



DOWNTOWN SAN MARCOS

SAN MARCOS, TEXAS

GREAT NEIGHBORHOOD DESIGNEE—2018

Listed on the National Register of Historic Places - Downtown San Marcos is the heart of the community, boasting a rich history and unique character. Downtown's locally owned shops, restaurants, bistros, and night spots are popular gathering spots for adjacent residents and students of Texas State University.

Downtown San Marcos is the product of a master plan adopted in 2008. This planning process took into account the needs and wishes of the community, resulting in downtown being one of the most accessible areas of the city in terms of walkability and bicycle transportation. The technical needs of downtown were considered as well, and sustainability along with potential climatic disasters were kept in mind during the planning process, leading to an updated storm-water drainage system.

In 2015, San Marcos adopted a Sidewalk Cafés, Parklets, and Similar Special Uses of Public Rights-of-Way Ordinance to address a movement to reclaim and repurpose underutilized spaces for people. Success has also stemmed from the San Marcos Business Improvement and Growth (BIG) Grant Program, which provides technical and financial assistance to renovate or restore facades, signage, lighting and life-safety systems through a matching grant.

Past and current planning efforts have made Downtown San Marcos a place with a unique personality that is contagious to anyone who gets the opportunity to experience it. San Marcos was designated in 1986 as an official Main Street City and remains one of the oldest Main Street programs in the state.

