

Burnsville SmART Initiative



- Oldest Town Square in State
- Home to one of 30 International Dark Sky Parks, which will house largest public telescope in Southeast
- Eighteen mountain ranges over 6,300 feet including Mount Mitchell, the tallest peak east of the Mississippi.
- 58 glass artists live in the Burnsville area with population of 1,700

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BmkEdt9ZGtg>



Your Community-Minded Newspaper

YANCEY COMMON TIMES JOURNAL

Volume 22, Number 30 Wednesday, July 23, 2014

Burnsville, North Carolina 50¢

Burnsville/TRAC SmART Initiative begins

At the forefront of the plan that Mackie will develop with the community and local artists are three new gateways that tie the new four-lane highway in with Burnsville. Rather than the road becoming a bypass, it will become another town street that flows into town, Mackie said. "Enhancements along the road and inviting entrances on the east and west ends and at South Main will help move traffic through Burnsville rather than away from the center of town".



Jamie McMahan, Yancey County Planner; Chris Beacham, Creative Economics Senior Director with N.C. Arts Council; Wanda Proffitt, Yancey EDC director; Mayor Theresa Coletta; David Quinn, SmART grant facilitator and downtown revitalization specialist; Jeff Lackey, DOT landscape architect; Denise Dickens, Town of Cary Public Arts coordinator; Doug McNeal, DOT Division Operations Engineer.



Your Community-Minded Newspaper

YANCEY COMMON TIMES JOURNAL

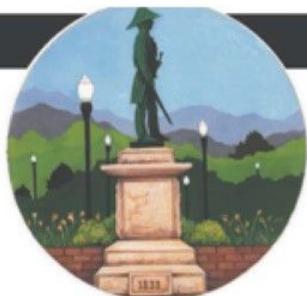
Volume 22, Number 51 Wednesday, December 24, 2014

Burnsville, North Carolina 50¢

Burnsville is model for SmART Public Art to enhance town for economic development



During an open house the public got a look at the draft plan for the SmART Public Art collaboration between the town, Toe River Arts Council and DOT. Mayor Theresa Coletta (in red) talks with Nancy Trovillion, Deputy Director of the NC Arts Council. *Photo by Jody Higgins*



Your Community-Minded Newspaper

YANCEY COMMON TIMES JOURNAL

Volume 22, Number 51 Wednesday, December 24, 2014

Burnsville, North Carolina 50¢



State officials and project consultants meet with town council, the town's plan-commission and public arts board, and town staff at meeting last Thursday morning to review a draft of the public art plan prior to a public meeting. (December 18, 2014)

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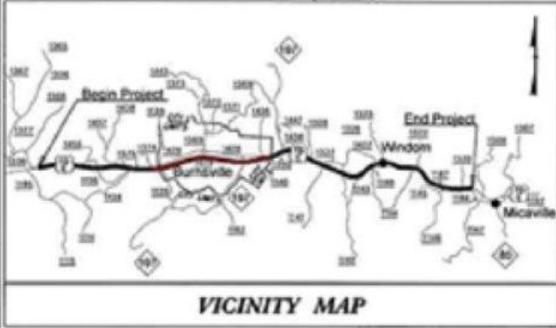
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STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS

YANCEY COUNTY

TOWN of BURNSVILLE

Highway 19-E Art Program



Prepared for the Town of Burnsville in collaboration with the Toe
River Arts Council, NCDOT, & North Carolina Arts Council by:
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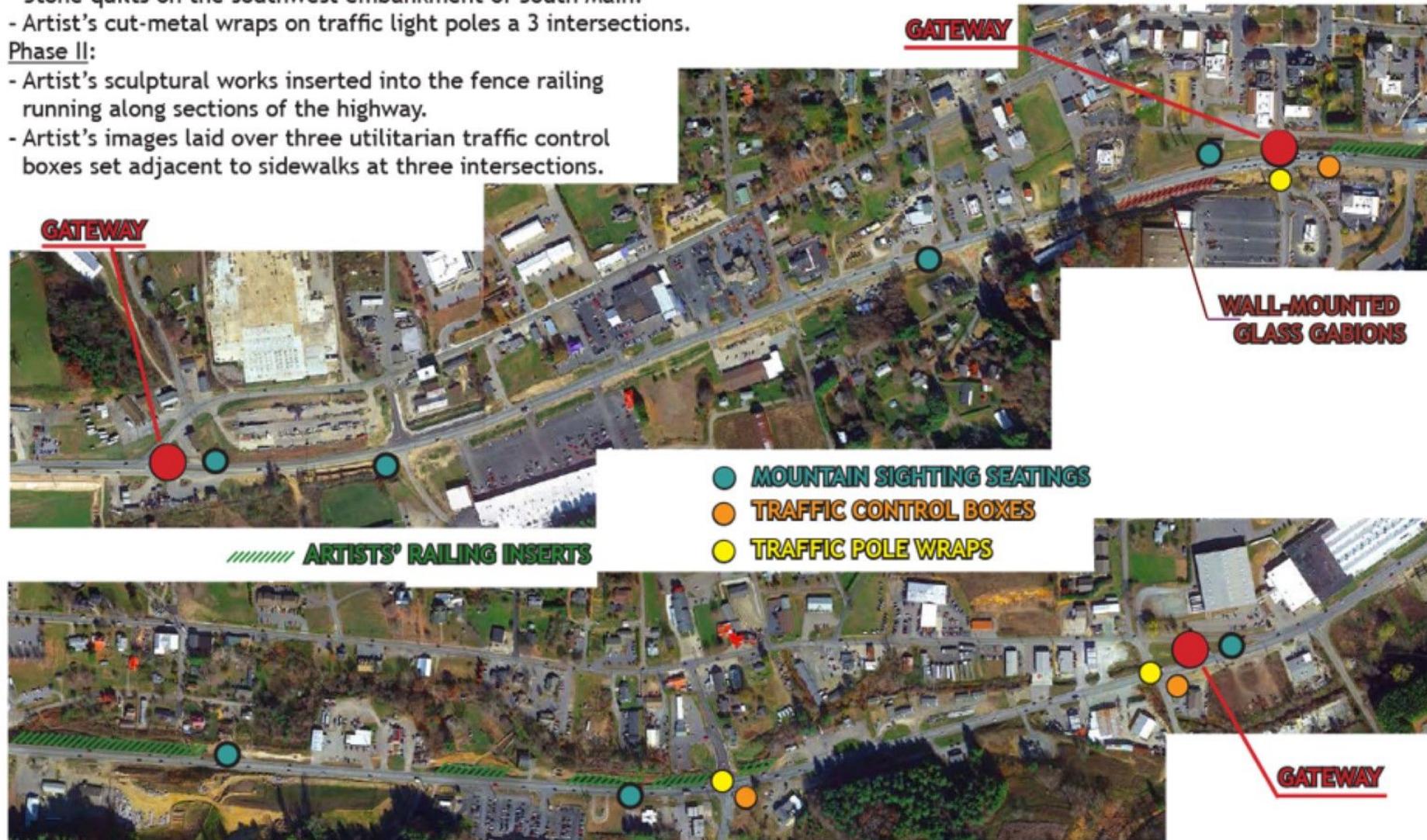
HIGHWAY 19-E PUBLIC ART ELEMENTS

