

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

Alta Planning + Design

Alta Planning + Design is North America's leading multimodal transportation firm that specializes in design, planning, and implementation of bicycle, pedestrian, greenway, park, and trail corridors and systems. Alta's mission is to create active communities.

Key Qualifications:

Implementation that reflects the intent of the design

Uses engaging public input processes to guide design options

Experience working with communities of all sizes, from rural to urban and everything in between

Experience with NACTO, CNU/ITE, AASHTO, MUTCD, and ADA standards and guidelines

At Alta, we use our unique expertise in active transportation planning and design to strengthen the identities of cities, towns, and corridors, while making them more livable, people-focused, and vibrant.

Parks and Urban Spaces: We understand the opportunities, challenges, funding and management mechanisms, and maintenance standards specific to developing open spaces. Our parks and urban designs enhance opportunities for recreation, access to nature, and restoring habitat. These investments are aimed at producing both economic and quality of life benefits.

Trails and Greenways: We have worked on more trail and greenway projects than any other firm in North America. Our services include complete trail master planning, visioning, alternatives analysis, and project design, as well as developing environmental documentation, property acquisition strategies, accurate cost estimates, maintenance plans, management plans, and funding strategies. Alta's experienced team will see that implementation of planned facilities occurs smoothly, from securing easements and permits to construction documentation and administration.

Alta worked with the City of Denton, MD to develop recommendations for enhancing the town's character to reflect the unique history of Denton.



Green Infrastructure and Best Management Practices: Alta blends ecological function with landscape aesthetics by incorporating best management practices, durable materials, and green infrastructure elements into our designs. Our planting, grading, and irrigation concept plans are intertwined to create durable landscapes that conserve water resources and require low maintenance.

Wayfinding, Gateway, and Signage Systems: Alta’s wayfinding, gateway, and signage systems are inventive and reflect an area’s identity while addressing the needs of pedestrians, bicyclists, drivers, and transit riders. We understand the key elements of creating systems that are safe, navigable, and accessible. Our thorough and specialized understanding of federal and state MUTCD, DOT, and ADA standards allows us to be creative while meeting specific requirements.



Complete Streets: Our Complete Streets approach creates opportunities for people to choose how they move through a community, while enhancing the function and character of a street through traffic calming, streetscape elements, and green infrastructure. Alta is experienced with addressing technical and community issues, seeing that applicable standards are met, the intended users are well served, and conflicts and impacts are avoided. We are the primary authors of the NACTO Urban Bikeway Design Guide and practice what we preach.



Alta produced this photosimulation for Shiloh Square in Springdale, Arkansas so that stakeholders and community members could easily get a sense of the look and feel of proposed improvements. Construction on the square will begin in the fall of 2015.



For a cycle track in Lincoln, NE, Alta identified an opportunity to capitalize on additional project funding from the City's Watershed division by designing stormwater infiltration planters in the buffer between the cycle track and parallel parking and in pedestrian refuge islands at each intersection. The project is currently being bid for construction.



The concept for the Burke Gilman Trail in Seattle, WA includes separating users by mode and creating "mixing zones" at trail intersections.



The Memphis Main to Main Initiative project will establish a 12-mile regional multimodal corridor that will increase and improve alternative transportation options in the Memphis metro area



The Water Tower Pavilion in the Broad Street Arts District was one initiative that resulted from a community charrette to improve livability in Memphis. Tom Tavella, FASLA, PLA worked with community artists to design the space, which is used for performances and community events like swing dance lessons.



The HampLine Overton-Broad Connector closes a key gap in the Memphis bicycle network between the Shelby Farms Greenline and Overton Park in Midtown Memphis. It connects neighborhoods with the emerging Board Street Arts District and Water Tower Pavilion. Alta designed and oversaw construction for both on- and off-street portions shown above.