

## Streetscape Fact Sheet

### *The big picture*

- The \$3.5 million redesign of Detroit Avenue from West 58<sup>th</sup> Street to West 73<sup>rd</sup> Street provides form as well as function for the Gordon Square Arts District, a new arts and entertainment destination in the Detroit Shoreway neighborhood, five minutes from downtown Cleveland.
- One of five core capital projects in the district, the makeover will transform a portion of Detroit into a hip, pedestrian-friendly district for shopping, dining and theatre-going — with wider sidewalks, innovative benches and bus shelters, bike racks, trees, new lighting and specially designed pavers.
- The one-year redesign is a city of Cleveland project, paid for in part with city funds and managed by the Cleveland Division of Engineering and Construction.
- The Gordon Square Arts District is a national model of how the arts can be used to stimulate economic development.

### *The details*

From West 58<sup>th</sup> to West 73<sup>rd</sup> streets, Detroit Avenue has been repaved, and new sidewalks and curbs have been installed.

In the heart of the district, from West 61<sup>st</sup> to West 69<sup>th</sup> streets, the street narrows, and the sidewalks have been widened to encourage pedestrian traffic and outdoor dining. Sidewalks that were 8½ feet wide on the north and 10 feet wide on the south have been widened to 13 feet on both sides; Detroit, which had four 12-foot-wide driving lanes, now has two 11-foot lanes and two 9-foot-wide parking lanes.

In addition, the following features and design elements have been or are being installed from West 61<sup>st</sup> to West 69<sup>th</sup> streets:

- Unique, curved benches, in three different shapes. The charcoal gray precast concrete benches will be lighted from underneath at night with a warm red glow.

The benches, as well as the district's distinctive pavers and paver patterns, were designed by Cleveland-based environmental artist Susie Frazier Mueller.

- Two innovative bus shelters, each made of a single sheet of stainless steel with a unique pattern of perforations designed to optimize lighting and wind conditions. The shelters will be internally lighted at night, projecting distinctive patterns on surrounding buildings and other surfaces.

They were designed by Robert Maschke Architects Inc., a nationally recognized firm located in the Gordon Square Arts District. Robert Maschke, AIA, principal of the firm, is also a resident of the district.

- Decorative pavers in the intersection of West 65<sup>th</sup> Street and Detroit and at various locations along the sidewalks. Mueller drew inspiration from the topography of the nearby Lake Erie shoreline and the inner patterns of trees in the area to design the pavers, paver areas, benches and the Gordon Square Arts District's signature "G" mark, which will be incorporated in the crosswalks at West 65<sup>th</sup> and Detroit. Included are laser-cut earth tone pavers and a repeating pattern of sandblasted block pavers.
- Modern, stainless steel bike racks.
- Landscaping, including approximately 40 Aristocrat pear and Valley Forge American elm trees.
- New light poles, matching those at nearby Battery Park. The old utility poles have been removed, and unsightly utility lines have been buried.

*See reverse side*

A small landscaped public plaza will be built at the northwest corner of West 67th Street and Detroit, adjacent to the future site of a new performance center for the Near West Theatre — the next focus of the Gordon Square Arts District's efforts.

### ***The event***

- Mayor Frank G. Jackson and Councilman Matt Zone will host a ribbon-cutting ceremony at 11 a.m. Saturday, September 26, at West 65<sup>th</sup> and Detroit, to be followed by a street festival sponsored by the Detroit Shoreway Community Involvement Committee. The festival will feature live performances, local artists, vendors, food and the Gordon Square Farmers' Market.

### ***Names and numbers***

- Total streetscape project cost: \$3.5 million. Major funding provided by the city of Cleveland (\$1.9 million) and the Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency (\$1.6 million), with additional funding from the Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority's Transit Waiting Environments program (\$25,000).
- Design team: City Architecture Inc., environmental artist Susie Frazier Mueller and Michael Benza & Associates Inc. engineers.
- Contractor: Terrace Construction Company Inc.