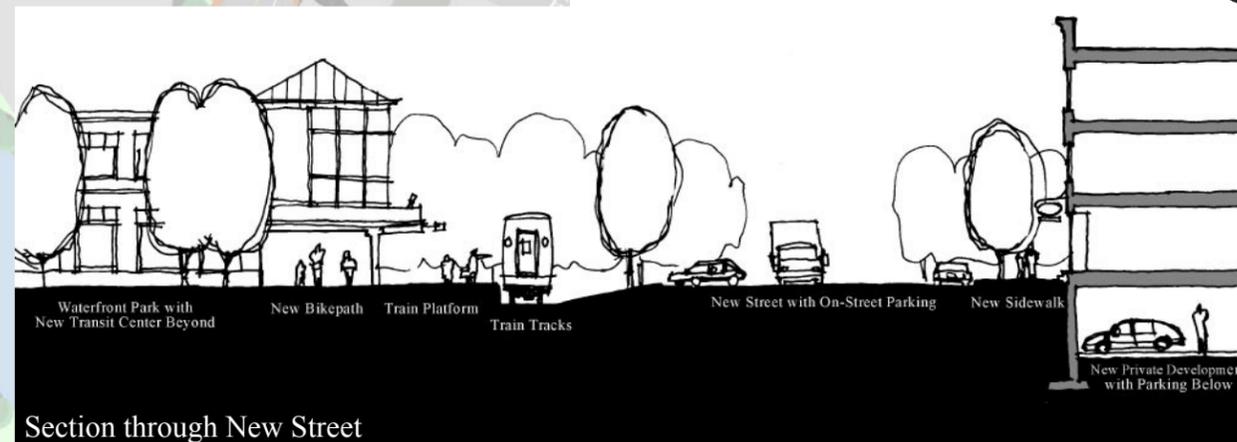
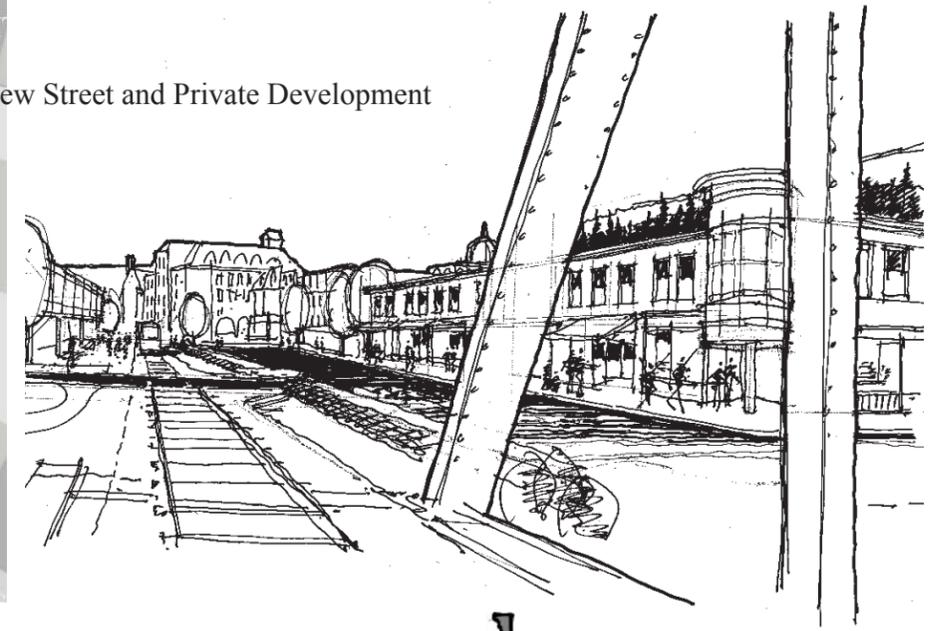


