

# A TALE OF TWO PLAZAS: KING STREET & DEL RAY

Creating Pedestrian Spaces

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# KING STREET PLAZA

- **Location: Foot of King Street in Old Town**
  - High pedestrian volumes
  - Transit accessible
  - Bikeshare
  - Retail
  - Bicycle parking
- **The space: Dead end roadway**
- **Current use: Parking spaces, bike parking, trolley stop**
- **The plan: Expand sidewalk to provide pedestrian plaza with table, chairs and planters**



# KING STREET PLAZA



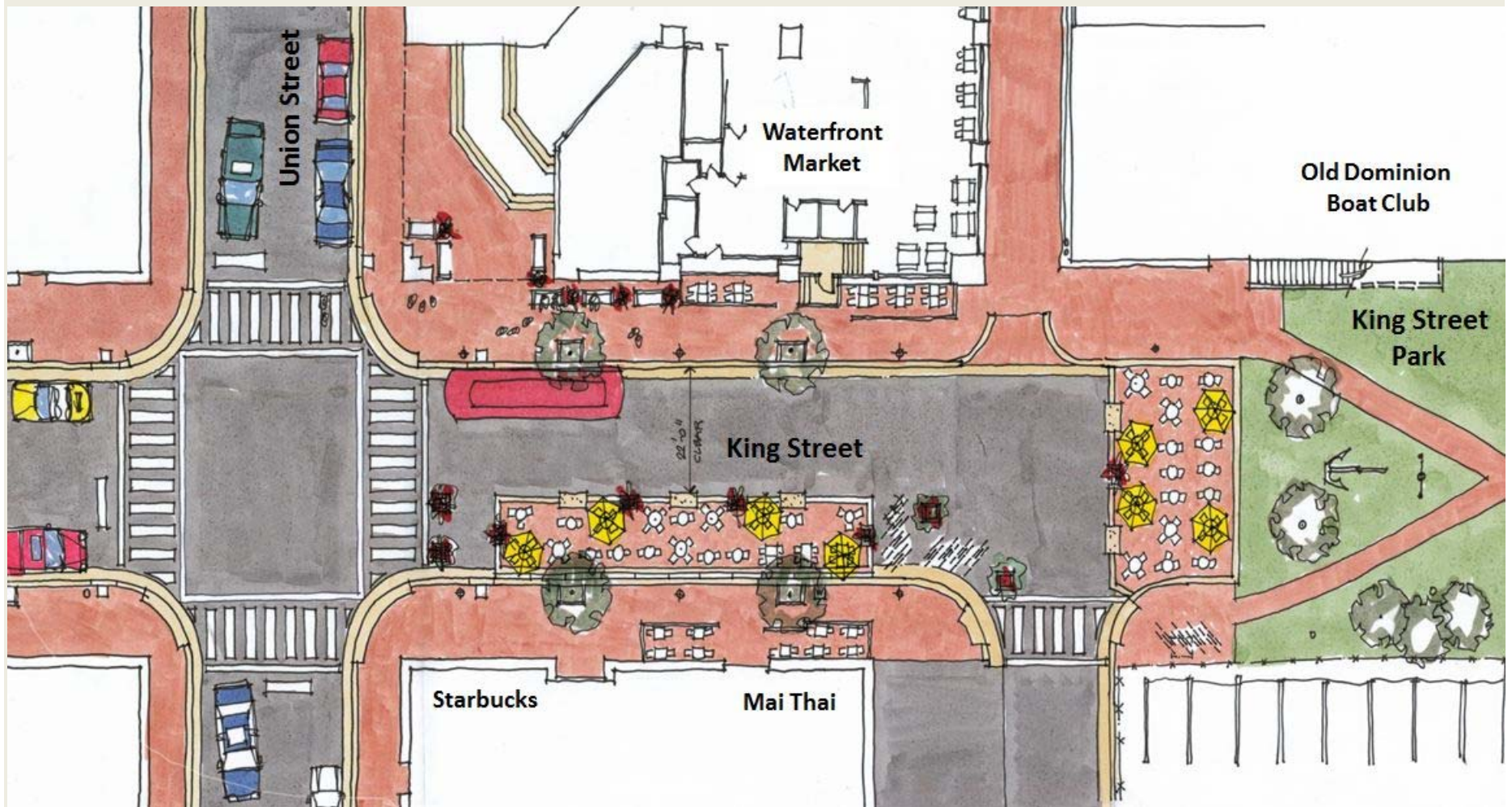


# KING STREET PLAZA





# KING STREET PLAZA





# KING STREET PLAZA





# KING STREET PLAZA





# KING STREET PLAZA





# DEL RAY PLAZA

- **Location: Mount Vernon Avenue in Del Ray neighborhood**
  - High pedestrian volumes
  - Transit accessible
  - Bikeshare
  - Retail
- **The space: Dirt space between sidewalk and parking lot**
- **Current use: A few tables, bus stop, gathering space**
- **The plan: Expand sidewalk to provide pedestrian plaza with table, chairs and planters**

