

City's 'Streetscape' Concept Garner Design Award

News Report

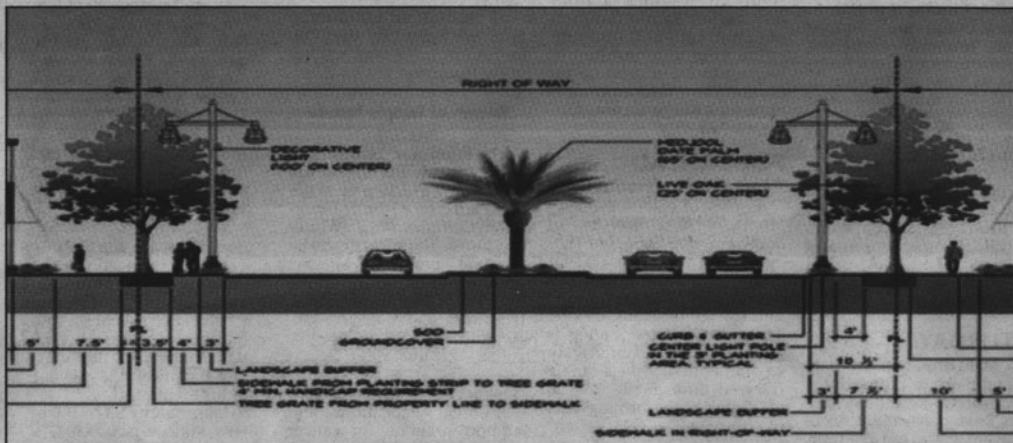
The Hillsborough County City-County presented a community design award to the City of Temple Terrace for its pending one-block "streetscape" project at Temple Heights Road and 56th Street.

It will help establish prototype guidelines for streets throughout the city's redevelopment area.

The award was rendered during the recent 25th annual Community Design Awards presentation at the Tampa Bay Performing Arts Center and was among 24 awards in eight categories. NewsChannel 8 WFLA-TV News Anchor Bob Hite served as emcee.

The awards represent examples of sound planning and good design in Hillsborough County.

Temple Terrace was honored in the Master Planning & Urban Design category. Temple Terrace's downtown redevelopment plans call for a multimillion-dollar renovation of 56th Street and Busch Boulevard. However, the City - working with landscape architect Rachel Rodgers, president of L.A. Design - will



Rendering courtesy of L.A. Design

The prototype of the City of Temple Terrace's "streetscape" project to help establish guidelines for the redevelopment of area streets was granted a Community Design Award by the Hillsborough County City-County Planning Commission.

embark on a smaller-scale "streetscaping" project along Temple Heights Road and one block of 56th Street as a test of design ideas.

Rodgers and City staff submitted the proposal that captured the Planning Commission's attention.

Temple Terrace Community Services Director Ralph Bosek said the award is an indication the City's redevelopment efforts are headed in the right direction.

"I think this project will show the community a major improvement in how our

downtown looks and how it feels as you walk around it," he said. "These kinds of street projects are a necessity for creating a more pleasant, safe and walkable environment. I think it'll be a catalyst for the entire downtown area."

Rodgers agrees.

"I just am pleased that this happened and thank Kim Leinbach (the City's city manager) and Ralph Bosek for their progressive steps in this direction," she said. "It may be a year before it actually gets off the ground, but I'm excited about it."