THRIVING DISTRICTS BY DESIGN



**TODAY** 

Low-cost
high-impact
storefronts

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METRO GET STREET SMART

#### Storefronts-June

Sidewalks + Streetscape- July
Signage + Lighting- August
Improved Sales- September
Windows + Display- October
Customer Promotions- November

By Brian Emerick, AIA

### Storefronts



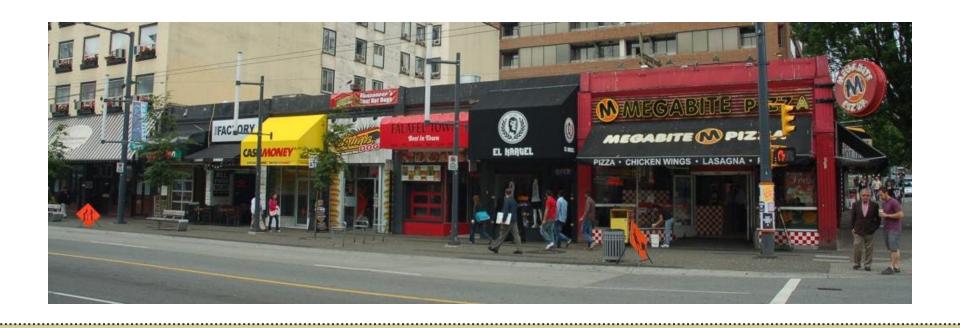
#### WHAT DEFINES A "MAIN STREET"?

- CULTURE buy local, quirky, independent, fun
- CONTINUITY streetscape, wall of storefronts, `walkability'
- HISTORY architecture, annual events, communal experiences
- CONVENIENCE one stop shopping in the community
- FLEXIBILITY adaptable to change over time
- COMMUNITY IDENTITY a place to meet your neighbors

### What defines a "Main Street"?

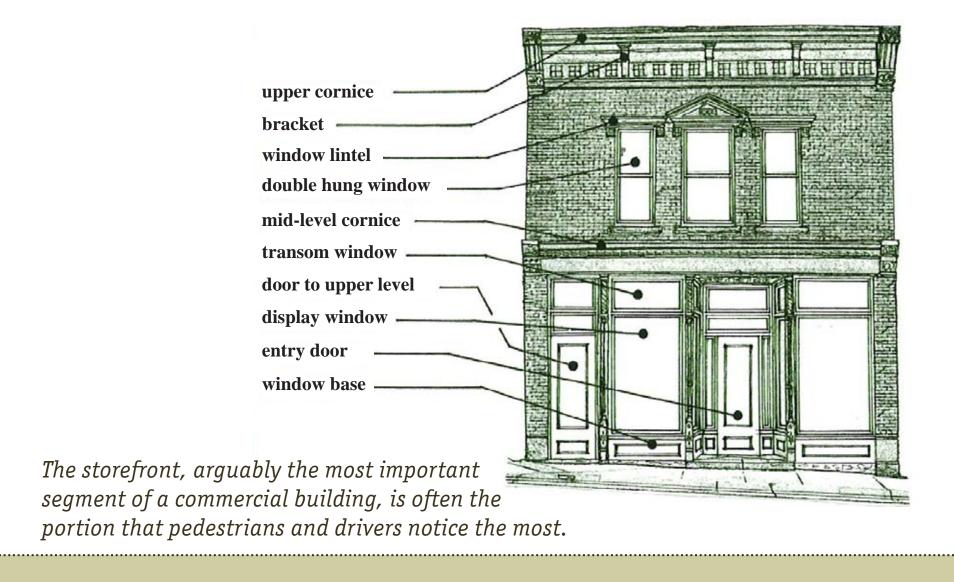


# District Unity



## District Discontinuity

# STOREFRONTS



### The importance of the Storefront

#### STOREFRONT DESIGN PRINCIPLES

- Consider the entire building
- Context + continuity
- Window display
- Paint
- Awnings
- Signage
- Lighting
- Maintenance

# Storefront Design Principles



This renovation to a former industrial building added strong easy-to-read storefront bays



Before

# Storefront Bays



A display window converted to a large pivot window



Historic storefront with painted wood windows and recessed entry

## Display Windows





Historic storefronts with transoms above and wood window base

### **Transom Windows**



The base provides extra protection from the water on the sidewalk.

Contemporary storefront system with aluminum-clad wood framed windows and integrated wood window base.



### Window Base



Recessed entry with natural wood doors enhances the storefront.



Bold Color and operable storefront make for an inviting entry.

### Doors



Visualizing
potential
color schemes
before painting
helps take the
guesswork out of
big decisions.

