THRIVING DISTRICTS BY DESIGN



**JULY** 

Boost visibility with sidewalk appeal

#### WHAT DEFINES A "MAIN STREET"?

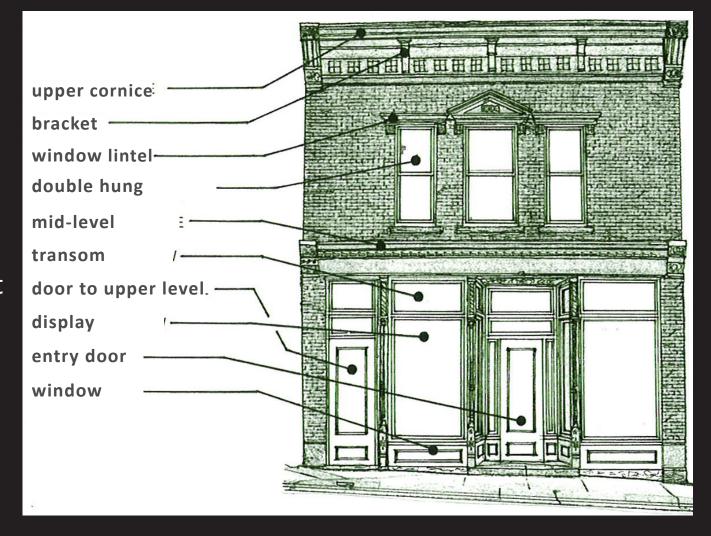
- CULTURE buy local, quirky, independent, fun
- CONTINUITY streetscape, wall of storefronts, `walkability'
- HISTORY architecture, annual events, communal experiences
- CONVENIENCE one stop shopping in the community
- FLEXIBILITY adaptable to change over time
- COMMUNITY IDENTITY a place to meet your neighbors

#### What defines a "Main Street"?



# **District Unity**

The storefront, arguably the most important segment of a commercial building, is often the portion that pedestrians and drivers notice the most.



### The Importance of Storefront

#### STOREFRONT DESIGN PRINCIPLES

- Consider the entire building
- Context + continuity
- Window display
- Paint
- Awnings
- Signage
- Lighting
- Maintenance

## Storefront Design Principles

# BIG PICTURE

#### February 2012 Storefront Improvements Tenant signage, tenant lighting, and tenant maintenance Plaza Circulation Plan Future plaza planned Parking area, pedestrian walkways, and improved traffic flow. SW Capitol Hwy Wayfinding Signage SW Beaverston Hillsdale Hwy Lighting 0 SW Carolina St District/Street Lighting Fixtures Landscaping Area On-street Parking SW Capitol Hwy Provide an addition XX number of parking Wilson High School Track spaces and calm traffic along Capitol Hwy. **(** Gateway Signage Bike Parking SW Vermont St

District Design Plan - Hillsdale Main Street

## Importance of Streetscape

#### SIDEWALKS + STREETSCAPE PRINCIPLES

- PEDESTRIAN EXPERIENCE
- CONTINUITY + CONNECTIVITY
- CLARITY OF CIRCULATION
- CONVENIENCE
- CLEAN + SAFE

### Streetscape Design Principles



The Moreland Farmers Market adds vitality to this parking lot



Designed thoughtfully, food carts can define edges of a public space and encourage pedestrian activity in the district.

