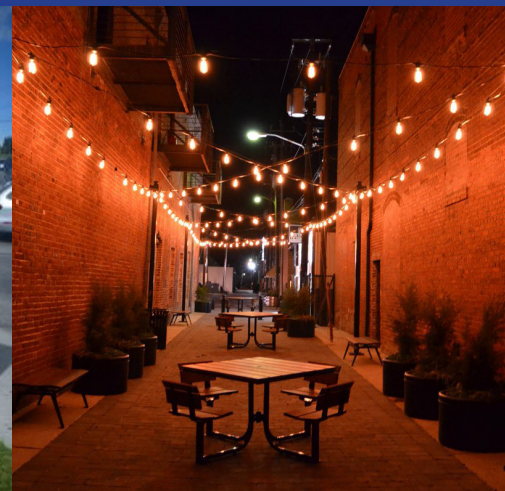
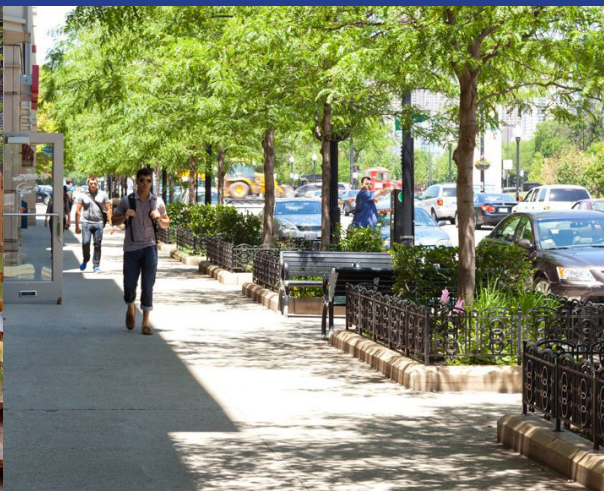
Q19: What do you think could improve your experience in downtown Hotchkiss?



| | |
|---|---|
| ★ | Water play structures |
| | Give people a reason to linger. Make them want to be in downtown not just stop in for their immediate needs. |
| ★ | LANDSCAPING, ART, Trees |
| | Fix the roads |
| | More downtown businesses, |
| ★ | water feature for kids |
| | put a stop light in make it easier to cross and easier for people to oark |
| | More holiday decorations on street lights and elaborate flower decor like Delta has during the summer months. |
| ★ | Need more trees. |
| | specifically improve parking at 2nd and Bridge street. It is nearly impossible to see oncoming traffic without going into traffic lanes. It is not much better at Stop and Save, especially if people have parked along the fron of their parking lot close to Bridge Street. |
| | We need more businesses that will get people out of their houses. |
| | Encouraging food trucks. Its a practical way to improve dining options without the overhead of rent. |
| | Overall, it's a great downtown. I'd hate for the nature of it to change too much. But making it safer and less rundown looking would be great! |
| | Make the visibility better for drivers trying to enter Bridge street from the side streets. Extend the center turn lane further to the west. |
| ★ | Vintage street lamps |
| | Bring in business and give tourists a reason to visit. It's beautiful here and there is no reason we shouldn't have MORE tourists. Having an ordinance for those living in town to keep trash and yards cleaned up would help bring more appeal. |
| | A central site for local happening/ info about upcoming attractions and events, more banners promoting the local events and businesses. |
| | Visibilty entering 92 from side streets especially at bank and post office, elks lodge and Carquest. |
| | Fewer empty businesses |
| | Life, business, child friendly or just friendly in general. Candy shop, variety shops. Something besides grocery store and home. Better playgrounds for the kids. |
| | we already have info kiosks and they are neglected |
| | More businesses to fill empty store fronts. We've had a drive in restaurant empty for like over 20 years. Maybe give cheap loans and low tax incentives so people can start businesses |
| | We really just need more retail shops and specifically things that are fun and colorful. |

★ Potential design elements

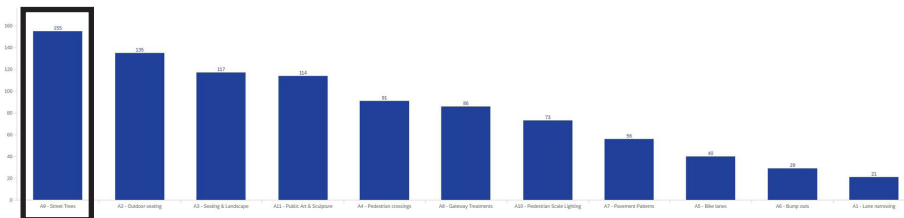
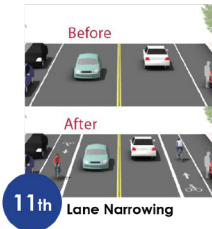
PLACEMAKING



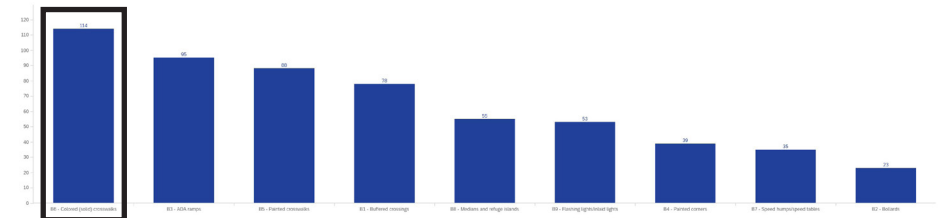
PLACEMAKING

Placemaking brings people and communities together to re imagine and reinvent public spaces- strengthening the connection between people in places they share. It's really quite simple: Placemaking at its heart is all about making great places in order to build a great community and a great economy. Placemaking facilitates creative patterns of activities and connections (cultural, economic, social, ecological) that define a place and support its ongoing evolution.