Strong colors give life to the street



### Materials + Color



Double wooden south-facing canopies



Fabric awning

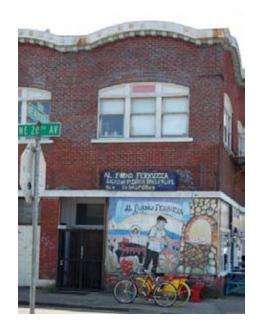
# Canopies + Awnings



Retractable awnings give flexibility to weather and day lighting



# Retractable Awnings



Existing Building



Historic Building

Concept sketch of facade with restored storefront windows and new signage

### Rebuilding Storefronts

#### CLEAN + SAFE PRINCIPLES

- Welcoming Feeling
- Neighborhoods Front Door
- Appropriate Lighting at Night
- Regular Hours Morning Through Evening
- Community Policing

# Clean + Safe Principles



Scheduled maintenance



Base in need of paint

### Maintenance



Alberta Main Street Garbage Can

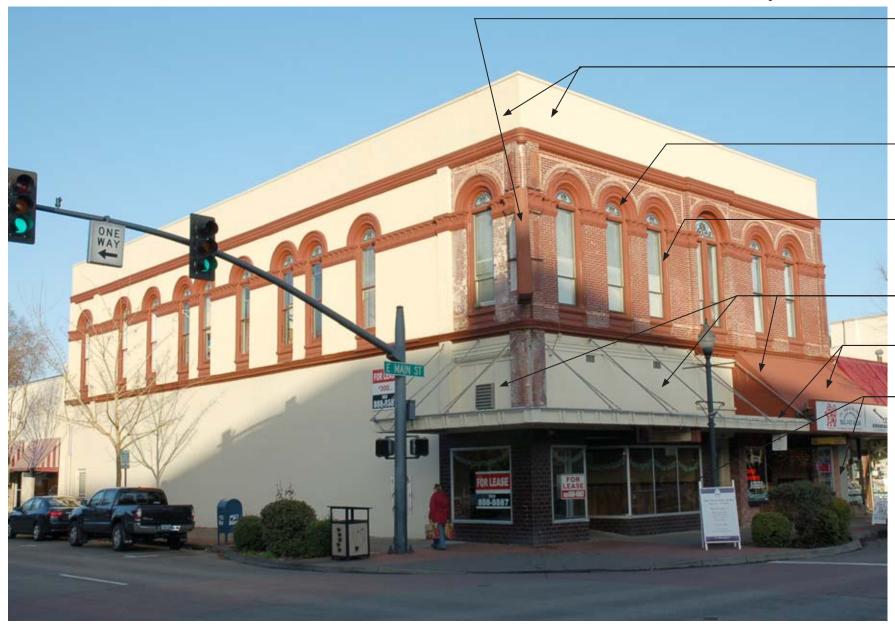


St. Johns Main Street Garbage Can

### Clean + Safe

# CASE STUDIES

Draft Project Scope January 11, 2012



Facade Restoration Options

216 E Main, Hillsboro, OR

New period-appropriate marquee signage.

Provide cost to restore missing cornice for Phase II.

Verify condition of existing leaded glass and restore as necessary.

Restore/replace windows to match original double hung configuration.

Restore original transom windows.

Remove existing canopies.

Restore original wood storefront configuration along with masonry piers.

New 4 color paint scheme for entire block.

New retail lighting at storefront bays.

New historic accent lighting for building.













RECESSED ENTRY

### Portland Internetworks

INNER SE PORTLAND | TENANT IMPROVEMENT | \$125,000 | 2011

Built in 1925, this retail and light industrial building has been everything from a candy factory to its current home as a state of the art technology center for Portland Internetworks. Over time, the storefronts were poorly altered and the building lost much of its early twentieth century charm. Enter the project, which completely restored the original feeling of the façade using traditional wood storefronts, pedestrian oriented signage and architectural lighting. Careful to anticipate the next century of diverse use, the project restored the ability to subdivide the space into three distinct tenants.





STANDALONE STOREFRONTS FOR FUTURE MULTI-TENANT FLEXIBILITY



NEW RECESSED ENTRIES



CONCEPT PAINT SCHEMES













BEFORE

#### SUSTAINABILITY PRINCIPLES

- Reusing Old Buildings is Recycling on the Biggest Scale
- Building Quality IS Sustainability
- Buildings Are Major Investments-Think 100 Years
- Flexibility is Key to Future Adaptability
- Be Careful with 'Green Bling'

# Sustainability Principles

# COMING UP NEXT

#### SIDEWALKS + STREETSCAPE PRINCIPLES

- Continuity
- Connectivity
- Clarity of Circulation
- Convenience
- Clean + Safe

### Sidewalks + Streetscape

#### SIGNAGE + LIGHTING PRINCIPLES

- Pedestrian Oriented
- Contextually Appropriate
- Unique to the District
- Flexibility
- Appropriate Lighting

# Signage + Lighting Principles

#### WINDOWS + DISPLAY PRINCIPLES

- Authentic to the Building
- Fresh + Engaging
- Business Identity on the Street
- Flexibility + Adaptibility
- Well Lit + Appropriate Lighting

# Windows + Display Principles



Portland Main Street

### **Design Handbook**

A guide to neighborhood commercial district revitalization







### Resources

# QUESTIONS + COMMENTS