### Activating Vacant Lots

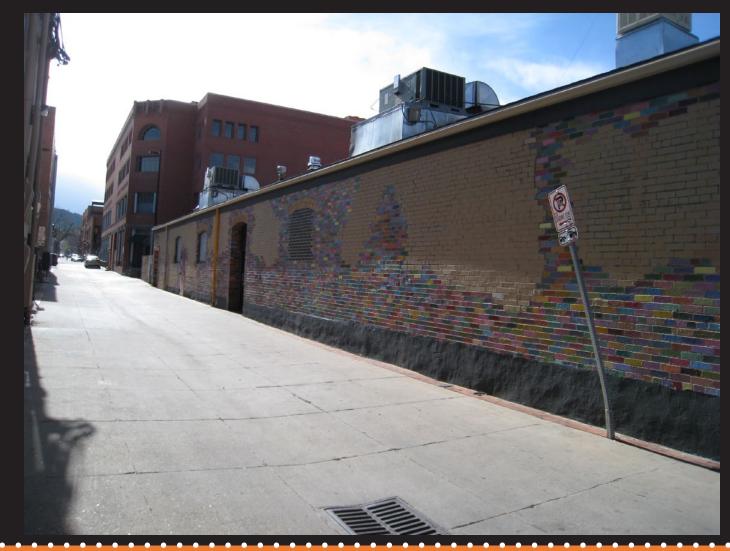






Developed retail alley

# Rethinking 'Back of House'



Tidy alley

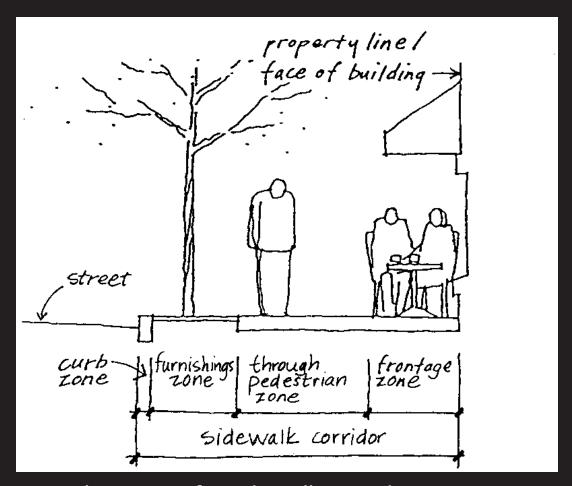
# Rethinking 'Back of House'

#### LOCAL CODE + ZONING CONSIDERATIONS

- PUBLIC RIGHT OF WAY
- LANDSCAPING
- OUTDOOR SEATING
- SIGNAGE + DISPLAY
- ACCESSIBILITY

### Local Code + Zoning

# SIDEWALKS + STREETSCAPE



Typical section of a Sidewalk Corridor

### Understanding the Elements



A bustling sidewalk in NW Portland

#### Pedestrian + Storefront Zone





Seating in the "furnishings" zone

# Furnishing Zone



# Street Furniture



Iron well grate



Nuisance + hazards

Uniform street trees

#### Street Trees





Lush planter boxes create a place for patrons to linger.

# Tenant Planting





Creative Bike Parking

### **Public Amenities**







# Tenant Signage

# CLEAN + SAFE

#### **CLEAN + SAFE PRINCIPLES**

- Welcoming Feeling
- Neighborhoods Front Door
- Appropriate Lighting at Night
- Regular Hours Morning Through Evening
- Community Policing

### Clean + Safe Principles



Planting strips along exterior walls



Artistic rainwater collection strip



Planting strip

### Stormwater Management



A creative stormwater downspout sculpture



A roof drain integrates into the landscape as a flow-through planter.