Phase I:

- *Telescope Markers* at the intersections of Highway 19E at East Main and West Main Streets.
- Lighted glass gabions running through the landscape.
- Large native stone sculptures shaped into individual and group seatings bearing the names, height, and distance from Burnsville of nearby high mountains and the highest mountain of each of the 7 continents, their height, and distance.
- Wall-mounted glass gabions on the retaining wall at South Main.
- Stone quilts on the southwest embankment of South Main.
- Artist's cut-metal wraps on traffic light poles at 3 intersections.

Phase II:

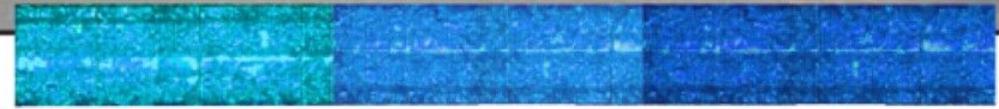
- Artist's sculptural works inserted into the fence railing running along sections of the highway.
- Artist's images laid over three utilitarian traffic control boxes set adjacent to sidewalks at three intersections.



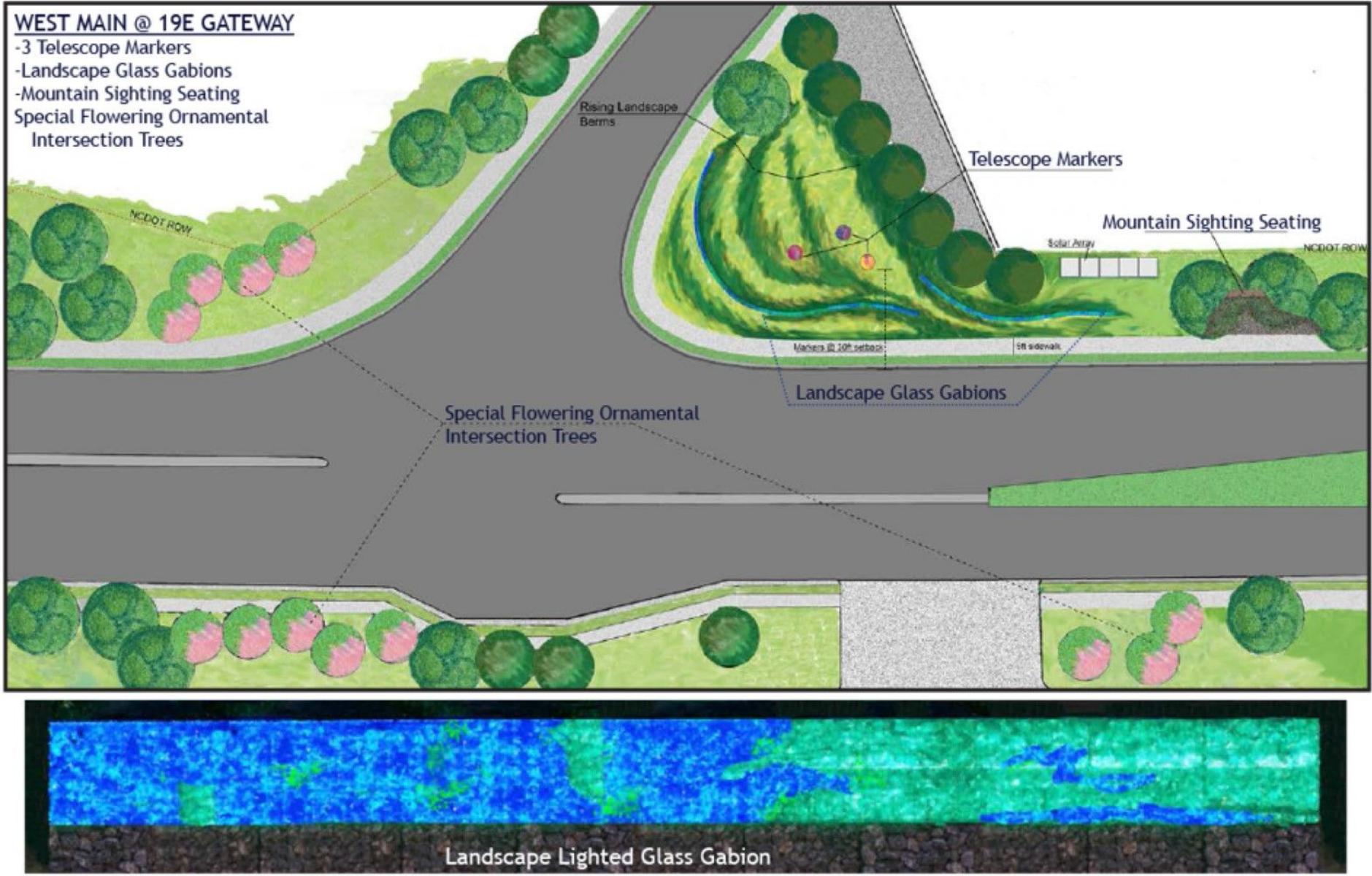




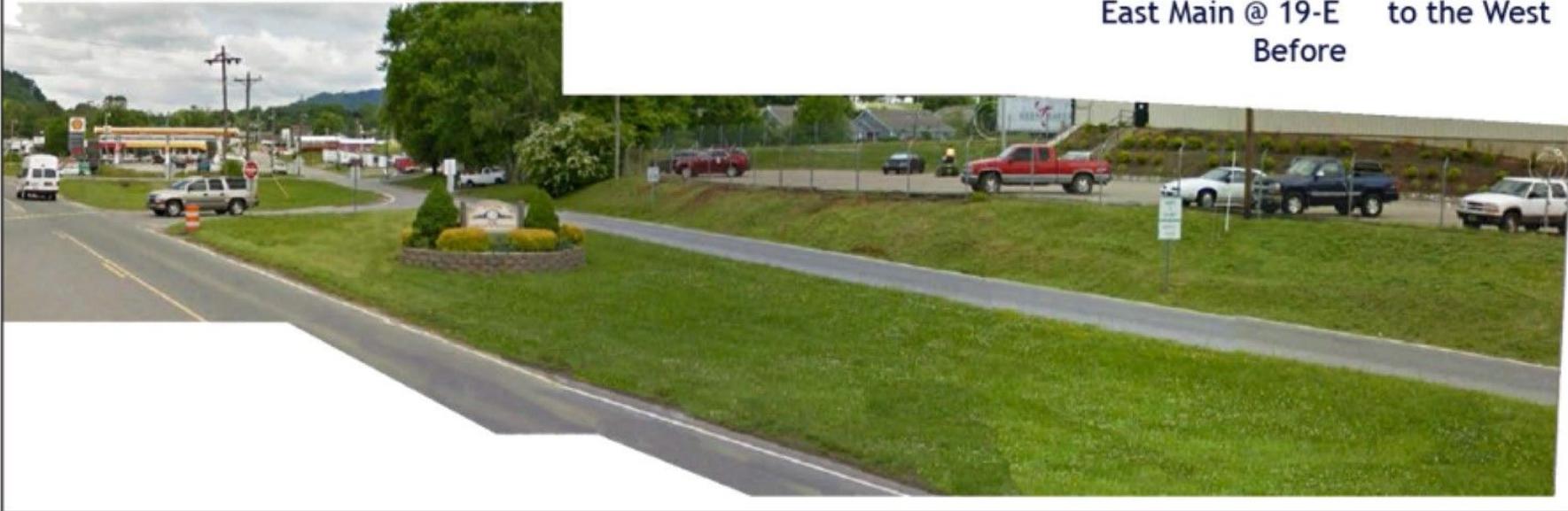
West Main @ 19-E
After



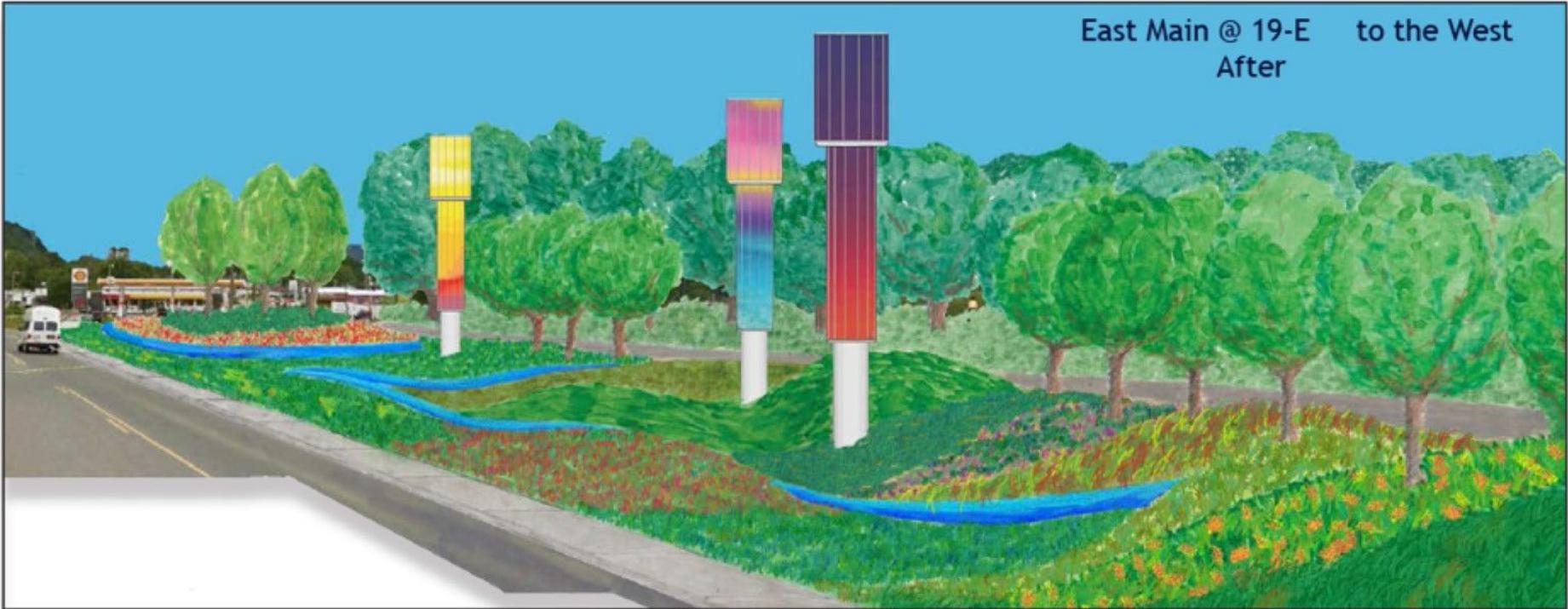
West Main Scope Marker colors drawn from *Appalachian sunsets*
East Main Scope Marker colors drawn from *Appalachian sunrises*
Glass Gabion colors drawn from *Appalachian streams*

