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Reference: Arlington Avenue Bridges Feasibility Study Aesthetics Design

The aesthetics design for the Arlington Avenue Bridges Feasibility Study was guided by the City of Reno Downtown Streetscape Design Standards; adopted in 2020. The manual states 'Bridges shall be designed and improved in a style complimentary to the design standards contained herein and other bridges in the downtown area,' Based on this direction, a study was conducted to understand:

- Downtown Truckee River bridges from Booth Street to Lake Street, including Arlington Avenue bridges and the Riverwalk; reviewing existing design elements
- Site history of the Arlington Avenue Bridges and Wingfield Park
- Site inventory of the Arlington Avenue Bridges and Wingfield Park
- Recommended Bridge Concepts in the feasibility study
- Opportunities and constraints

From this study (4) four aesthetic design goals were developed:

1. Cohesive Design Language
 - Establish a project theme to unify bridge and landscape elements for both north and south bridges
2. Enhance Pedestrian Experience
 - Maintain vantage points of the Truckee River and surrounding landscapes, avoid above deck support bridge types
 - Enhance pedestrian experience with decorative lighting, decorative railing, paving, sculptural/artistic features and unified materials between sidewalk and street, and shade trees where landscapes are impacted.
3. Contextual and Historical Relevance
 - Design structural elements to have relevance to the urban context
 - Provide design solutions that pay homage to Reno's history, while representing a new age of bridge development within the downtown core
 - Develop hierarchy of downtown bridges where Arlington Avenue bridge is a focal bridge and Virginia Street bridge the landmark bridge
4. Innovation and Sustainability
 - Consider stormwater infiltration (Low Impact Development - LID) using permeable pavement or pavers

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- Use LED lighting
- Use drought resistant and native plant materials

The next step in the process took the design goals and expanded them into recommended aesthetic elements.

1. Theme: melding of old and new
2. Pedestrian scaled lighting
3. Bridge accent lighting
4. Under bridge safety and accent lighting
5. Transparent, traffic rated, decorative bridge railings
6. Pedestrian accessibility maintained
7. Widened bridge sidewalks or overlooks
8. Transitions between bridges and adjacent areas enhanced
9. Abutment and flood wall aesthetic textures

The aesthetics design goals, and recommended aesthetic elements were presented to the Stakeholder Working Group on December 15, 2020, to the Washoe County RTC Board on February 19, 2021 and to the Reno City Council on February 24, 2021. The presentations are documented in the Feasibility Study, Appendix E. The information was further presented in a public survey conducted by the Washoe County RTC. Based on the input received, the final design of the bridges will be based on these goals and recommended treatments for the single pier bridge type ultimately recommended in the Feasibility Study.

The process recommended to further develop the aesthetics elements into a design package is as follows:

1. Prepare 2-3 concept plan alternatives, details and reference imagery.
2. Obtain stakeholder and public input on the concept plan alternatives, details and reference imagery.
3. Prepare a preferred preliminary plan and details based on stakeholder and public input.
4. Obtain stakeholder and public input on the preferred preliminary plan and details.
5. Obtain RTC Board and Reno City Council input on the preferred preliminary plan and details.
6. Prepare the preliminary (30%) plan and details.
7. Obtain RTC Board and Reno City Council input on the preliminary (30%) plan and details.
8. Prepare final plans, details and specifications.

The City of Reno may undertake an update to the master plans for both Wingfield and Barbara Bennett Parks. Coordination between a park master plan update and the final design for the Arlington Avenue Bridges Replacement project would be beneficial as impacts to the parks are evaluated during the Arlington Avenue Bridges replacement project. Refer to the Wingfield Park Improvements Process and Timeline Memo in Appendix G for additional information.