

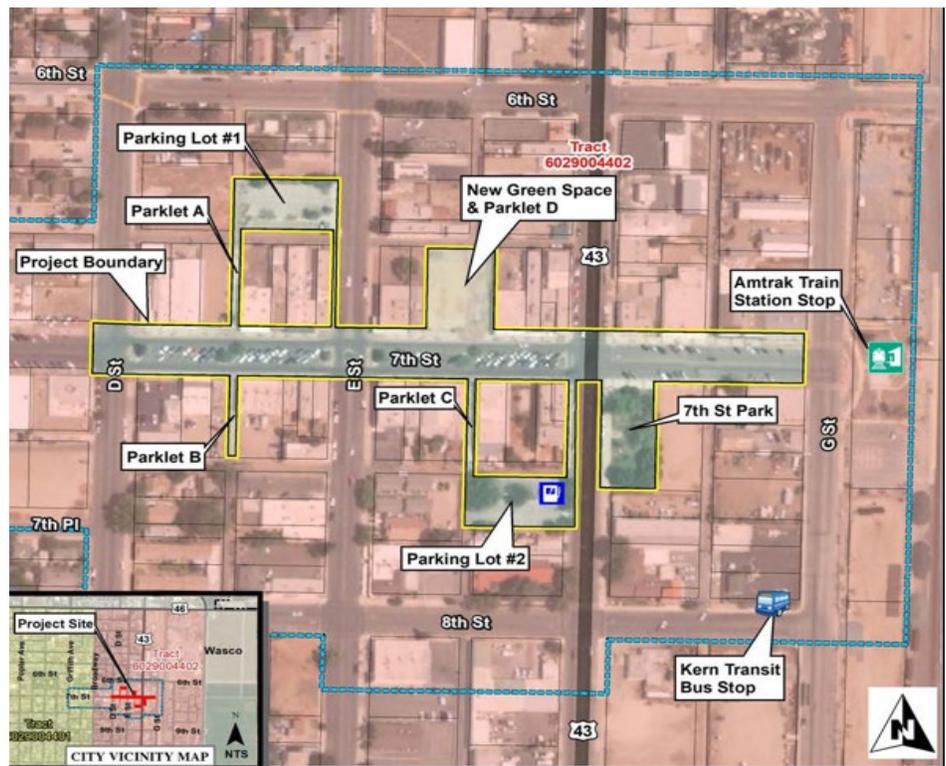
NOTICE: PRESS RELEASE

CITY OF WASCO AWARDED \$5 MILLION GRANT THROUGH THE CLEAN CALIFORNIA LOCAL GRANT PROGRAM FOR THE 7TH STREET DOWNTOWN BUSINESS DISTRICT REHABILITATION AND ENHANCEMENT PROJECT

March 4, 2022

The California Department of Transportation announced the award of 105 local projects, or approximately 30% of the received applications, approved for nearly \$300 million in Clean California grants for communities throughout the state. Caltrans received more than 320 applications for local grant projects. Proposals included a wide range of community enhancements, such as litter abatement, landscaping and art installations, greening, and community identification projects. City of Wasco's application was one of 105 applications selected.

Wasco Mayor Gilberto Reyna commented: "This five-million-dollar award grant is excellent news and cause for excitement. These funds will allow our city to execute plans to revitalize and beautify our downtown historic district, which will enhance visitors' experience, attract additional community participation, and increase commerce. It's a remarkable win for Wasco."



PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The project transforms the City of Wasco's Downtown Historic District along 7th Street from G Street to D Street. Improvements include low water use landscaping, ADA compliant pedestrian facilities, shade trees, street furniture, seating areas, waste bins, enhanced lighting, new green space, and art murals by local artists in four alleys. There will be a substantial rehabilitation of 7th Street Park, including the addition of a new dog park area. Additionally, safety measure improvements and other upgrades will be made to the adjacent parking lots, including the only public electric vehicle charging station.

BENEFITS:

This project aligns with the City's goals related to safety, economic competitiveness, and quality of life. Taken together, this grant helps bring improvements, safety, environmental justice, and economic development opportunities to a historically disadvantaged community.

City Manager Scott Hurlbert noted: "This project, and grant approval, is the result of community input, innovative design, and tireless city staff efforts. It is an honor to have our project selected for funding in such a competitive environment!"