RESULTS: STREETSCAPE IMPROVEMENTS



RESULTS: SAFER CROSSINGS



PLACEMAKING

RESULTS: STREETSCAPE AMENITIES



1st

Lighting



2nd

Active Spaces



3rd

Pocket Parks



4th

DIY Trash & Recycle Bins



5th

Parklets



6th

Bike Racks



7th

Information Kiosks



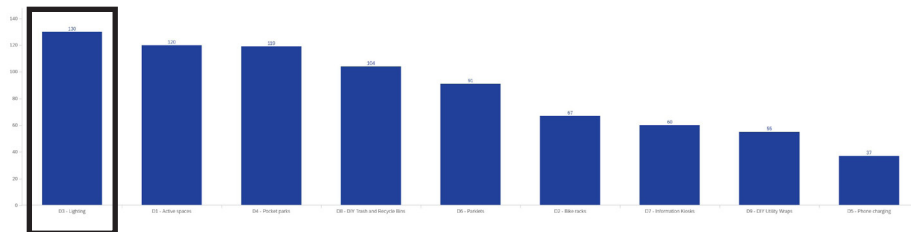
8th

DIY Utility Wraps



9th

Phone Charging

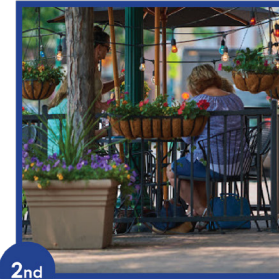


RESULTS: TREES AND LANDSCAPE



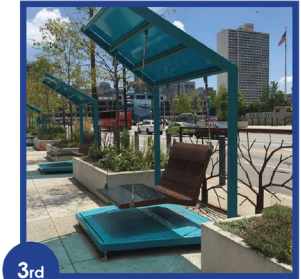
1st

Shade Trees



2nd

Flowers



3rd

Shaded Seating



4th

Raised Planter Seating



5th

DIY Planters



6th

Shade Canopy



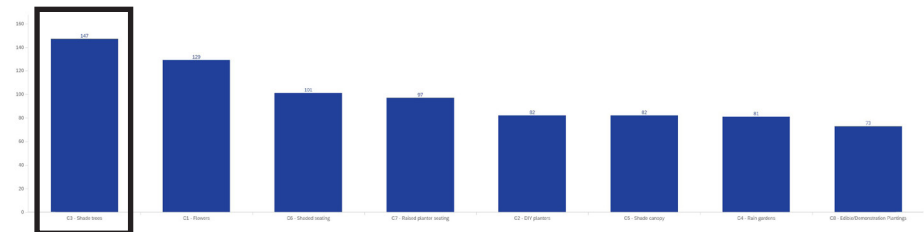
7th

Rain Gardens



8th

Edible/Demonstration Plantings



PLACEMAKING

Other



Bring in Businesses

Some type of brewery, place to gather that would be popular/inclusive of all people in the area.

Currently, it seems as though every other building on Bridge Street is empty or vacant. Something needs to be done to make it affordable for small retail businesses or food/restaurants can survive here. For people to linger in a downtown area they need multiple shops to go into. If thwart go eat at a restaurant and there's vacant buildings next door people are likely to eat and leave or just drive through and wait for the next town. Investing in signage for businesses might help as well. What is drawing people to stop?

Need to attract businesses to empty business spaces. Could the parking lot next to the Coyote be developed for community gathering.

Please fix the pothole in front of the former Robert's Gas Station heading westbound!

Walking and Biking paths connecting downtown to encourage family walking traffic(between willow heights, town, fair grounds park, river access and crossroads rec district, the biggest is having more to walk to town to do and see), kids play/art structures(like in downtown gj), dog park, a bigger green space for music or movie or farmers market or gatherings that has shade for the summer months, Angled parking.

My two biggest issues with downtown Hotchkiss concern traffic. 1) Crossing Bridge Street safely can be a challenge especially for my children. If I could address any issue it would be safer street crossings. This is my primary hinderance to spending leisurely time downtown. 2) There are times that making a left turn on to Bridge street is stressful. Sight lines can be blocked by parked cars and the volume of traffic can make turns dangerous at times. A few ideas that I can throw out since I don't have to worry about money or space right now: make downtown more walkable and inviting with trails/sidewalk that connect downtown to the new river access, fairgrounds and the bike trails near H Hill. As part of that how about an elevated pedestrian/bike bridge over Bridge Street. This could be incorporated into one of the entry archways that way suggested above. While I am dreaming, I think what is really missing is a great place to relax, get food and drink and just hang out for a while with a beautiful view of the mountains while my kids are biking, paying frisbee golf, hanging out at the river.

Find a way to bring more businesses into Hotchkiss. More business = more foot traffic = more income for businesses = more tax dollars.

Put food trucks with concerts where the diner used to be...

I feel hotchkiss needs to provide areas for business to thrive. Highlighting the areas ag industry and its history is a must.

Bring back Drive In and other local stores.

There are some attractive businesses in Hotchkiss but my overall opinion is that it needs this! Brighten it up but not with bright street paint like they tried in Paonia. Hotchkiss looks dead and unwelcoming. No one wants to hang out there except for the creamery area. It should be attractive and inviting. Instead people see vacant lots and ugly storefronts with signs like Jesus 2020. I take my guests to the creamery, the two nice restaurants (pre-covid) and then head into Paonia. I am a resident of Hotchkiss. Colorado born and raised & just in case you think I'm from Boulder, I'm not. (Just clarifying because of the negative remarks I heard about the proposed changes in Paonia. I'm a small town person who loves the north fork. I just love the idea of sprucing up Hotchkiss.

Get service businesses, not tourist, in the empty buildings

More businesses to eat like fastfood

Attractive drive in eatery, fabric/craft shop with weekly classes, nice gift shop such as a Jay Creek, return Subway, and in general make it a place with choices and activities where people want to stop, shop, and enjoy. A chocolate shop such as Drosts! Letâ€™s fill up some of those closed stores and get the papers off the windows! The old Edwards Jones is a beautiful building which should be showcased. The Short Stip could have several businesses in it such as the antique shop in Delta as well as the building housing Clyde's restaurant. A place to but a Fairy Queen blizzard!

I feel that there is a cycle of the downtown being less appealing than it could be and that in turn depresses visitation to the downtown, which makes it tougher for businesses to make it. We really, really need more diversity downtown and I think that infrastructure and beautification will help "set the stage" for a more hospitable economic environment. I like the idea of maker spaces paired with retail. While I acknowledge the value of professional offices, I think they are taking up more space in the downtown corridor than would be optimal for encouraging traffic to stop and shop. Not much can be done about that but retail has declined and without retail, people just don't stop as much. I would love to see the Town Shops owned by a non-profit that would renovate maker or other retail spaces to support the creative sector. EV Charging station will be a great enhancement and I'd like to see the fairgrounds/park somehow become a more important resource to the Town with better connecting infrastructure (sidewalks) and signage. Public parking behind Elks Lodge would be a nice plus and the further development (and maintenance) of pocket parks would be an attractive feature. Public infrastructure (sidewalks) east of the core (between highway intersection and the new fairgrounds entrance is lacking. Would love to see the ability to hang event banners over the highway at west end of town and replace highway lighting with pedestrian scale lighting.