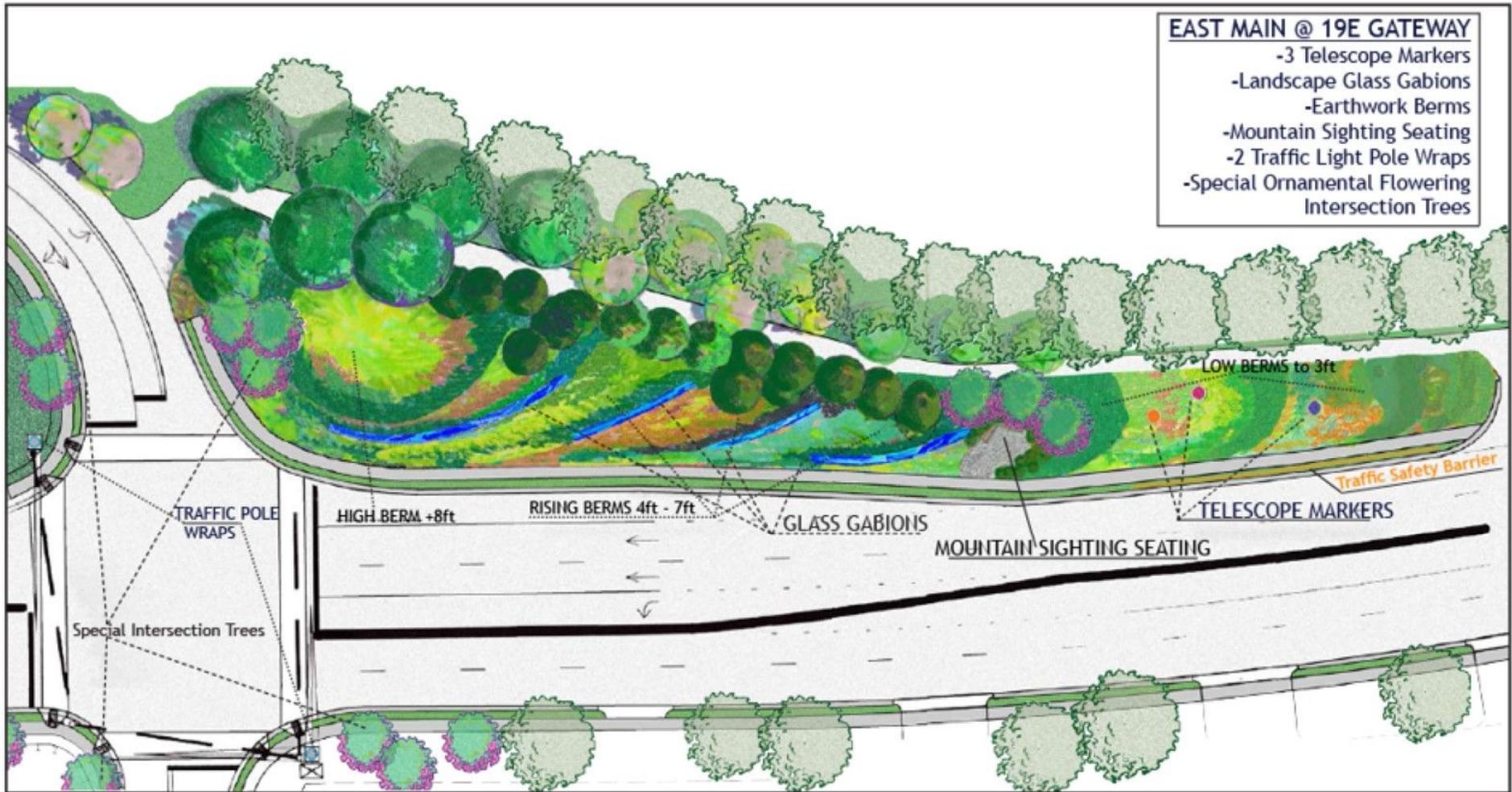


East Main @ 19-E to the West
Before



East Main @ 19-E to the West
After





SOUTH MAIN @ 19E GATEWAY

- Landscape Glass Gabions
- Stone Quilts
- Retaining Wall Glass Gabion Columns
- 4 Traffic Pole Wraps
- Mountain Sighting Seating
- Special Flowering Ornamental Intersection Trees

--- Approximate DOT ROW



South Main Gateway

At this location, the center-point of the Burnsville Scenic By-way, the Gateway takes a different expression and is unlike the East and West Gateways. Here the numerous signs, power and traffic light poles, the large sloping hillside, and "Great Wall" require a combination of ideas to form a whole.

30' X 30' Stone Quilts



Lighted Glass Gabions across wall face

The artistic and landscape elements making this a Gateway include large quilts made with carefully selected and placed native stone, lighted glass gabion columns built onto the south-side retaining wall, flowering and/or fall color vines set between the columns, running landscape gabions on the north side of 19E, and indigenous trees, grasses, and plantings completing this Gateway.