Street Improvements

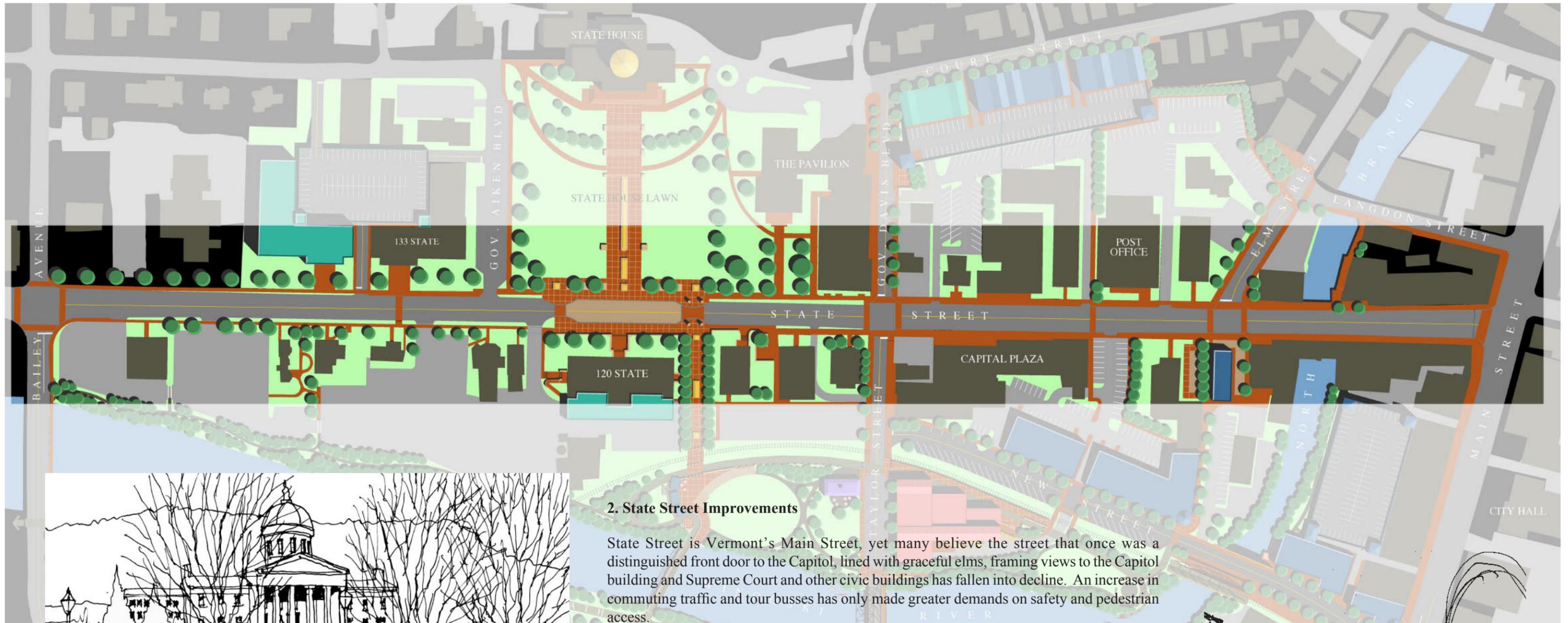
1. New Street Extension from Taylor to Barre Street

Enormously popular in public comments was the concept of extending Barre Street to Taylor Street on the north side of the WCCR tracks. Street construction would include two-way lanes, on-street parking, sidewalks, a bike path connection, landscaping and a new bridge across the North Branch. The Master Plan shows a possible alignment of the road and how a connection could be made to a parking structure. Also included is the accommodation of additional development on the corner of the Barre Street extension and the end of the art supply building. Implementation of this street is subject to a number of funding strategies, permits and negotiations with private property owners.

View of New Street and Private Development



Section through New Street



2. State Street Improvements

State Street is Vermont's Main Street, yet many believe the street that once was a distinguished front door to the Capitol, lined with graceful elms, framing views to the Capitol building and Supreme Court and other civic buildings has fallen into decline. An increase in commuting traffic and tour busses has only made greater demands on safety and pedestrian access.

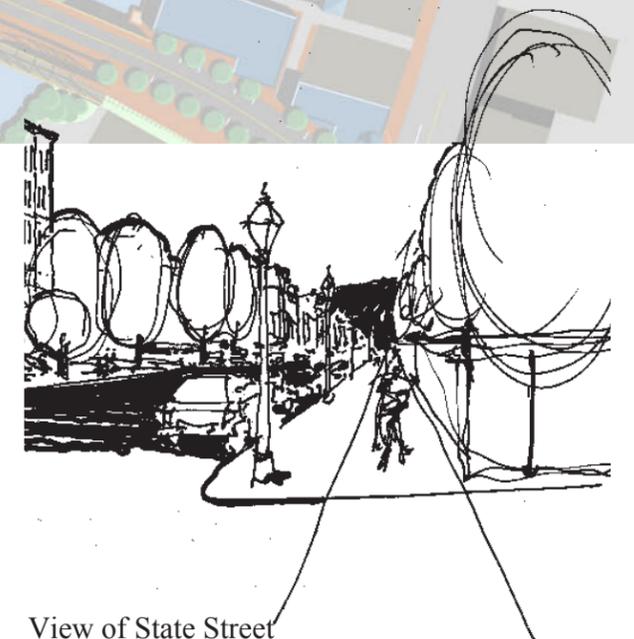
In 1997, the VAOT planned a major reconstruction project for State Street and the Rialto Bridge over the North Branch. Those projects were cancelled due to the impacts upon the downtown that reconstruction would create.

It is the recommendation of the Master Plan that an improvement project for State Street be re-initiated but that the "purpose and need" be altered to be more reflective of the types of improvements that the city desires: to make State Street a distinguished urban street befitting a State Capital, better pedestrian access, and a landscape design of statewide significance.

The State of Vermont, through the Department of Buildings, is independently planning many of these improvements. Projects that are currently underway include, improved lighting around the Capitol lawn, street tree replacements, and establishment of a Winooski River connection. It is hoped that these and other improvements will reinforce the commercial downtown extent of State Street as it nears the Main Street intersection.



Improvements to State Street in front of Capital



View of State Street