Clean up properties that are not being utilized. Coyote leaked our town look dead. We need more businesses

Breweries on Bridge Street

More businesses is the only thing that would help

Can the owner of the old Duffy's Drive In get it updated or demolished. It's been a eye sore for 20+ years !

A pop up eating locations

This is all moot unless we encourage folks to be in our downtown area. The solution would be, Reduce commercial property taxes to encourage new businesses.

A great thing that could be done is a bike trail from downtown to the High school and promotion, information/kiosks downtown about the trails and activities out there. Downtown Hotchkiss is more utilitarian than entertaining and interesting. All the empty businesses make it look a bit abandoned, not very inviting. Its hard to imagine making it more inviting without filling in the empty businesses, so incentives and ideas around improving that aspect of the town would be a good step forward.

Encouraging new businesses to open, perhaps with incentives such as low interest business loans, lower business rents and definitely a small business mentoring program. Also more of a shop local campaign. Paving the lot by the museum and better landscaping for The Creamery area. The Creamery is our best downtown asset and it should be highlighted. Existing successful businesses should be encouraged to provide more curb appeal in their individual businesses. Our climate must be kept in mind for any new plantings on Bridge St. As well as better seasonal maintenance. As a local garden designer/horticulturist, I'd love to help. Patty Creighton 720 840 5015

Yes I don't think this town has the budget for all the fancy crap without having huge upcosts and taxes being raised. I think it needs a lift to be more ada compliant, street crossing signs and flashers and maybe a few planters and tear out the old drive up and put in a small park of some sort there. Everything I didn't select I feel costs a lot of money and is t needed. More benches would be nice and something to see in a pocket park would be nice.

Get some businesses in there!

Lower taxes to bring back business and don't try to Democrat up hotchkiss

Get business trip fill empty storefronts. You need marketing and tourist industry to bring in more traffic. What's the draw of Hotchkiss? Where do people stay? You can do all this beautification, but it doesn't mean a thing of you can't afford the upkeep.

Bridge street needs real handicap parking. I've seen several instances of handicapped people in there street trying to load a wheel chair. Or being unable to go up the crosswalks due to leaf litter, damage and inclines that are too steep

More restaurants or food truck access. Make the area less of a concrete desert and more of a welcoming and pedestrian friendly place. More street events, evening events to attract business to the town center.

It needs to be more live at night. Driving through Hotchkiss at 8pm on a Friday or Saturday the town seems shut down and dead. Very few businesses opened, no one out and about just seems like a very dead town when one drives through Bridge street and there is nothing going on or people to see.

other than a lack of vibrant and useful businesses (an economy issue, not a street issue), the actual street itself is not too bad. Of all the towns in the NF, Bridge St. is the nicest.

Businesses, cheer, less doom and gloom.

More business to encourage strolling down the street.

Encourage restaurant and pubs and help them with outdoor seating

Use of old, empty buildings would be great.

Hotchkiss is unfortunately a drive through town, so many empty buildings. There is nothing to draw people in and have them want to stay. There needs to be a true vision for the future otherwise it will just turn into a dying town like so many other western towns.

Open more businesses!

Decrease taxes to draw business that will maintain and beautify their own properties

A solution to all the empty storefronts, vacant and rundown buildings would help revitalize our downtown. Right now, I donâ€™t personally feel drawn to downtown. Maybe more family type businesses - pottery painting, arcade, paint and sip. Clothing shops. We have some great restaurants, now we just need the retail side bumped up.

PLACEMAKING



Beautification

Grants to property owners to update/ maintain front facing properties.

Make it natural and beautiful- not loud colors or crazy art and sculptures. We are a beautiful, country town. Keep it that way

Good sidewalk and trail connections to parks and open spaces, especially the trails at the high school, access to the river, etc!

Storefront beautification

Refresh and redo the artwork outside some of the buildings. One specific one is the old subway building with the spray painted bulldog needs refreshed and redone.

Maybe some changes to the bridge, maybe paintings that the school kids could do. Dress it up.

It needs updates while keeping it historical as well

Old west style. Why modern? Check out Jackson Hole Wyoming and its rustic, old west style that people love. Majority of cities/towns are modern style. Do something that reflects the west

Trees and sculptures are my two biggest

A public park on main street with good shade. Something like the space at the creamery but maybe a little larger with seating or picnic tables.

More color flags street lighting should learn from Cedaredge get people to stop have stores worth going into

Hotchkiss is a historic town so it would be interesting to see additions related to fruit growing and distribution and possibly rail related items.

Replacement of American flags as they become frayed.

Hotchkiss looks like a dirty, neglected old town at the moment. If it looks better, it will probably be kept up. I tend to go to Cedaredge downtown instead just because it looks so much nicer.

Face lift on all the building. Pave the street.

Explanation signs on historic buildings, utilizing side streets & attempting to include the improvements at least a block deep as to not make it look too much of a facade, parking,

More color, disability friendlier.

Just do something to show the people that people care and there is something being done. the benches were a good small start. Acquire the empty lot on 2nd make a park. Just get something going. If the street always looks the same, no one is interested. Have Gamble actually put something in front of their ugly fenced inventory yard. A long wooden bench with flower spaces. Anything would be helpful. Doing nothing just makes people drive on by, you can meet and meet and meet..... no progress when you sit and talk and don't take action.

We definitely need more reasons for people to stop in Hotchkiss. I think this can be done by using art, more pedestrian friendly traffic flow (traffic rarely stops for people in cross walks). I love the idea of having more little parks!

First and foremost- cleanup! Get rid of old buildings and disallow trash and cheap pole barn and clapboard type buildings. More trees and greenery! Maybe a couple traffic circles. Make things more interesting and inviting.

Please help beautifully change Hotchkiss

Modernization

basically, there's a few simple things that can be done to make downtown more attractive/outdoor-friendly -- but don't go nuts and change the atmosphere of the town. We're moving here Thursday from Loveland (and New Jersey before that) -- and what I wanted to say to the town fathers of Loveland 15 years ago (with pictures of Wayne, NJ) I'm gonna say to you: DON'T LET THIS HAPPEN TO YOU. Make things nicer, sure, but don't give in to "progress."

We just need to liven up downtown. Something like telluride main Street would be perfect!

Better informational signage at entrances and at appropriate location along the corridor, directing visitors to amenities (museum, library, arts center, etc., information. Color would be nice. The feel of the corridor with a couple exceptions is pretty bland.

Many people think cleaning up and beautifying the downtown core will help improve the overall experience downtown. Improve storefronts and adding unique art and historical features seem to be priorities for the town.