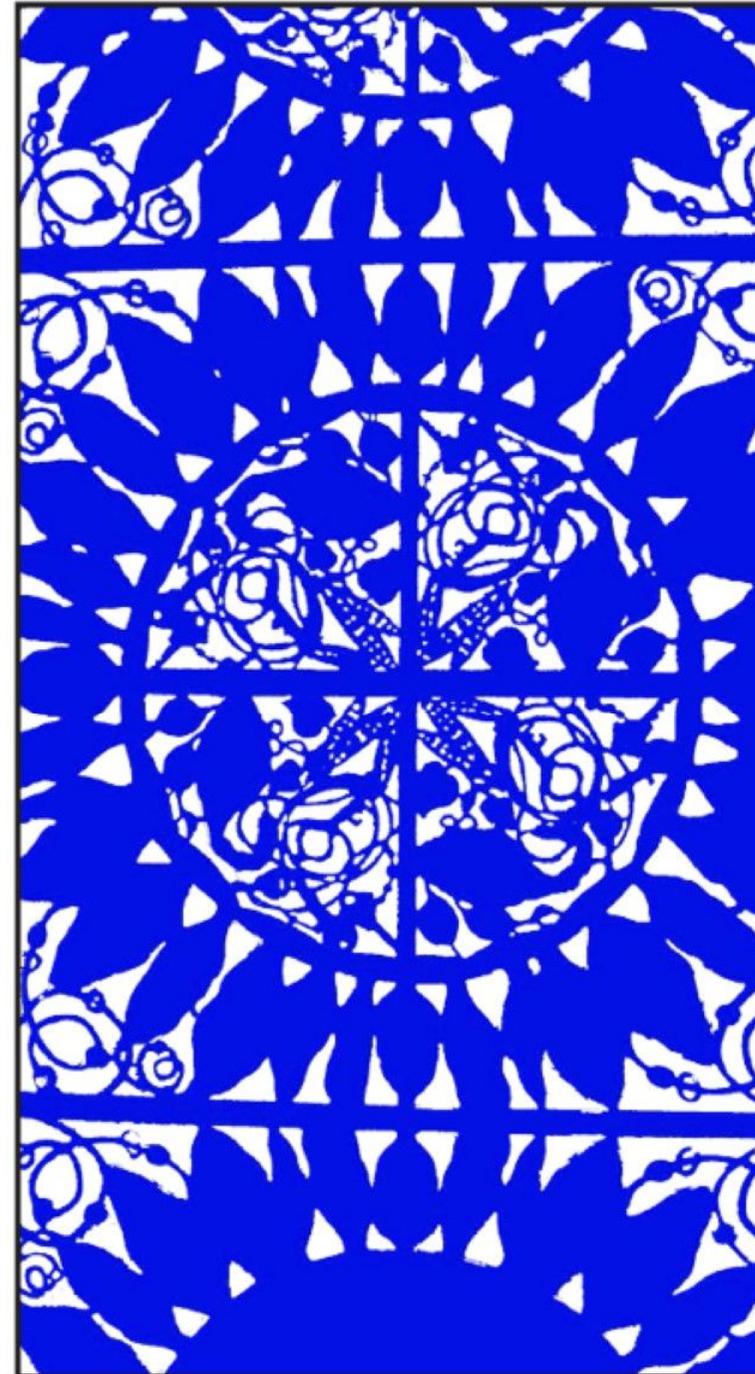




TRAFFIC LIGHT POLE WRAPS

Improvements on Burnsville 19-E include new traffic control lights at three intersection - South Main, Pensacola Road, and East Main. Each intersection will have four silver galvanized poles located on each of the four corners with traffic lights on over-road extended arms and WALK - DON'T WALK signals.

As a part of the *Endless Gate* sequencing, a regional artist will be commissioned to create "Pole Wraps," sleeves made from panels of light-weight steel. These steel sheets will be water-jet or laser-cut to reveal artist-designed images or patterns drawn from the vast array of flora and fauna in the mountains surrounding Burnsville - the patterns of wind rushing across an open field, images derived from the intricate design of native plant seed pods, the fine texture seen in the antennae of a Luna moth, the water running in the Toe. The artist's panels are then rolled to match the pole circumference, painted or powder-coated per the artist's specification, and mounted to the base of the traffic light pole. These poles can be installed as stand-alone artworks with three placed on South Main between 19E and the Town Square.

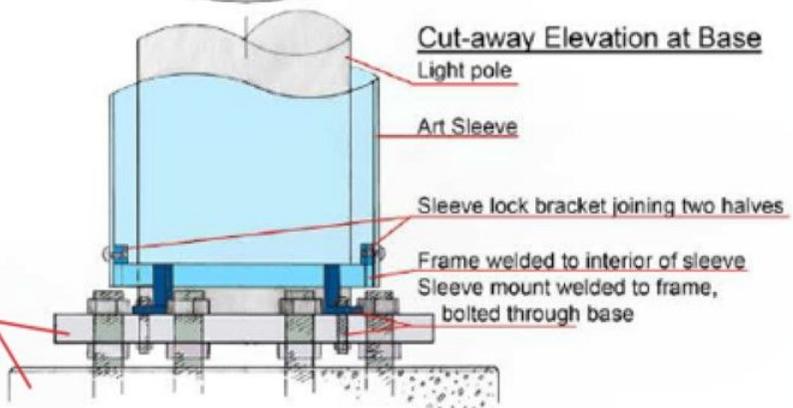
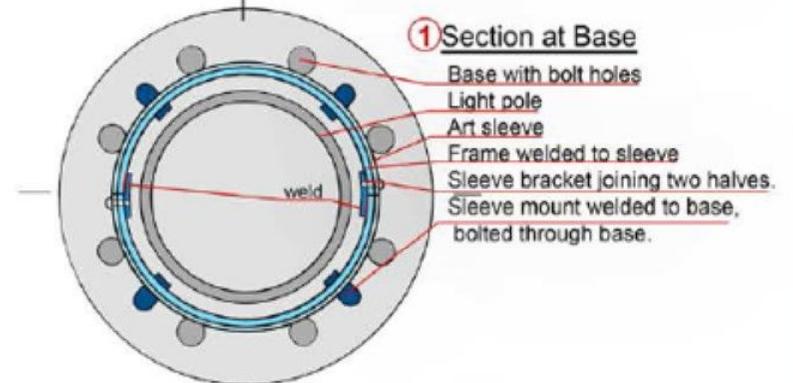
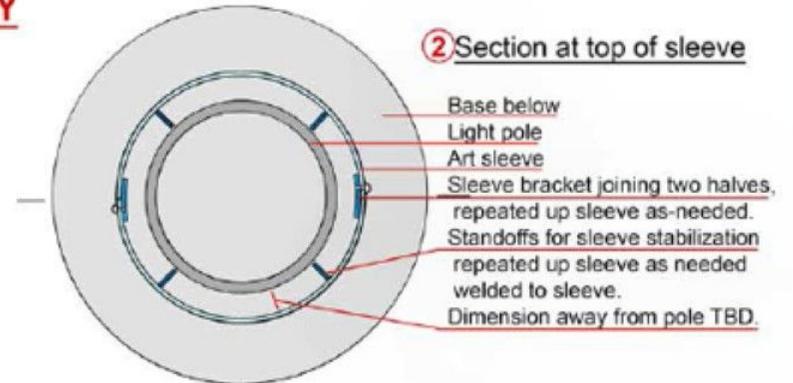
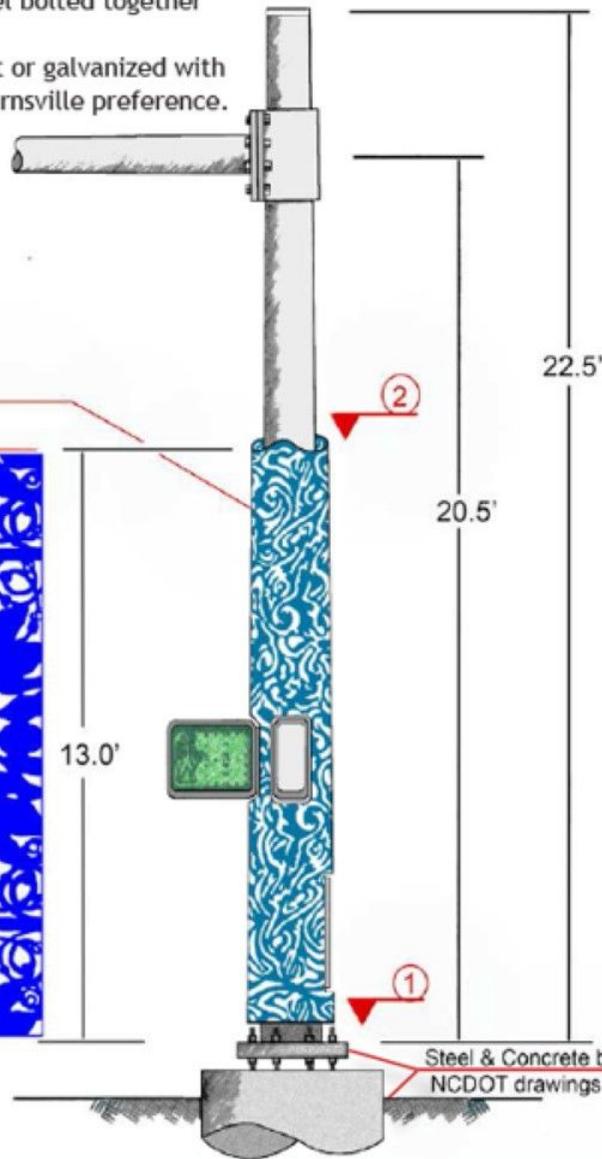


