

PROJECT 180

Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

In 2009, after *Prevention* magazine named Oklahoma City “the worst city for pedestrians in the entire country,” Jeff Speck was commissioned to complete his very first Walkability Study. The effort was timely, as it coincided with plans just underway to remake the center of the city. As a result of a new high-rise being constructed by Devon Energy, a \$140M TIF was being issued to rebuild almost every street in the 40-block downtown core. The design team, led by Jim Burnett, asked the firm to create a curb-to-curb design for every street.

The resulting plan—initially rejected due to fears of congestion—reduced the number of driving lanes by one third, reverted a largely one-way system back to two-way, added comprehensive biking facilities, and more than doubled the amount of on-street parking. Now largely implemented without major congestion, these changes have been credited by local officials with bringing downtown Oklahoma City back to life.

CLIENT
City of Oklahoma City,
Devon Energy

COLLABORATORS
The Office of James
Burnett,
Murase Associates,
AECOM

TIMELINE
2009

CATEGORY
Downtowns

BUDGET
\$140 million TIF

SCALE
180 acres

STATUS
Largely Completed

AWARDS
2011 ASLA Texas
Chapter Honor Award
in Planning; 2022
Charter Award Winner,
Congress for the New
Urbanism

REFERENCE
Mick Cornett,
Former Mayor,
mickcornett@me.com

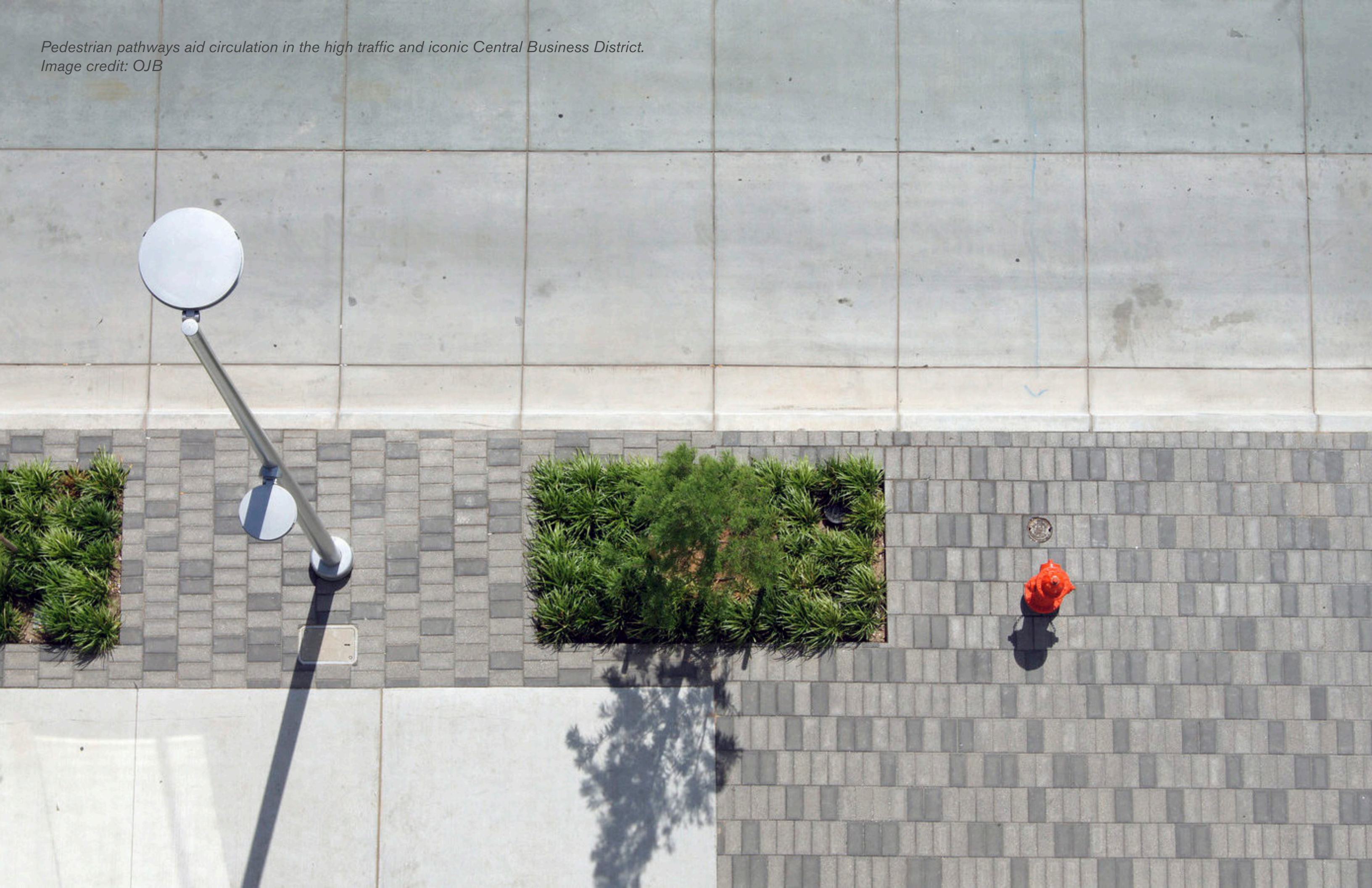
“The city has exploded with new recreation and food venues. The demographics of our city have changed so much with the influx of young adults starting their careers; downtown feels alive and metropolitan!”