Traffic/Circulation

Relocate HWY 92

Traffic calming/slowing techniques

Mostly the crosswalks... As Bridge St is a state highway it is difficult for tourists to appreciate the slower traffic with so little to invite them to sit back, relax and enjoy. While there is a very small window of opportunity to allow their transition from 'movin' on down the highway' to 'let's spend a minute on lunch' we need to do a great job of window dressing!

Get rid of old stagnant attitudes. Take HWY 92 another way.

Needs more shade. Needs ways to deal with loud noise from truck traffic.

Yes please fix and repave streets. Need stop light by post office since that is a high traffic area.

Leave it the way it is just fix the pedestrian crossing

Add roundabout instead of stoplight to help with traffic

Since this is a major state highway, we should not do anything to interrupt the traffic flow through town.

Pave the street. It is really horrible to drive it and crossing the street in some areas is downright hazardous.

Improve the hwy 92 and 133 intersection. As traffic increases and at large events at the fairgrounds this is a major choke point. The little blue hwy 50 detour will pack this intersection. Look at somehow improving this intersection and into the fairgrounds on south 4th.

Please don't put any more trees or plantera near intersections. They may look pleasant, but the block the view of oncoming traffic and are very dangerous

make a safe zone for skateboarders and bikers to ride

Redirect highway traffic off Bridge St to an alternative route, such as Hotchkiss Ave

No, none of this makes any sense. There is not enough room for traffic now and you want to clutter it up more making it even more dangerous. There are laws about crosswalks and reason why there is laws. There is no room along the sidewalks to be ADA complaint to put in seating along side the sidewalks. Remove the buildings and then make your street wider and sidewalks wider to accommodate your changes.

We need traffic calming. Because it's a State Highway we are limited in what can happen. Perhaps realigning lanes and safer pedestrian crossings.

Re-route the Highway honestly... Bridge Street is unwelcoming because a major regional thoroughfare cuts right down the middle... Otherwise, create traffic calming mechanisms. I always feel like Im going to get killed crossing Bridge Street

The corridor needs to be more foot traffic friendly and have reasons for people to want to stop and walk around. The vehicle traffic needs to be slowed down. The corridor also needs to be connected with Willow Heights, where many families live, to town via foot/bike/baby stroller path. And then the Crossroads/pool/high school area needs to be connected to the boat launch/river access and to Farm Runners/City Market and to the downtown corridor with similar paths. Then people have safe access to all of these places. People want to go participate, spend money, exercise and congregate if it feels safe and fun. Slowing down the traffic and making it family friendly to get around the town would make a HUGE improvement in the overall experience.

Hotchkiss is my home town I don't want it to look like aspen or Denver... Until bicyclists start buying tags for their bikes we do not need bike lanes. Please no bike lanes

No Bike Lanes - Bikes need to follow the rules of the road or go somewhere else.

Accessibility and crossing safety as well as general street improvements were all comments that continued to appear throughout the survey. People hope to see safer crossings, better streets, and better access for people with disabilities.

PLACEMAKING



Other

Do you want to live in the past or present? Hard choice really.

Enforce mask wearing

We need to feel happy and blessed about where we live!

Love it pretty much as is. What a relief after living in metro Denver.

really glad to see this survey. let's make downtown Hotchkiss a beautiful and welcoming place for us and our visitors....

Keep it traditional, don't try to modernize or upscale. Its. A small western town. Leave it alone. We aren't the eastern slope

Good luck, the town is dismal.

Affordable retail space and off street parking

Don't turn our town into a Aspen.

Hotchkiss is my home town I don't want it to look like aspen or Denver... Until bicyclists start buying tags for their bikes we do not need bike lanes. Please no bike lanes

No Bike Lanes - Bikes need to follow the rules of the road or go somewhere else.

Leave Hotchkiss alone! Leave it the way it is!

Its great the way it is. Ive noticed the added benches around town. Those brighten it up. This is a ranching rural community with people who enjoy simple lives. Why mess with that?

Someone has to maintain anything living and I notice that the existing planters are often neglected. We already have trees. I think pocket parks are a great idea.

most of what you've shown is physically not possible to accomplish.

Moving forward, we will honor the historic small town feel of Hotchkiss while improving downtown access and amenities. Most people hope to see Hotchkiss celebrated through history, art, and local businesses while also providing active and functional spaces and amenities to encourage more people to come and stay downtown.

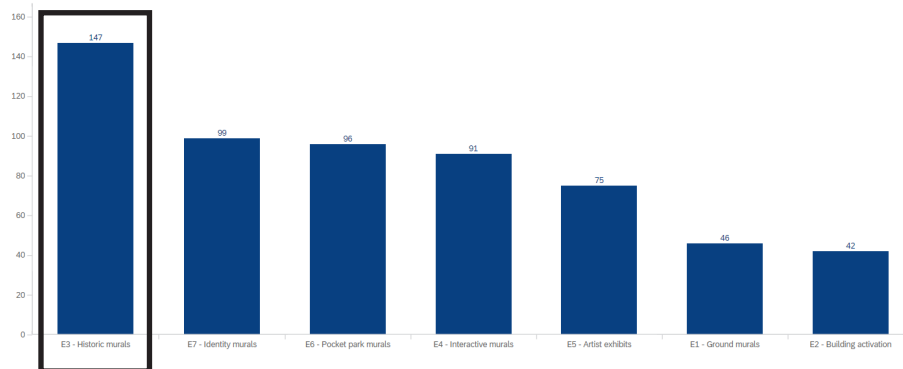
STORY OF HOTCHKISS



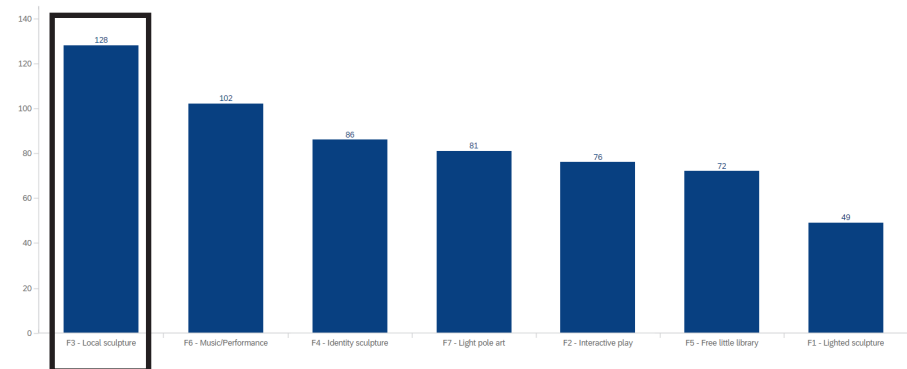
STORY OF HOTCHKISS

In this section of the survey, we wanted to know more about what makes Hotchkiss, Hotchkiss. The elements in this section are all related to different types of identity representation and unique ways to potentially showcase the town's character. These results reflect a strong sense of history and local identity. The people of Hotchkiss care about the historical roots of the town and hope to see that history and character to continue to be preserved and showcased.