#### **Roof Drains**



Granite paver inlays distinguishes this part of downtown

Pervious surfaces allow water to drain into the ground



#### Pervious Surfaces



Trash ruins the pedestrian experience



Tidy Garbage is Good Housekeeping

# Manage the Trash



Clutter weakens the storefront experience

Unify + Organize where possible



### Avoid Clutter



Alberta Main Street Garbage Can



St. Johns Main Street Garbage Can

### Take out the Garbage



Portland Main Street

#### Design Handbook

A guide to neighborhood commercial district revitalization

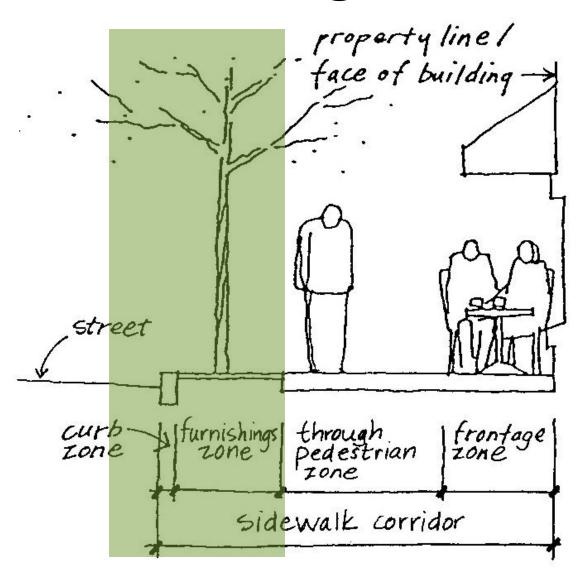




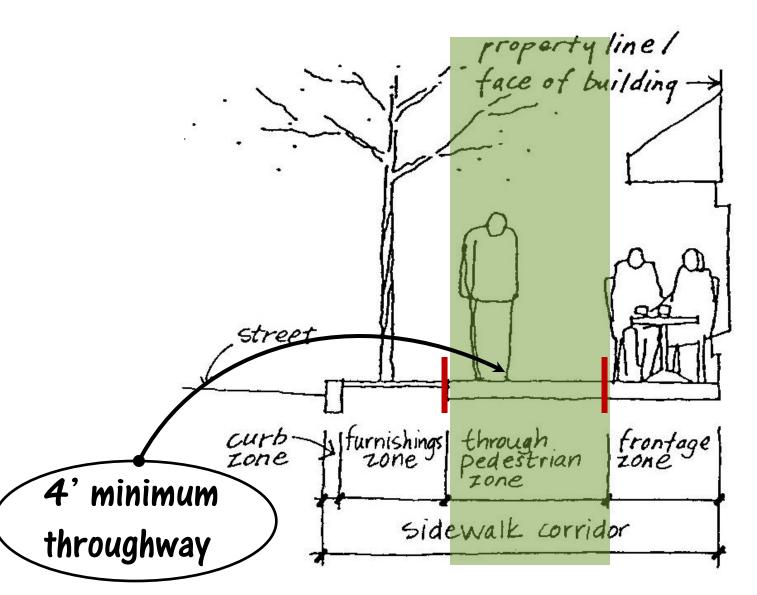


#### Resources

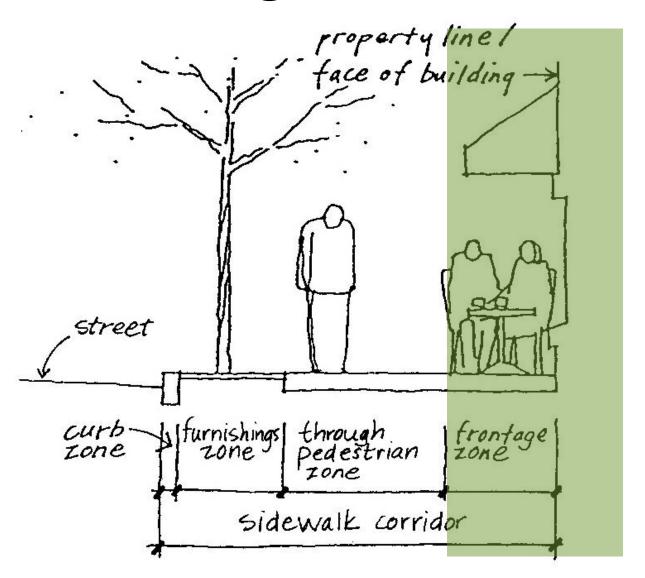
#### Furnishings Zone



#### Pedestrian Zone



#### Frontage Zone











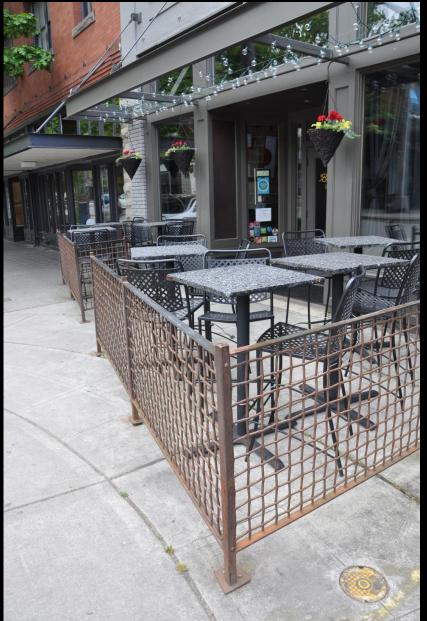


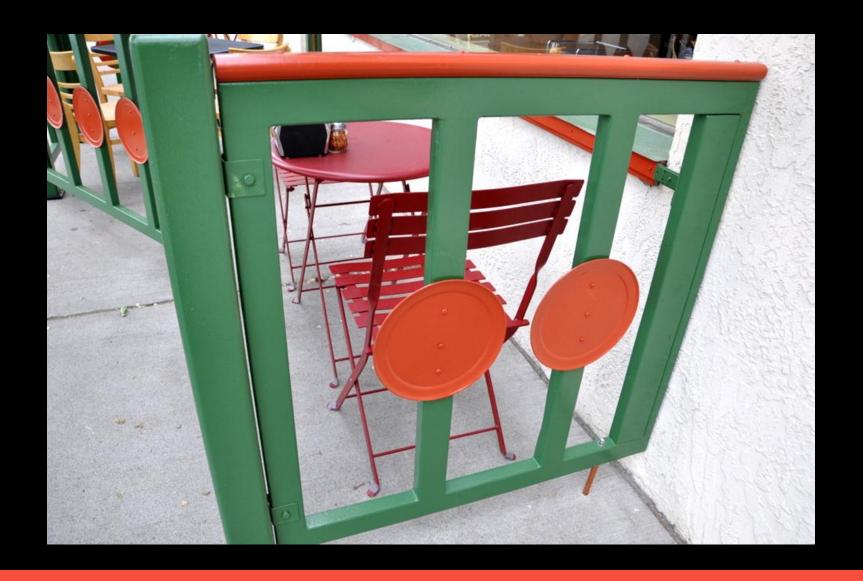












Style and width of fencing communicates who you are as much as the function it serves





