



# Downtown Civic Hub & Public Realm Improvements

Creating a unique public plaza to promote a lively downtown



Brown Plaza with current gazebo ([DRI Strategic Plan \(2020\)](#))

**Project Sponsor:** City of Peekskill

**Related Work:** [Enlighten Peekskill, Pedestrian & Cyclist Connectivity](#)

**DRI Strategies:** Enhance the attractiveness of the downtown environment; promote a healthy balance of downtown uses; accommodate increased residents and visitors; maintain a sense of place

## Project Description

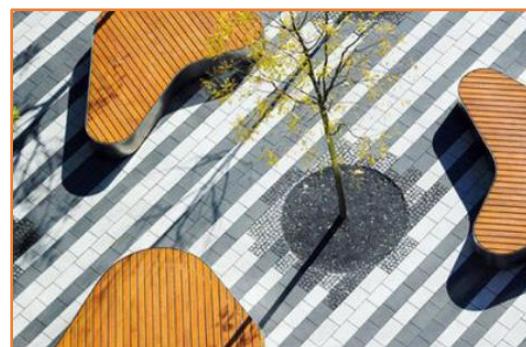
This project will uplift the unique center of Peekskill by creating or upgrading three plazas and improving certain streetscapes and pedestrian crossings throughout the district. Specifically, the four components of the project are as follows:

- **Brown Plaza** (including the gazebo at North Division Street and Park Street) will be reprogrammed to create a more attractive and functional civic space to host Peekskill's public events and accommodate more visitors for daily social gatherings (the new "Civic Hub").
- **Peekskill Plaza** will be newly created by widening the sidewalk area along the east side of South Division Street between Park Street and Brown Street, linking the Civic Hub to attractions like the Paramount Theater and the Esther Street public plaza.
- **The Flagpole area** at the corner of Central Avenue and North Division Street will be improved with plantings, seating areas, and other amenities.
- **Pedestrian crossings** in downtown will undergo a range of enhancements to increase pedestrian safety and improve pedestrian mobility.

As planned developments throughout Peekskill attract new residents and visitors, the new civic hub and surrounding improvements, along with inspiring art by local artists (Enlighten Peekskill), will ensure that the city remains a cultural destination.

## Key Improvements

- A newly designed public plaza in place of the existing Brown Plaza
- Painted pedestrian bump-outs with bollards, curb extensions, or bioswales
- Custom street furniture and plantings
- New painted crosswalks, street signage, and upgraded pedestrian signals



Example of new street furniture and plantings

## Project Benchmarks

NYS funding contract signed	6/17/2022
Design consultant hired	9/19/2022
Public workshop held	
Final design presented and approved	
Construction documents finalized and permits obtained	
Construction contract awarded/construction begun	
Project complete	