RESULTS: MURALS

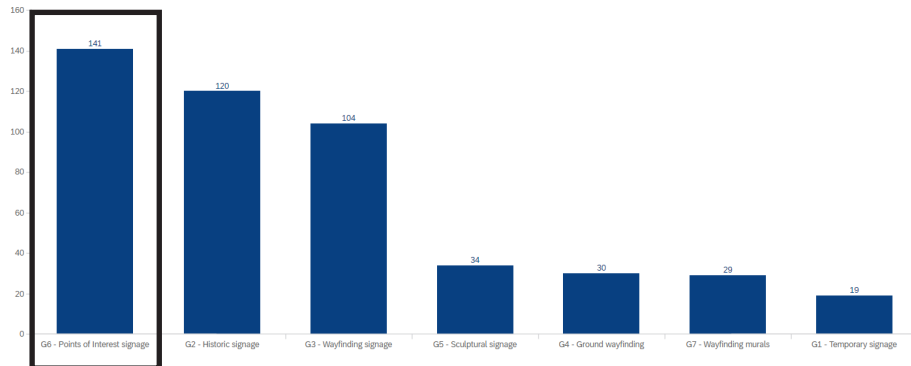


RESULTS: Public Art & Sculpture

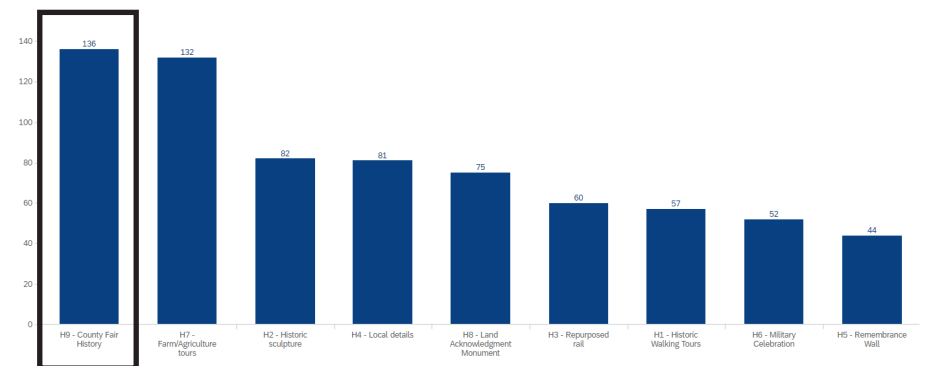


STORY OF HOTCHKISS

RESULTS: WAYFINDING & SIGNAGE



RESULTS: SENSE OF HISTORY



Q12: Do you have any other ideas to share about how to use the arts to tell our story- past, present and future?



Art



History



Local Businesses



STORY OF HOTCHKISS



We should do more horse sculptures

We have the beginning of this already started with murals, pocket parks, flower boxes, benches and bike racks. There just needs to be more so there's enough critical mass or cohesiveness that it feels less random. It'd be great to have green space or something more interesting around the coyote drive in and Robert's gas station as well as less vacant store fronts. I had talked about doing art exhibits in vacant store fronts like they do in Helper, Utah. I haven't had the time to make it happen but its an easy way to make the empty store fronts look nice and a fun way to have a walking art exhibit. Helper, Utah has done a nice job fixing up their downtown despite it not being thriving yet. Maybe a walking art exhibit of local artists to tell stories of past, present and future would be fun? Thank you for helping us do this!!!!

Metal art done by local artist would be preferred

Natural and beautiful. Not crazy colors or sculptures

Local is what it is all about. Any artistic enhancement should be done by local artists - it provides interest to visitors and place pride in locals residents.

There should be professional standards on the art; not all art that is in Hotchkiss looks good right now. Some of the art looks a little chintzy.

Public art ought to be a priority for Hotchkiss, so much of the town has no soul or character, it is simply concrete and storefronts that are lacking any warmth or interest. There is no reason to walk the town and see anything, there is nothing of interest on Bridge street.

Local art



Preserve the historic buildings. Create plaques with photography of the buildings in the past and tell a story.

Give recognition to the Utes who were thrown out of this land in order for it to be ours.

The empty Drive In could be made as an early diner with old time foods served as well as local specialties.

Keep promoting the Hotchkiss Museum! A lot of people don't even know how informative and valuable it is to our community

I would like to see the Ute tribe honored.

The museum should have more draw. Need a way to make it a more visible to people. Signs?

at least pocket parks and sidewalk areas with historical figures, history of hotchkiss and the area

Please include some reference to our indigenous people. Hotchkiss and the whole valley was stolen from the Utes. I hate that we only celebrate the 100 years of history and not the WHOLE history

STORY OF HOTCHKISS



Local Businesses

We already have planters, benches, sculptures, murals, which are nice and make the town welcoming. Need to fill the empty stores, and offer services people need. Glad to hear there is an insurance office coming!

The agricultural and craft side of the area should be promoted and featured in arts. Hotchkiss town could perform the function of promoting the outlying farms and small businesses.

I don't think there's enough foot traffic to warrant live music but it would be a nice addition to the farmers markets

Focus more on agritourism

I would like to see the alleyways on either side of Bridge Street used as mural sites and walking arts tours with things that direct visitors or locals to the museum, artist studios, arts center, etc.



Other

This has already been started and we just need more of all of it for momentum! We need to hit a tipping point where it's more pronounced.

Leave it alone

Two FUNDamental thoughts come to mind.. Our youth and our elderly. Perspective from both sets should be routinely courted.

I think spending the money on improving the side streets would be a better idea

art is not going to help.

Get rid of the dancing elephants with saggy titties

Why just art?

We don't have a future if we can't get more folks to spend time and money down town. We need things that are useful, fun and practical, not expensive, whimsical and pointless.

Gunnison River access & fish habitat improvement

Fix the problem, art does not! The streets are not accommodating for arts, music etc.

Continuing with the current character of the town, people hope to see more art from local artists incorporated in the downtown core as well as unique features that can highlight the history and local industries of the town.