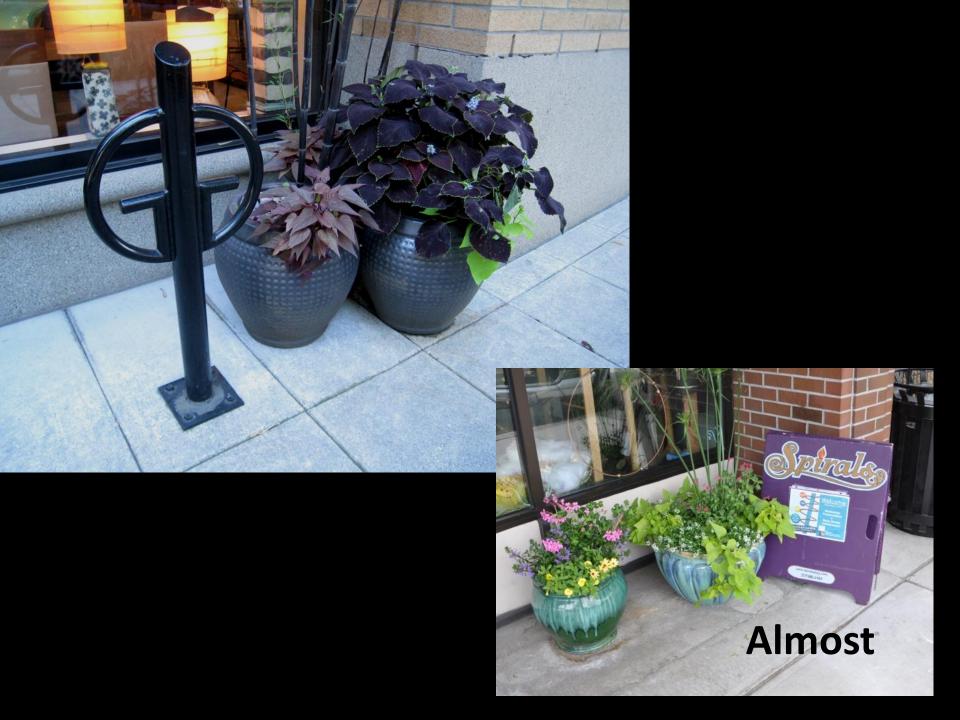








Scale: choose the right size and right material for planters







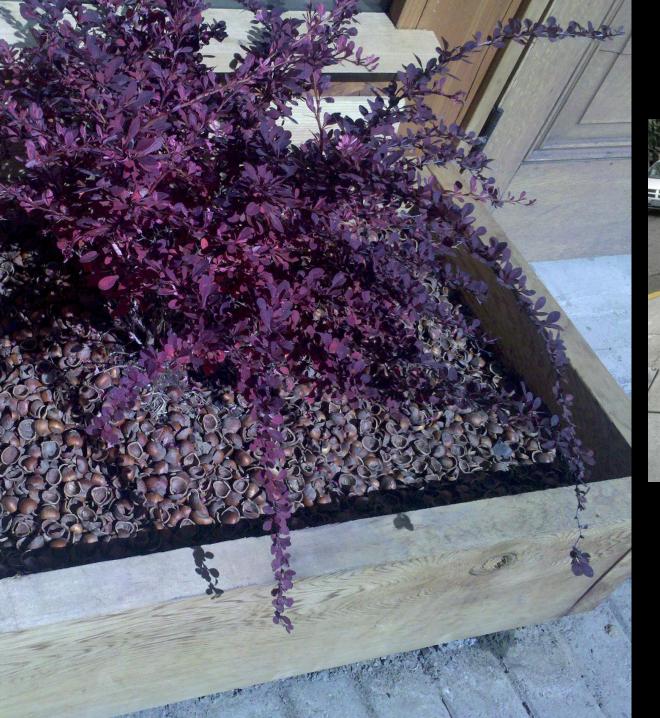








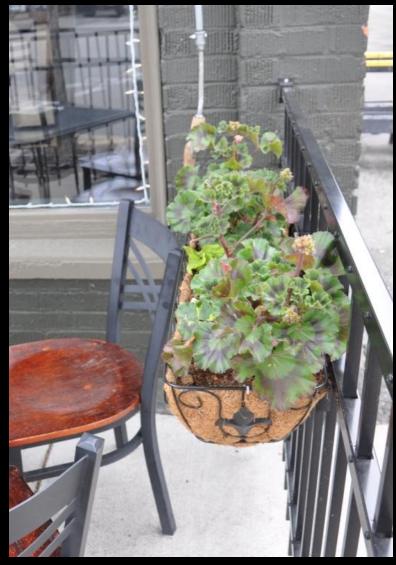
Coordinate plant types and place in area that won't interfere with shopping or reading





What's in YOUR planter?









Where to put planters and where NOT to put them





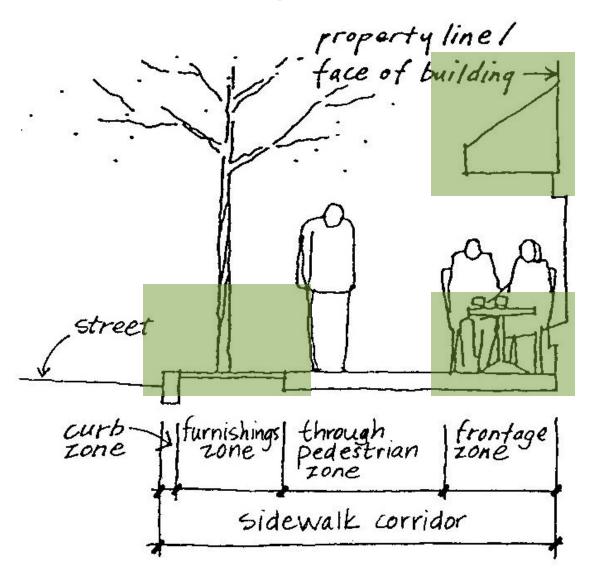








## Coordinating the elements







Keep it close





Coordinate













Keep it simple





Too far and it doesn't relate, it just creates clutter





"Bee" Creative !