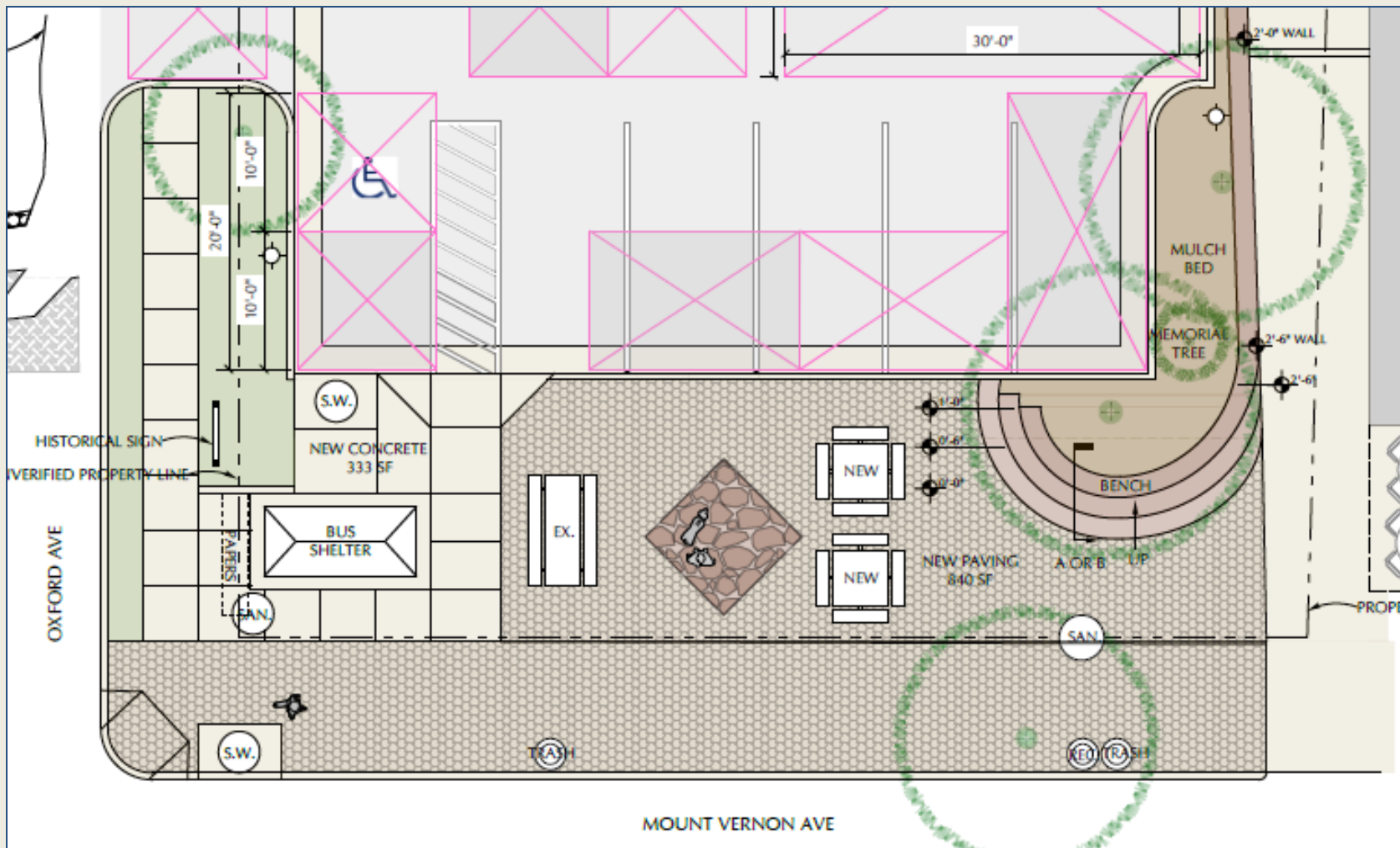


# DEL RAY PLAZA



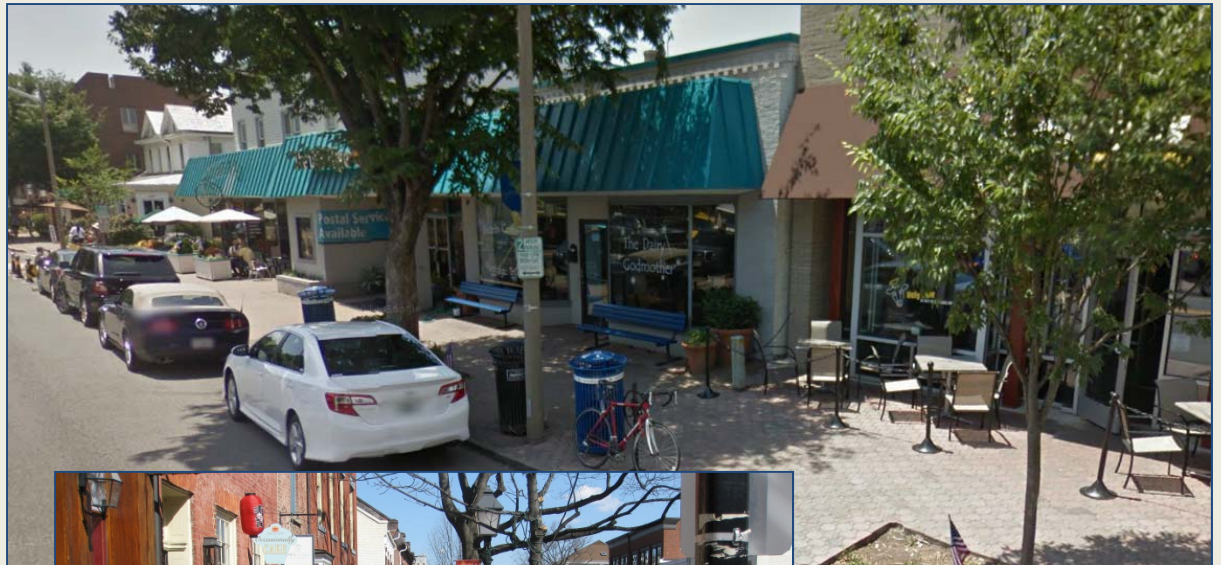


# DEL RAY PLAZA



# WHAT DO THEY HAVE IN COMMON?

- Funding for construction
- No funding for maintenance
- No funding for plantings and maintenance of landscaping
- Lively, active pedestrian streets year round
- Adjacent businesses with outdoor seating





