

Mifflin Plaza – January 30, 2025 Public Meeting Summary

[Meeting video](#) and [presentation slides](#)

Meeting participants: approximately 45

This summary highlights the most common themes in public comments and perspectives shared at the meeting and in online response forms. Similarly, quoted responses are a sample of what was discussed. This document is not intended to convey every comment made.

What are your goals for the space?

- People-focused
- Comfortable, welcoming and inviting
- Safe
- Sense of place and identity
- Flexible
- Active, lively and well-utilized
- Peaceful

“The space should be safe, comfortable and well utilized for pedestrians passing through and for people who are spending time in the space.”

“Lively public space! Lots of foot traffic, very limited vehicle use. No parking”

Who should be coming to Mifflin Plaza that isn't there now? How do we attract those people?

- The space is generally underutilized
- Create a space for all identities
- Create a more welcoming space
- More events would attract people

“No one is using Mifflin Plaza. In its current form it is unusable. It is just an expanse of pavement. It needs to be inviting to all users, families, visitors, lunch time users.”

What would bring you to the plazas and keep you there?

- Seating
- Café spaces, food, food carts, etc.
- Areas of shade (and sun)
- Music/events (and seating for attendees)
- Car-free space
- Trees and landscaping
- More business use of the space
- Art

“Food and drink, tables and chairs to eat at in a small group, a mixture of shade and sun for different times of year, individual seating and wifi where I can work outside in the nice weather, dances, art performances, book and poetry readings or book clubs, museum events/ learning opportunities, a pop up night time wine and beer spot with a Capitol view would be great.”

“I've been to so many performances there that are really poorly attended, because people walk by, are interested, but there is space for only about four people on the ledge by the garbage bin, and everyone else has to sit on the ground.”

What design features seem most important to include?

- Trees, landscaping and greenspace
- Seating – public and café seating
- Lighting
- Event space

“Lighting is a very important feature for safety and comfort in the space at night. While of course there are street lights there currently, it still feels dark and uninviting.”

“Comfortable seating, with back support. A mix of sun and shade, because depending on the temperature, one of those would be preferable. Lots of greenery, at all levels. Grass, flowers, living green walls, and of course trees.”

Do you support removing the roadways and parking (while still allowing limited vehicular access)?

- Participants supported removing the roadways and parking, but having limited vehicular access including deliveries and refuse collection

“Pedestrianizing these streets would do a lot to accomplish these goals on its own. Closing the street to cars is the most important design feature that could be included to improving the space.”

Other thoughts and general comments:

- Understanding uses and users of the space is important
- Iconic location at top of State Street and Capitol Square
- Get more “fronts” on the space
- Consider the history of spaces and think about storytelling
- Highlight what is unique about the space
- Coordinate programming with BID, library, Overture and museums
- Maintaining bike access is important
- Think about refuse collection for businesses and residents
- Café spaces are nice, but there needs to be public spaces too
- Consider different abilities – “escaping” from larger events to a quiet spot can be important
- No public restrooms nearby