Be unique





Which one "says" local?





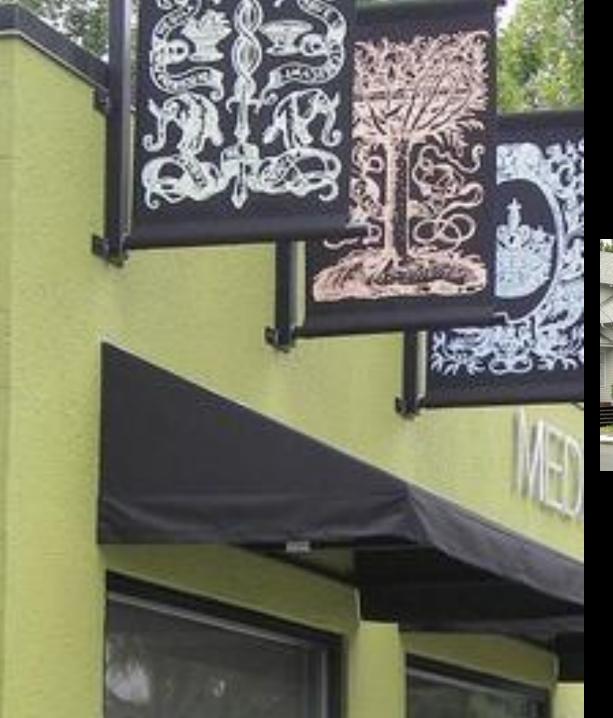




Make a "Monumental" statement. Create your own signature landmark.











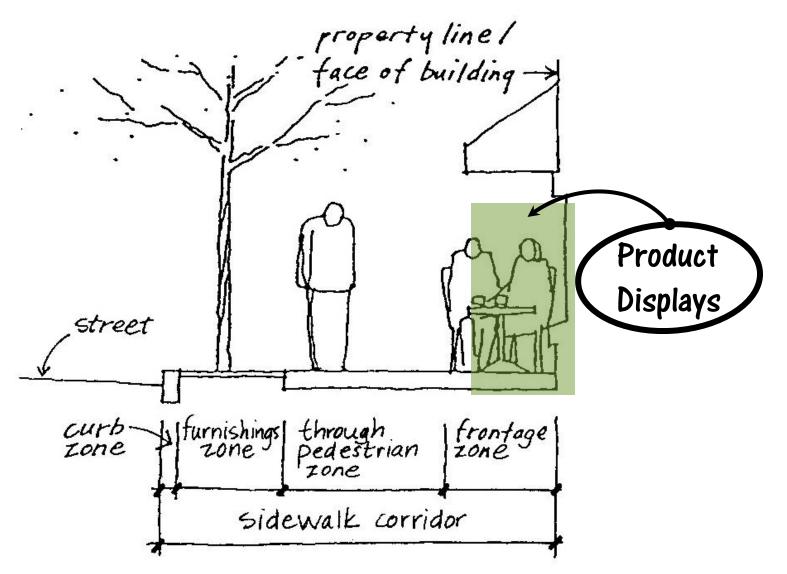






These informational of flags add visual clutter to the district. Located in the furnishings zone the banners feel more promotional than informational and can easily be ignored