Burnsville NCDOT Light Pole Sleeves

Two pieces - 3/16" mild steel bolted together around pole.
 Waterjet cut or powder-coat or galvanized with enamel paint per NCDOT/Burnsville preference.

CONCEPT STUDY

Light Pole Art Sleeve
 images shown as examples only



Steel & Concrete base per NCDOT drawings

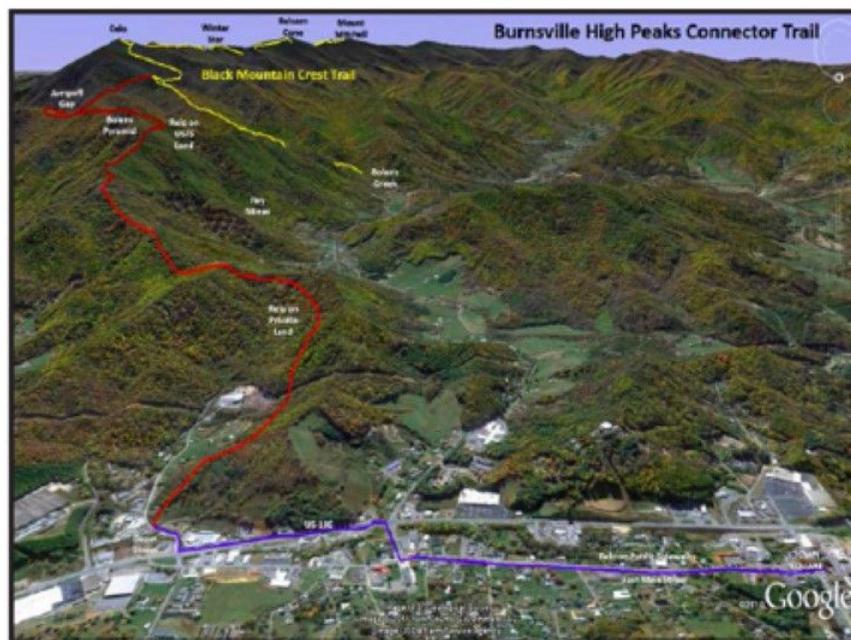
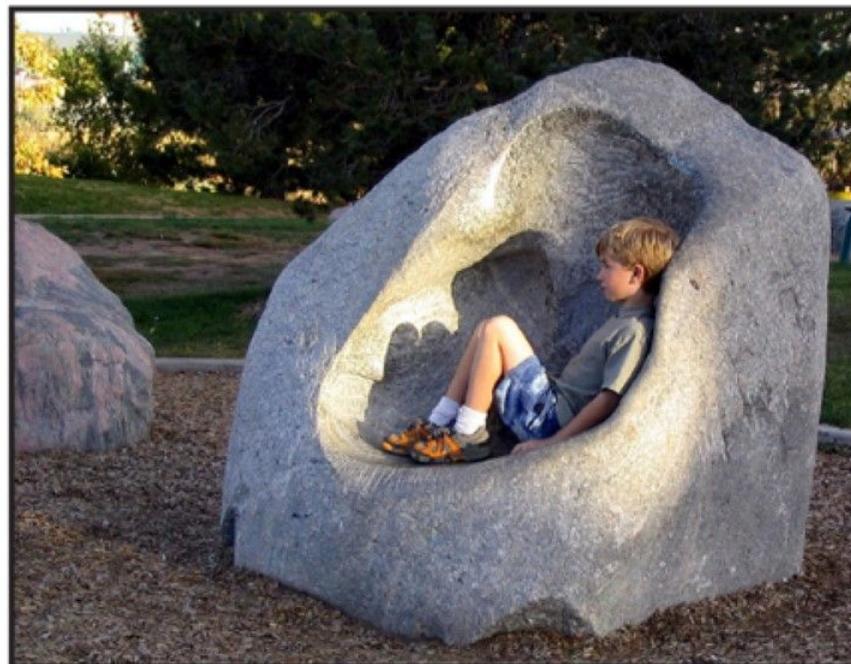
MOUNTAIN SIGHTING SEATINGS

