

**DESIGN OF COURT SQUARE IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE DOWNTOWN MASTER PLAN
MONTGOMERY ALABAMA
IN COLLABORATION WITH DOVER, KOHL & PARTNERS**

HPE RESPONSIBILITY:

Develop Proposals to Enhance Walkability in the Study Corridors while also Providing for Economic Enhancement; the design of Court Square was a major accomplishment.

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Hall Planning & Engineering, Inc. participated as a subconsultant with Dover, Kohl & Partners to assist in developing transportation conceptual design services for the downtown area of Montgomery, Alabama. Transportation objectives included increased walkability and economic redevelopment.

A key result of this effort, among many, was the following:

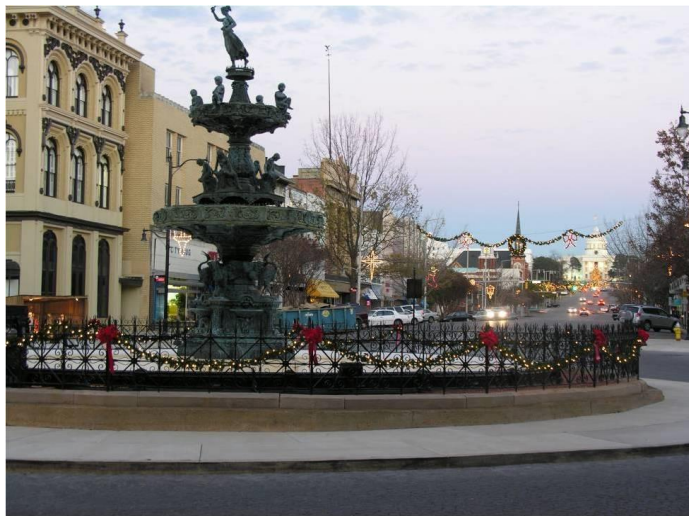
- Redesign of the Court Street Plaza to restore circulation around the historic fountain in the plaza. Plaza redesign featured in "New Urban News"

Court Square Plaza is an example of how traffic engineering standards can be met and applied in innovative ways to reclaim public spaces for multimodal movement.

HPE, working with the City staff and residents, designed a space that caters to pedestrians and motorists alike, with minimal use of traffic control devices. Forgoing the more conventional roundabout design originally proposed and creating a less-regulated space helped emphasize the multi-use function of the design for both automobiles and pedestrians. The explicit emphasis of HPE's design was to manage vehicle speeds to increase pedestrian safety along this historically significant street, which leads directly to the Alabama State Capital. The new plaza concept is similar to Court Square's historical form, but with modifications to address 21st century concerns with vehicle speed. A historic fountain serves as the central island, around which the traffic circulates in a roundabout-like fashion, with the deflection helping to manage traffic speeds. The addition of rough, cobbled texture to the design also helps to create low speeds and enhance the walkability of the area.



Visualization of new Court Street Plaza (Computer image by Urban Advantage)



Court Square Today



Hall Planning & Engineering, Inc.