# WHO WAS INVOLVED

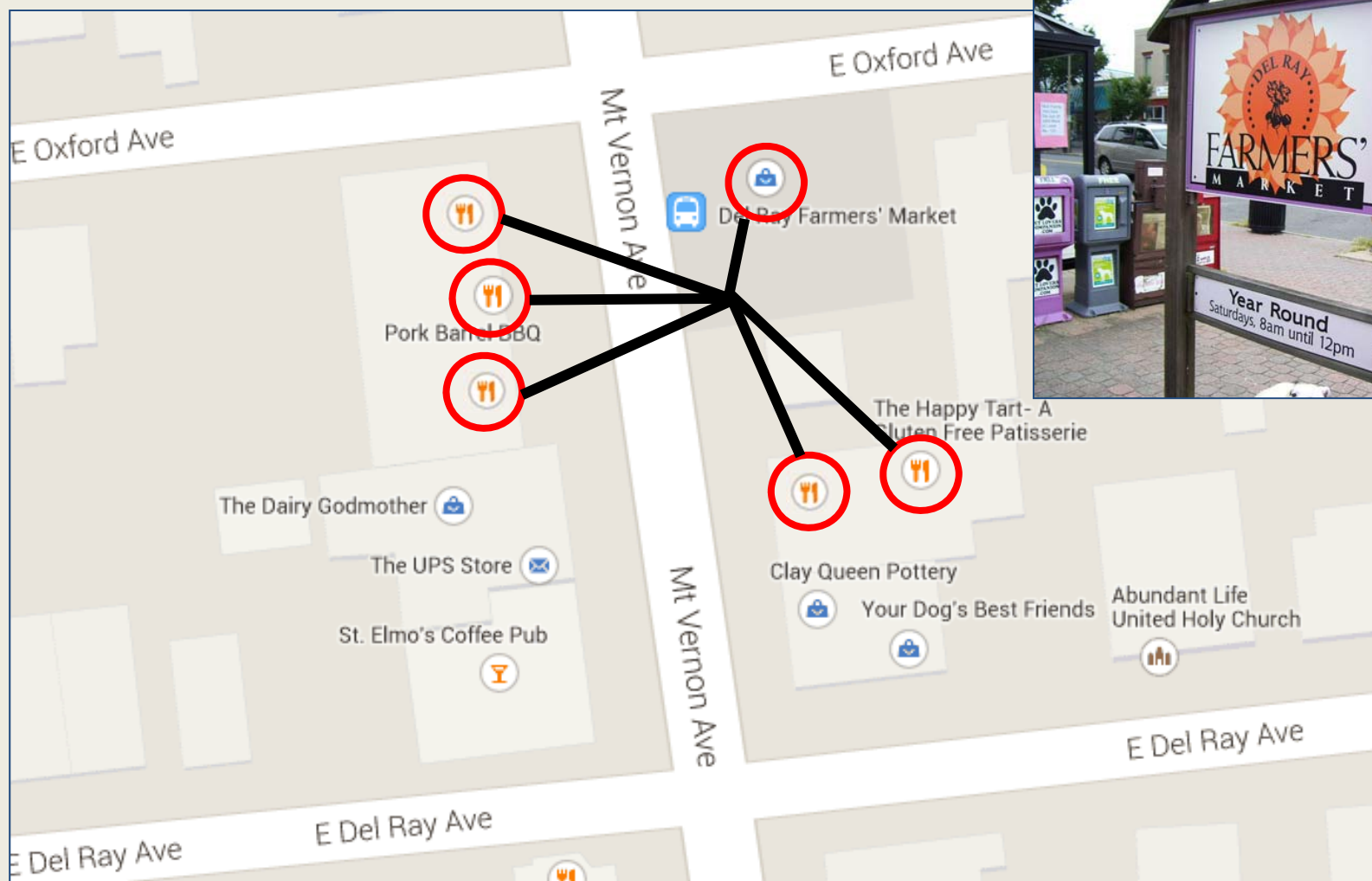
## ■ King Street Plaza

- City Staff
  - Transportation
  - Planning & Zoning
  - Historic Alexandria
  - Project Implementation
- Waterfront Commission
- Adjacent businesses

## ■ Del Ray Plaza

- City Staff
  - Transportation
  - General Services
  - Parks
- Adjacent businesses
- Del Ray Citizens' Association
- Del Ray Business Association
- Del Ray Community Partnership
- Del Ray Master Gardeners

# DEL RAY PLAZA





# WHAT HAPPENED??

## ■ King Street Plaza

- Design complete
- Presented to Commissions of interest
- Businesses stated they would help with maintenance
- No BID was formed
- Funding for maintenance never identified
- Project “on-hold” indefinitely

## ■ Del Ray Plaza

- MOU between City and Community signed this week
- Construction to expand sidewalk occurring next month
- Final sign off from Del Ray Citizens’ Association in May
- Contest for plaza art funded at \$10,000
- Del Ray Master Gardeners agreed to plant and maintain landscaping

# LESSONS LEARNED

- Community partners are essential to the success of any plaza
- Formal maintenance agreements must be included in the plan
- Must have a team of willing participants on both side and a supportive community
- Limit to necessary partners
- Keep design simple
- Implement ASAP (before people can change their mind!)





**THANK YOU!!!**

**Questions/Comments????**