

Meeting Notes

San Carlos Downtown Advisory Committee (DTAC)

Date: March 26, 2025

Agenda: Policy Area Discussion

Key Discussion Areas

1. Design Standards

1. It was confirmed that the downtown plan will include design standards.
2. It was emphasized that awning standards contribute to a cleaner and more visually appealing environment.
3. It was agreed that design standards should include:
 - Materials
 - Plantings
 - Airflow
 - Accessibility

2. Urban Design & Streetscape

1. It was noted that the 700 block provides more pedestrian space compared to the 800 block.
2. Concerns were raised regarding San Carlos Avenue, where a travel lane has been removed.
3. A Class IV buffer was discussed for the intersection of San Carlos Avenue and El Camino Real (ECR).

Additional Feedback & Questions

1. Sustainable & Climate-Responsive Design
 - Integration of shade structures and planters was supported.
2. Maintenance Responsibility
 - It was questioned whether a maintenance agreement should be required to ensure the upkeep of new elements.
3. Awning Concerns
 - Questions were raised about whether drop loops might hinder pedestrian movement.

- Concerns were expressed regarding the possibility that fully enclosed awnings could create spatial restrictions.

Traffic Flow

- Clarification requested on whether two traffic lanes will remain on the 600 and 800 blocks.