ACTIVATING DOWNTOWN



ACTIVATING DOWNTOWN

RESULTS: POCKET PARK AMENITIES



1st Seating



2nd Shade Tree



3rd Lighting



4th Shade Structure



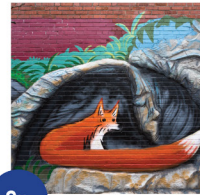
5th Garden Beds



6th Small Play Structure



7th Xeriscape



8th Murals



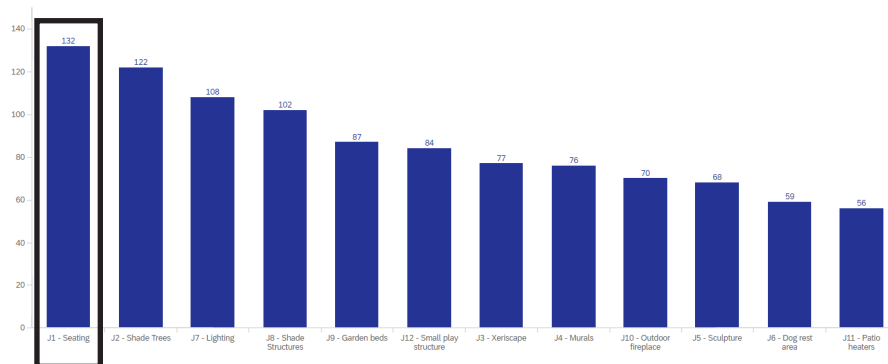
9th Outdoor Fireplace



10th Sculpture



11th Dog Rest Area



For this section, we wanted to learn more about potential ways to get more people downtown, focusing specifically on what can be done to activate the current pocket park areas. Improvements to these areas could lead to a more active downtown area.

RESULTS: POCKET PARK USES



1st Farmer's Market



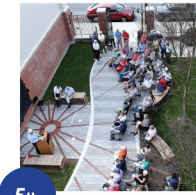
2nd Lunch Break



3rd Meeting Place



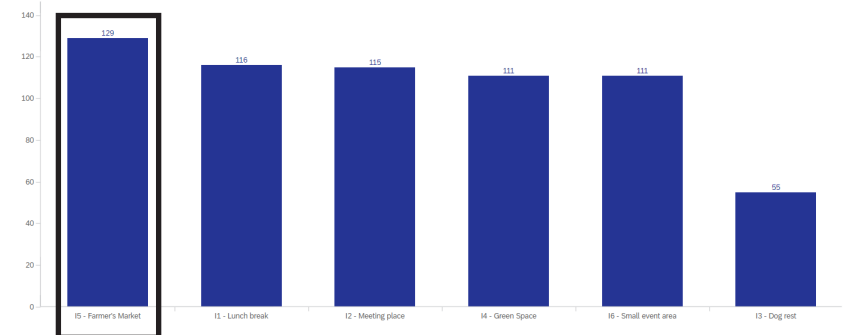
4th Green Space



5th Small Event Area



6th Dog Rest



Q15: Do you have any other ideas to enhance these pocket park areas?



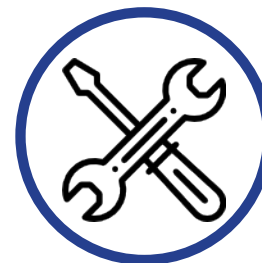
Amenities



Uses



Maintenance



ACTIVATING DOWNTOWN



Amenities

Public Power outlets

Possibly have bike friendly areas visible

Outdoor take-away dining space. Support local businesses.

Lighting color little tables

Have some historical or local interest plaques or signage, make it interesting and informative. I highly recommend some sort of shade, Hotchkiss is unbearably hot in the summer months.

Edible fruit and nut trees and edible landscaping

Some pocket parks need to have electrical outlets. During the pandemic our church met outside for several months at the fairgrounds because it was the only place with electricity for an electric piano and small amp. If we want to encourage outdoor music or meetings, then electricity will be necessary.

Drinking fountains place to park food cart

Better signage or decorative archways/entryways promoting the space and inviting people in.

Bathroom amenities.

Access to info about local places, local papers.

Possibly have bike friendly areas visible

Outdoor take-away dining space. Support local businesses.

The park next to Pat's smells back because it's where Pat's exhaust fan blows and it's super hot in the summer, so more shade and green would be good there. Maybe adding play structures or interactive murals (take a picture from inside the apple tree mural) would encourage people to stop at the Shadescapes park more? Adding water play parks would be awesome! They have one in Rifle that is such a delight to enjoy with children when it's so hot!

Small stage for live music

Dog poop stations.

Multifunctional space for all to enjoy



Uses

Music!

Put music in some way.

Dog friendly

Keep dogs on leashed

Making each one unique and have it's own identity.

Make interactive and enjoyable

They are great! there just need to be more of them or bigger ones in the core area. Most people don't know they are there or think of them. It would be great for there to be a bigger park that would make downtown less empty and concrete looking.

What about the larger open areas in town? The Creamery has Farmers market. Are the other areas all privately owned? The existing pocket parks are so small and not obvious. Larger spaces would be nice too.

Visible but feel private. Think high school/middle schoolers that need a safe place to hang out that is still in sight and safe but feels like they are alone.

Reaching a broad audience with parks. Our town is too small to cater to one specific population. Focusing on places where people can gather and hang out.

ACTIVATING DOWNTOWN



Maintenance

They need to require minimum maintenance of be maintenance free.

Most people don't know they exist- and the businesses that are supposed to take care of them don't. Pat's has cigarette butts all over because they use it as outdoor dining, and Shadescapes, despite numerous promises, keeps a weed patch that isn't maintained.

Keeping them maintained!

Hotchkiss already has pocket parks and they are basically neglected.

Clean them up, make them known that they're really available to the public to use

Both downtown publicly owned pocket parks have issues. The Littlefield park just needs a plan for regular maintenance and repair to existing infrastructure like the benches and tables. The Bernie-Fair had a good start but then planters were removed due to no watering infrastructure or plan for maintenance. Leaf entrance structure could be better used for visitor information and needs maintenance as well. Town seems to have no interest to improvement.

Any enhancements need to be low maintenance



Other

Leave it alone and fix the roads first

You don't have room, and putting in these things only clutter or restrict exits for emergencies and not thought out. The downtown area is small and restrictive, you cannot be ADA complaint or shut off business entrances and exits, you will loses business and potentially create an area that may cause people to be a death trap.

No one wants to go to parks because there's no reason to go to Hotchkiss because half the businesses are empty.