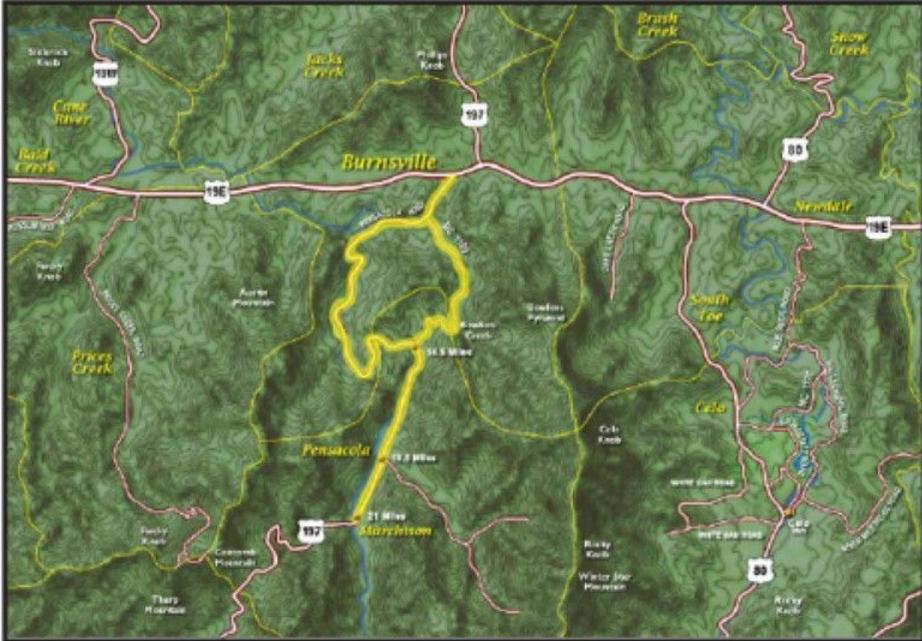
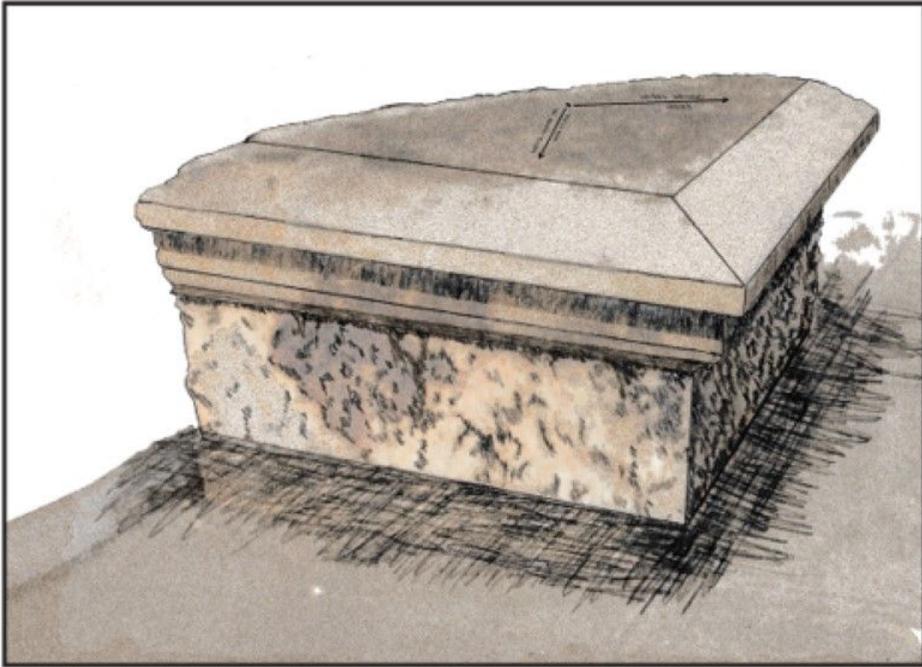
Healthy Yancey has designated the Town Square as the heart and starting point of their regional Walking Trails. From the Square, walkers will take mapped short walks, long walks, short day hikes, and longer hikes that will take a hiker to the Mt. Mitchell and beyond. Many of these trails make use of the new sidewalks along Highway 19-E where new landscaping will provide summer shade.

To further support walkers and hikers, artists will be commissioned to create carved stone benches as resting points along the walks. These benches could all be made by one artist or the Town can engage a number of regional artists to sculpt the benches. The only bench prerequisite is that they provide comfortable seating for two people and carry marks pointing to the nearby and foreign mountains.

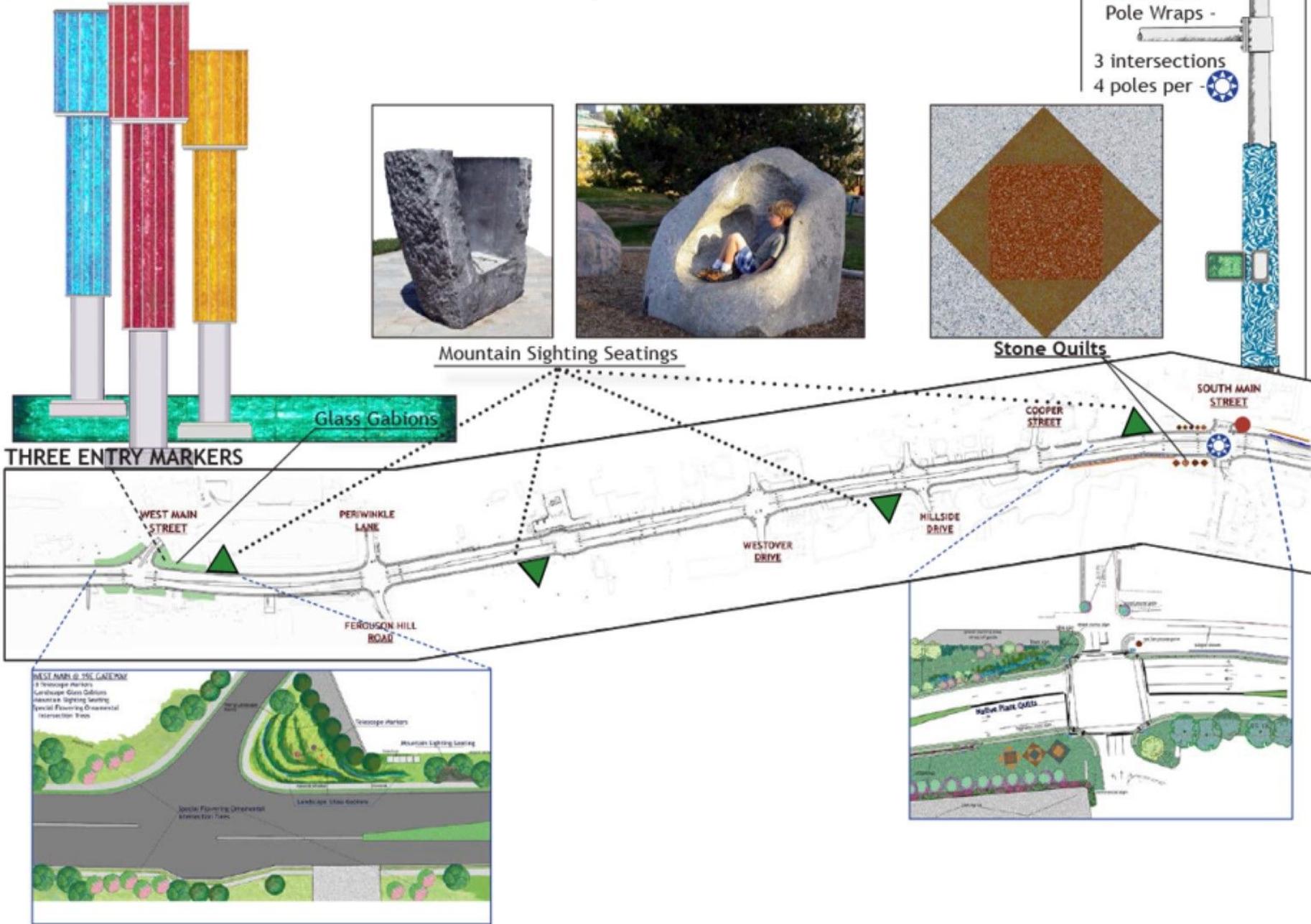
These sculptures, the *Mountain Sighting Seatings*, will be set alongside the sidewalk trails offering a place meet others in your walking / hiking group or just to have a seat provided by Burnsville's Public Art Program. Each bench will hold the name, height from sea-level, and distance from Burnsville (as a crow might fly) of a local mountain, many of them the highest peaks east of the Mississippi River - Mt. Mitchell, Mt. Craig, Balsam Cone, Cattail Peak and Mount Gibbes - paired with one of the 7 tallest mountains on Earth's 7 continents, all members of the family of global peaks which include those close by in Burnsville's neighborhood.