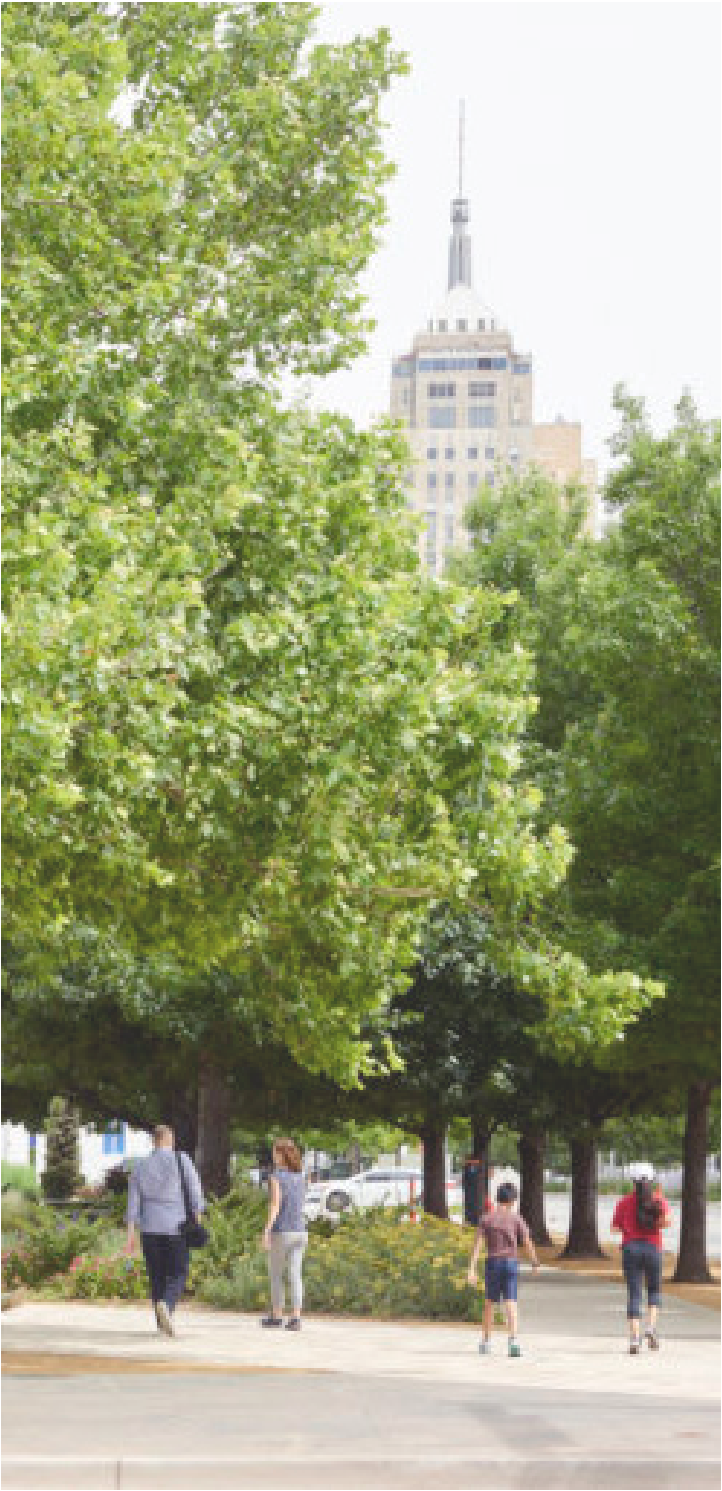
— Laura Story, Program Manager



After a comprehensive Walkability Study, a curb-to-curb redesign of 50-blocks in Downtown Oklahoma City accommodated both extensive bike facilities and doubled on-street parking. Image credits: OJB

*Pedestrian pathways aid circulation in the high traffic and iconic Central Business District.
Image credit: OJB*







Before and After: One of the wider streets in downtown, narrowed, replanted, and with new parking and cycling facilities.