Overall, people appreciate the current pocket parks located in the downtown core, but hope to see them better utilized and maintained. Additional amenities could help to better activate these spaces and bring more people in as well as provide space for events and gatherings in the downtown core.

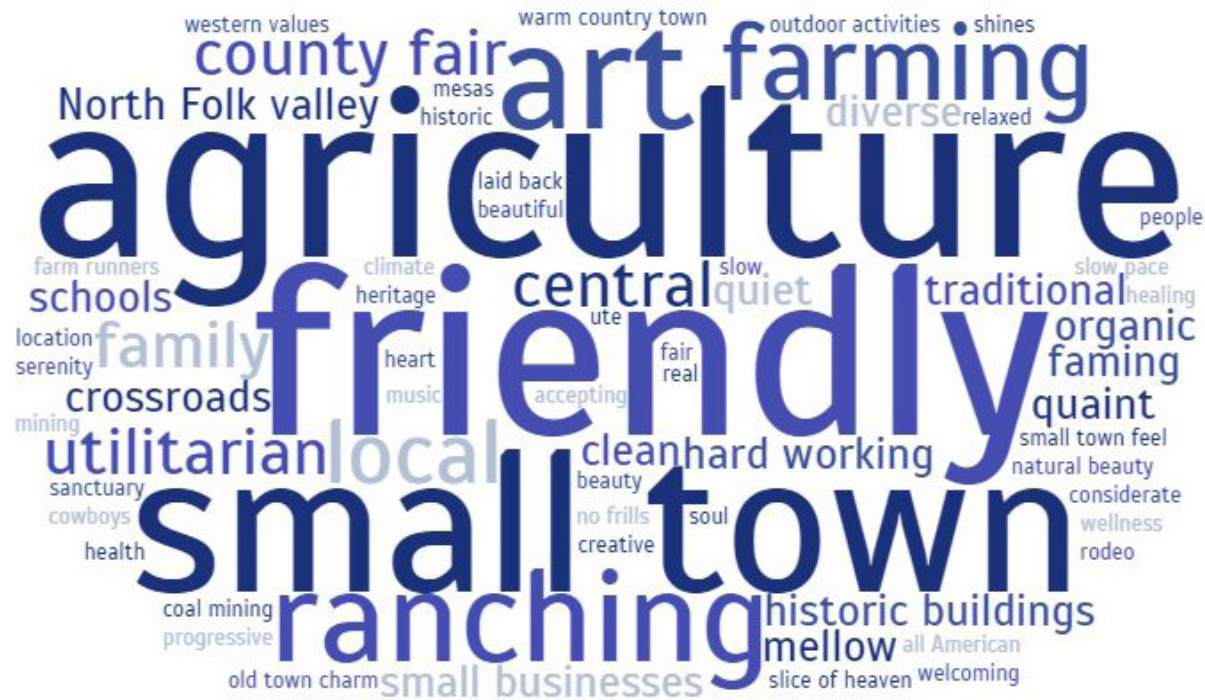
ACTIVATING DOWNTOWN

Q16: Where are some spaces along Bridge Street that would be good for placemaking?



| Location | # of Recommendations |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------|
| Next to coyote/drive in/drive thru | 24 |
| Next to Creamery/by dancing elephants | 12 |
| Empty Parking lots/building spaces | 5 |
| Next to Pat's | 5 |
| Old gas station | 3 |
| Near Coaltrain Coffee | 3 |
| Near museum | 3 |
| Next to hardware store | 2 |
| Old town maintenance building | 2 |
| Lots at HWY 92 and HYW 133 | 2 |
| Current farmer's market location | 2 |
| Across from Elk's | 1 |
| Near Schools | 1 |
| In front of City Market | 1 |

Q17: What makes Hotchkiss Special? What is the heart and soul of your community?



History



Small Size



Community



Local Businesses



Natural Beauty



Agriculture



ACTIVATING DOWNTOWN



History

Historic, small

Its lovely history and heritage

The history of the North Fork Valley makes Hotchkiss special. The people are the heart and soul.

Historic, all American type town.

History

History

It's my home. It's History. The people.

Old town charm

history

It's a quaint main street and shouldn't be overdone with too many new improvements to overpower its history and quietness.

It is one of the few remaining towns in the area that retains much of its historical western residents and sense of continuing community.

The fact that it is old and traditional

Tednecks and cowboys.

The county fair, historic buildings and agriculture. We aren't a modern community or big city. Ag is big here and parking and access to businesses and making the sidewalks enjoyable to walk down.

Local character and history, agriculture and art

Historic



Small Size

I like that Hotchkiss is not Hip. It's quiet and mellow. If there's a way to make it inviting and interesting without making it "fancy" or flashy.

That it isn't like other small towns... it's quaint. Please don't turn it into Carbondale.

It's a great warm country town. Do not change it to a loud colored city

Friendly, small town atmosphere.

small town, not fancy...we don't need fancy decorations here.

It's small enough to know the neighbors.

It's size, which I like.

small town feel continues through the ups and downs of economy. basically is friendliest town around.

Small town vibe. Community oriented

Small town atmosphere. It is where I grew up and returned later in my working life. Having a hometown is hard to beat. I would like to see the small town feel remain but with a few up-dates.

We really are the crossroads of the North Fork Valley. Having a centrally located post office and bank and arts center that one can walk to from any area of town is special and key to the feel of our small mountain town. We are laid back and relaxed.

ACTIVATING DOWNTOWN



Community

I like that Hotchkiss feels like a mellow mixture of western Colorado people. Hotchkiss is utilitarian in that City Market, the Annex, The Creamery, the pool, the bike trails, etc but it's not as big as Delta or as hipster/expensive as Paonia but bigger than Crawford. It's a central location to the county while maintaining a small town feel. And not The residents seem more varied in age than Cedaredge.

The heart and soul of the Hotchkiss community is the people. Highlighting the friendliest town around is a start. What makes it inviting? Aesthetics are a start but also a need for businesses on Bridge street that invite people in to visit, that invite people to learn about the people that make it that Friendliest town around.

Location where people of different walks of life can come together to collaborate. Ranching history. Ute history. Creatives. Common goal is community.
that most folks know each other

Its people. Need places and reasons for locals to gather.

Our schools, children, families, which speaks to the need of a teen activity center. Many teens are traveling to Montrose to bowl!

