

BROADALBIN PROMENADE

The idea of a pedestrian friendly street connecting the County Courthouse at one end and the Willamette River at the other has been in Albany's plans for 15 years. The Broadalbin Promenade pilot project was conceived as a first step in implementing the vision for connecting downtown to the riverfront and to help demonstrate the benefits of improving pedestrian access.

Working with the City, the Central Albany Urban Renewal Agency, and the Landmarks Commission to finetune the design, the project called for widening the sidewalk on the east side of one block of Broadalbin and adding a number of amenities like waste cans, benches, and lamp posts. Work started in April 2010 and was completed under budget by June. Total cost of the project, funded by CARA, was \$517,000.



The Vault 244 restaurant was excited to have the Promenade test block right outside their establishment. They received an easement from the City to put out their tables and chairs in the summer months expanding the seating of this popular restaurant by about 30 seats. Other businesses on the Promenade reported increased foot traffic once construction was completed and it continues to draw people to their stores.

The project was built during the height of the recession and shows a great deal of faith in Downtown Albany on the part of City Council. The Promenade is a testament to the fact that Historic Downtown Albany is returning to its former glory as the true center of the community.