## Merchandising





















Keep your merchandise approachable









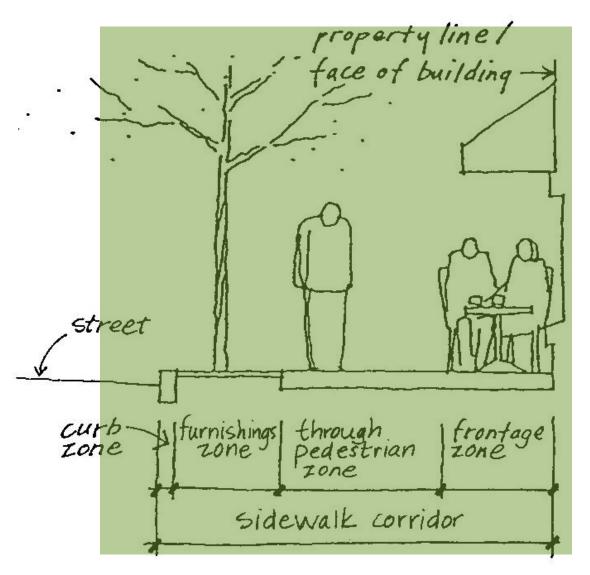








## Putting it all together













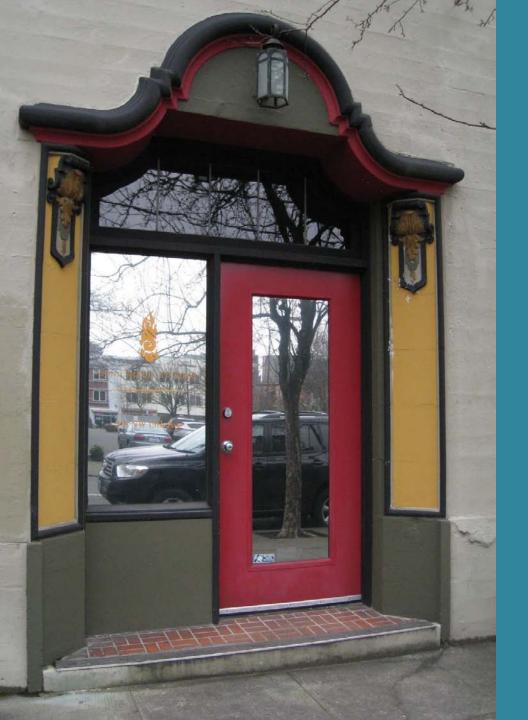








Each zone well and appropriately occupied



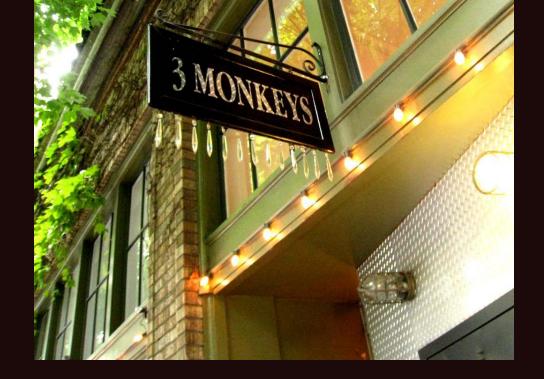
Preview of upcoming topics >>>





**AUGUST** 

Trade secrets of distinctive signs and lighting









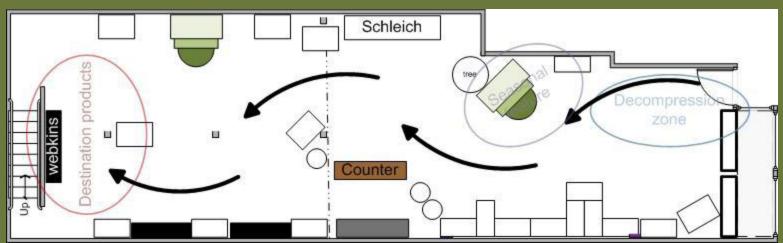


**SEPTEMBER** 

Design your way to improved sales









## **OCTOBER**

Window reflections (Is your best side showing?)





NOVEMBER

Can-do customer promotions