Downtown can be a nice place to bump into locals - but could be much better at providing such opportunities. I'll be honest that the "Friendliest Town Around" tag can be a liability when people's expectations are not met. I hear about this repeatedly. I think Hotchkiss is generally friendly, but I think the tag was not well considered. I'm sure we would feel friendlier if we had more places to be out and visit with one another (downtown improvement can be a big plus for this). Paonia has a much better developed pedestrian culture, however, there is so much polarization there that it can be offputting. Hotchkiss shines here. I think as a Town we are pretty centrist and generally accepting. Hippies and cowboys mingle without much obvious acrimony... so, we may not have the more well-developed public space (yet), but our social bones are better than our neighbors. I think (always my personal mission) that so long as a town's institutions (Town government, Chamber, civic organizations) remain inclusive and attempt to represent the spectrum of the community, you end up with a better place to live. Hotchkiss is pretty centrist and I hope it always stays that way.

The people. The beautiful climate and location. The people.

Friendly people

The friendly people and views

Welcoming & Considerate of all visitors.

Farmers and ranchers our crop businesses friendly people keeping true to us we are not Boulder or California and art is not everything we don't highlight our outlying businesses ELAË™S, LEROUX CREEK FOODS, PRINCESS BEEF just to name a few.

The people, agriculture, the history, the mesas.

People are friendly but do not want large scale changes from what we now have or had in the past.

I grew up there. Friendly people. More people are coming in and taking away the historical context

Hotchkiss is special because of it's small knit community, the heart and soul is the kids and ag.

The people and it's history. Right now, it's merely a place you have to slow down to go through. It has much potential and could be a destination with festivals, farmer's markets and craft fairs, as well as events showcasing the products unique to the NF Valley.

Paonia has Harvest festival and the wine events, as well as Cherry days, there's no reason that dates note competing or that are complementary couldn't be hosted and more business and traffic be brought to Hotchkiss. The Sheepdog trails are a great example but it needs much more promotion from the Chamber and the town itself.

Friendly. Community. Small town atmosphere.

the people

That, mostly, we are friendly town.

Hotchkiss has always had a welcoming and friendly feel to it. Small businesses contribute to the feel of â€œhomeâ€, corporate enterprises, even tho they employ local people, seem to diminish the heart and soul of the community feeling.
coming together

It is a nice small community but there really isn't any heart and soul downtown.

The small town charm, with progressive people who want to improve it without losing the intimate small community.

It is where the community comes. It is not a down town for tourist. Lets build it for the community to use. Kids to sit in parklets after school. Think locals not tourist.

ACTIVATING DOWNTOWN



Local Businesses

Great businesses that need cohesiveness.... also include businesses around the corner... Yoga Tree, Wellspring Vitality, Laundromat, Farm Runners. These should be considered a part of the Main Street. Lots of wellness/medical offerings for such a small town. Why not play Hotchkiss up and a healing destination and develop space for that purpose... CBD store, natural practitioners, working together on retreats, etc. Bringing in health & wellness tourism.

It's the center of the north fork. It's Fair and Rodeo!

The local businesses that are still alive

Unsure. The Creamery and potential park associated with the building.

Not much honestly. Farm Runners, Ace, City Market. The fairgrounds are nice and the new water access is nice. Pocket parks could be a game changer. More thriving businesses.

there is no heart and soul of hotchkiss we our a working community. We need businesses that are useful

Hotchkiss used to be known for its antique shops and cute downtown area. It's what drew us here to begin with. Unfortunately, the downtown area has dried up. No more antiques or boutique shops like The Rose or The Trout Shop. I love the quiet of Hotchkiss, but would prefer more activities to do downtown so I don't have to go to outlying towns.



Natural Beauty

Access to a variety of outdoor activities.

The North Fork river and boat ramp. A river park would be nice. A bike trail to Paonia. Play up the clean air, clean water, organic food (and keep them available).

The surrounding natural beauty - make Hotchkiss a gateway to that were people want to rest and resupply before and/or after those experiences. Also agriculture.

Nothing much... I see Hotchkiss as a crossroads. It is unpretentious. It's real, it's utilitarian.. The river is really the special part of Hotchkiss. I want to see an investment in the river front - park, trail, bridge. Also I would love to see more way-finding to help people ride bikes/scenic drives. The scenery around the community on the Mesas and out toward Crawford is really what draws people here... not the down town

The beaty and sanctuary/serenity of this little slice of heaven.

ACTIVATING DOWNTOWN



Agriculture

Agriculture, our schools, and sense of family of a small community. We need to use our resources to be sustainable without trying to depend on tourism

farmers and ranchers and coal miners. Western values slower pace, no frills.

It is a farming community thats special in its own

Agriculture, Art, Frontier

Farming and ranching

Organic farms and art

Community- agriculture, sports, family

Ace hardware is a key aspect of downtown Hotchkiss. They provide essential supplies for the area and have a great staff and the store is a pleasure to shop in. Farm Runners adds a really nice component that has been missing promoting local agriculture. Hotchkiss is nice in part because it is more utilitarian and practical, it is a small town and doesn't come across as trying to be a tourist stop, just a place for locals to get the basics. I like that there are minimal chain stores.

The mix of arts and agriculture.

Agriculture

Farming, local produce and animal products, local wineries, and Delta County Fair.

Farming, agriculture, county fair

Farming & Agriculture

Agriculture

Agriculture/ranching. The community is pretty dispersed but everyone has to come to town to shop and do business. Main Street in paonia is much more social and welcoming than hotchkiss.

Friendliness and agriculture

Hotchkiss is special as a cow town, agricultural, Gold medal fishing rivers and hunting.



Other

Just how it is, so leave it alone

artistic quality

Again... A Rest, Relax and Rejuvenation Situation.

It has stayed true to it's roots

Honestly, I feel like over the last decade or so since the mining industry has suffered so much, we have lost our heat and soul. Not it is just a place we have to go when we need to do things like get mail, go to the bank, or buy some hardware.

Arts and music

Nothing really. It falling behind on everything that has to do with tourism.

The museum that is never open, the old buildings. Charm that is no longer here.

Honestly, Hotchkiss is depressing. The buildings don't look visually appealing, the town turns into a ghost town after 5pm. It would be great to highlight the small town cars this area could have. I would like to see something more modern than country and farmer.

traditional, friendly, yet artsy -- these CAN co-exist without getting pretentious or reactionary

It's old and run down. The streets are narrow and carry too much traffic. There is too many hidden areas and drivers cannot see possible dangers entering into the crosswalks or delivery trucks blocking the streets making deliveries. Art and colored lines will onl cause further problems. If you want a better environment that invites and is safe, look at making the buildings and business set back and open up spaces. Look at the Bank of Colorado and how it opens up the area, and yet it is prettier and safer for pedestrians and the traffic.

It is normal, not trying to change everything