

News



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**Cobb Galleria Parkway Vision**

Under the Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC), Cobb Galleria Parkway is the first planned installation of a Liveable Communities Initiative (LCI) funded streetscape for the Cumberland CID "Blueprint" area. It is the main drive to the future Cobb Performing Arts Center and a core component in Blueprint Cumberland. In keeping with the Cumberland CID's vision, Cobb Galleria Parkway will act as the "front door" to this arts, entertainment, business, and residential district. jB+a has designed a streetscape that addresses the needs of future growth for both pedestrians and vehicles, and includes a multi-use walk that will tie to the proposed Cobb County trail system. Pedestrian and boulevard lighting brighten the neighborhood and provide a safe night environment for entertainment visitors. The added shade and ornamental trees provide a lively enhanced streetscape under the LCI program.



Perimeter Center West Visualization

**Streetscape for Perimeter Area**

In the Perimeter Center Improvement Districts, the major street connecting Mt. Vernon Highway and Ashford Dunwoody Road is Perimeter Center West. Located in both Fulton and DeKalb Counties, it serves many major shopping areas, Perimeter Mall, offices, restaurants and 2 MARTA stations; but the street was lacking in pedestrian connections and amenities. Working with the existing conditions, jB+a, provided hardscape and landscape designs for the improved streetscape. These enhancements included landscape, pedestrian lighting, street furniture, special paving and intersection plazas. Digital photographic 2-D visualization graphics illustrate how well the future improvements compliment the established Perimeter corridor.

**Livable Center Initiatives**

- This Issue:
- Cobb Galleria Pkwy.
  - Perimeter Ctr. West
  - LCI Studies
  - Hapeville
  - TE Funds
    - Ball Ground
    - Norcross
    - Blue Ridge
    - Locust Grove
    - Sharpsburg
    - Franklin

**Town Center "SuPurb"**

Northwest of Atlanta, Town Center Mall is the central hub for the thriving and growing "SuPurb" district of Cobb County. The future development of a major live, work and play community were the idea cornerstone for the Town Center SuPurb LCI Study and Action Plan. The plan developed a Road Map "to build an exciting area, rich in residential, employment, and entertainment opportunities." As urban designers and landscape architects, jB+a focused on streetscape design and pedestrian enhancements in the area.



**Holly Springs, Georgia**

The historic downtown was the central community focus of the Holly Springs LCI Study in Cherokee County. A series of public meetings and workshops helped the planners develop a community tool for future growth and fund raising. The jB+a designers expressed their ideas in 2-D visualizations, streetscape furniture standards, plant palettes and cost estimates. This early design work will become the foundation for expanded streetscape projects and continued community growth.



On the boards.



### LCI Implementation in Hapeville

Virginia Avenue is the gateway to the City of Hapeville and connects downtown Hapeville to Interstate 85 and East Point. This LCI funded streetscape is also the front door to Delta Airlines and the Airport Hilton Hotel. The streetscape design incorporates Hapeville's rich history, community identity, and sense of place. The gateway welcomes visitors to the City and introduces people to Hapeville. The 8' sidewalk creates a visual railroad rhythm that is reinforced with the street trees, pedestrian lights and furniture. At the intersections special sidewalk enhancements mark historical moments in Hapeville's transportation history.

### Transportation Enhancement Funds Provide Pedestrian Improvements

**Ball Ground**

The renovation of historic downtown Ball Ground is anticipated to begin the revitalization of this community. Located on SR 372 in the growing northern suburbs of Atlanta, Ball Ground plans a new City Hall. The streetscape improvements will provide the beginning of pedestrian links between City Hall, parks, new library, schools, downtown retail and residential neighborhoods.

**Norcross**

Combining the TE and LCI Grants, Norcross expects to install streetscapes, sidewalks and plazas to create a more pedestrian-oriented community. Building on a wonderful historic downtown the new projects link existing and future development with the government center and the downtown area. The goal is to create an improved pedestrian and bicycle community.

**Blue Ridge**

This north Georgia mountain town attracts thousands of tourists to its narrow streets, unique shops, and the Blue ridge Scenic Railway. The TE funds will create an accessible downtown pedestrian boulevard along both sides of East Main Street. Intersections crosswalks will be enhanced and streetscape elements such as lighting, paving and lush plantings will be provided.

**Locust Grove**

On State Route Route 42 these TE funds will be used to improve the central business district streetscape and the pedestrian experience in Locust Grove. Improved lighting and new sidewalks will connect businesses to parking and public facilities. A visioning plan highlights walks, downtown parks and historic elements. Final landscaping will include a mix of flowering trees and shade trees.

**Franklin**

The Heard County Development Authority provided matching funds to use the TE Grant. Reviving the town circle and adding streetscape enhancements were the central themes for these downtown renovations. The town circle uniquely combines a veteran's memorial with a large gazebo and public open space. New crosswalks and adjacent streetscape are planned for pedestrian access.

**Sharpsburg**

The TE funds will build new sidewalks and streetscape on main street. The main town intersection will be enhanced with crosswalks and handicap ramps for pedestrian safety. Traffic calming techniques will slow vehicular traffic on the main street. Protection of existing oak trees and the adding of additional trees and accent planting will complete the enhancements.

jB+a News

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#### New Name, New Location

In order to expand and meet the needs of our clients, we have moved to a larger office space and are now in the Cobb Galleria Office Complex. In addition, we have shortened our name from Jon Benson + associates, inc. to jB+a, inc. We are still the same great company with the same great people and hope to serve you in the near future. If there is ever anything we can help you with, please let us know!