Mt. Mitchell	6,684 ft	10.75 miles from Burnsville
Mt. Everest	29,028 ft	7,974.93 miles from Burnsville
Mt. Craig	6,647 ft	9.91 miles from Burnsville
Mt. Kilimanjaro	19,341 ft	7,993.42 miles from Burnsville
Cattail Peak	6,600 ft	8.66 miles from Burnsville
Vinson Massif	16,066 ft	7,917.27 miles from Burnsville
Balsam Cone	6,611 ft	345.51 miles from Burnsville
Mt. Aconcagua	13,793 ft	4,809.40 miles from Burnsville
Clingman's Peak	6,557 ft	12.63 miles from Burnsville
Mt. Kosciuszko	7,310 ft	9,661.12 miles from Burnsville





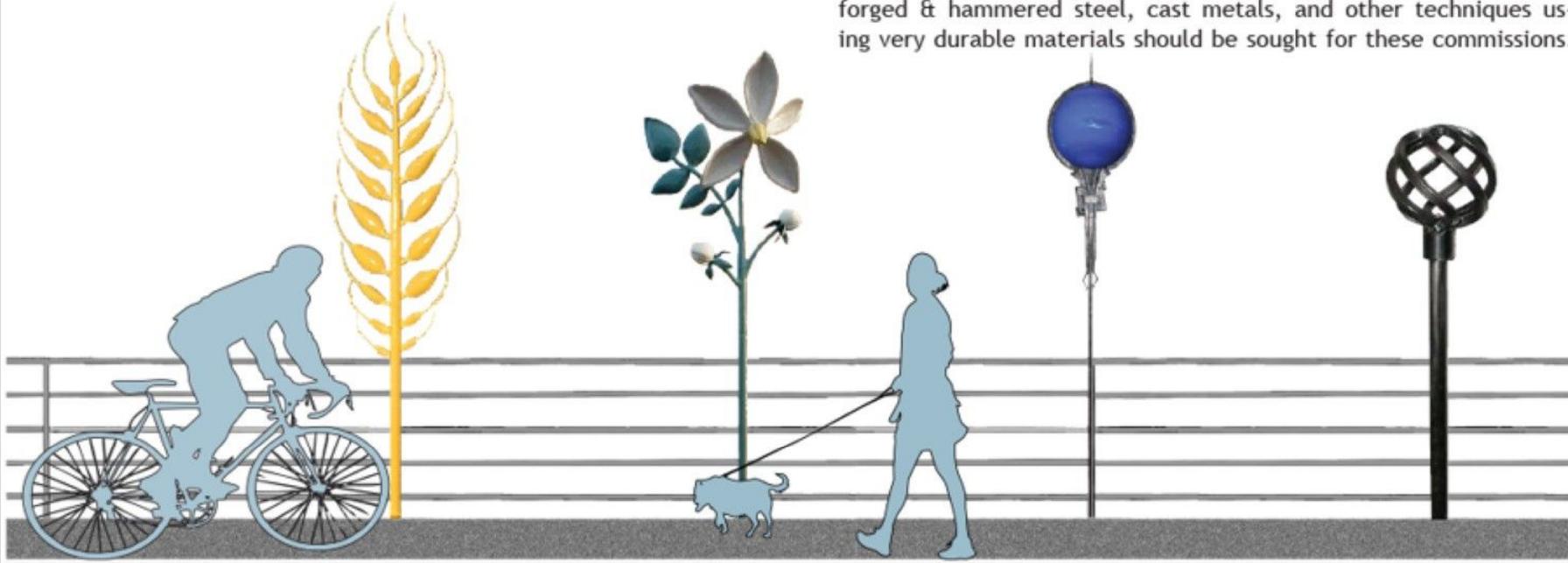
BURNSVILLE HIGHWAY 19E PUBLIC ART ELEMENTS



PHASE II

Safety Railing Sculptural Inserts Traffic Control Box Wraps

North Carolina DOT will be placing a "5-Bar Railing" along 2500+ feet of the new 19E roadway. Opportunity is presented to commission artists to create sculptural artworks to be attached to the rail posts as simple retrofits. The railing length suggests the possibility of having numerous artists involved. Artists working in forged & hammered steel, cast metals, and other techniques using very durable materials should be sought for these commissions.



Traffic Control Boxes located at each signalized intersection (three) will be wrapped with artists' designs using "bus wrap" vinyl sign material. This technology is affordable, highly vandal resistant, and will be applied / maintained by the contracted sign company.



South Main at Highway 19E



Quilt Cover, Ketchum Idaho



Compass Flower Cover, Ft. Worth Texas



Other Burnsville SmART Objectives



Consultant David Quinn is working with Town planning board on:

- Assessment of historic and vacant buildings for private investment
- Finding a buyer for the historic Nu Wray Inn (shown left)
- Securing an Historic District designation
- Renovation of historic library building (shown right) as new home for Arts Council

..... Burnsville SmART Initiative

Accomplishments

- Town of Burnsville adopted SmART vision plan and committed 2% of capital improvement project funds to implement plan.
- Community has raised more than \$300,000 in funds from national, local and state sources.
- Nu Wray Inn sold and re-opened as bed and breakfast.
- County completed first phase of Library renovation.
- Four new restaurants have opened in 2015.