

wichita redrawn | **conclusion**



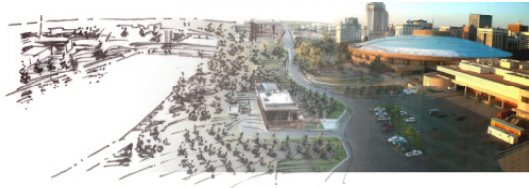
## **conclusion**

Although the current form of downtown Wichita and the surrounding area presents a number of limitations on future development, the opportunities discussed in this report reveal tremendous potential for change at multiple scales. The wide variety of design solutions generated by the students who participated in this project demonstrates how a common set of site inventory data can result in a broad range of diverse solutions, all based on modern landscape architecture principles. The assortment of land uses, attractions, natural features, and activities already present in the downtown area, combined with future additions such as the Sedgwick County Arena and the WaterWalk, give rise to extensive possibilities for projects that address a broad spectrum of issues. Together, the proposals give the City of Wichita numerous options for shaping the future of downtown.

Opportunities for change identified by the project include tying together disparate elements within and around downtown, shaping new open spaces for public use, creating a pedestrian-oriented environment, general streetscaping and street design improvements, constructing new residential, retail, and commercial uses, installing systems of trails and parks for pedestrian and bicycle use, and ecological improvements. Although these opportunities represent a broad spectrum of project types, they share the common goal of creating a new sense of place in downtown Wichita and transforming it from a primarily daytime commercial district to a lively and vibrant destination that offers a variety of activities for the people of Wichita and visitors alike.

The variety of design proposals also gives rise to numerous options for the implementation of changes. The City need not implement massive comprehensive change all at once, but can use the proposals to pursue new development on a gradual basis. Certain elements such as streetscaping can be implemented more quickly, while others, such as attracting dense residential and retail uses, will require a more long-term outlook. Fundamentally, the design ideas presented in this report represent a process for transforming downtown Wichita over time. Together, they lay the groundwork for a city redrawn.





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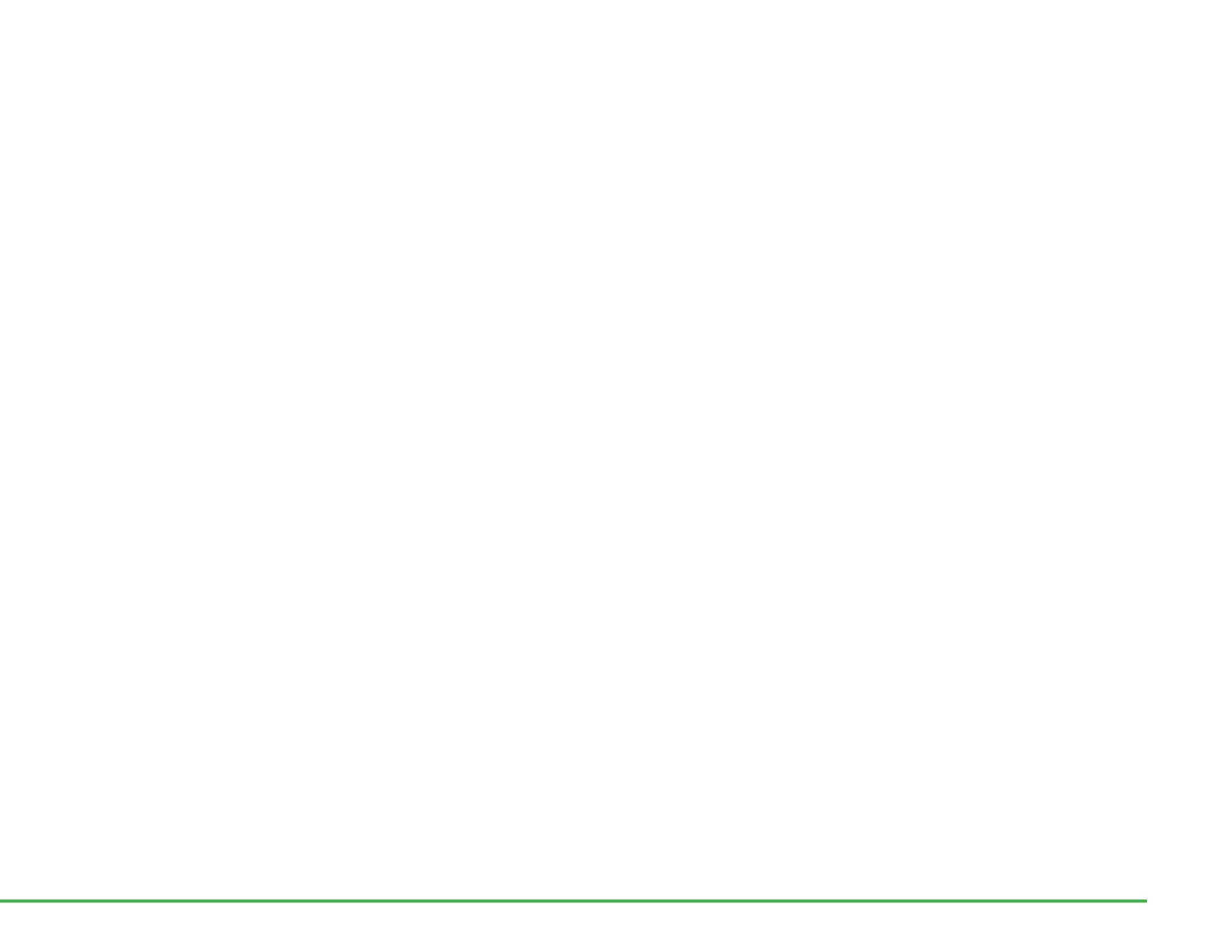
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