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# Historic Downtown Rogers Getting a Facelift

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**ROGERS--** Revitalization plans in the works for Historic Downtown Rogers. The public weighed-in on the plan for the first time, Tuesday, curious for what's in store for the future of Rogers.

"I think this has the potential to be the most substantial downtown of all the downtowns," Gateway Planning, President, Scott Polikov, said.

The revitalization plan of Historic Downtown Rogers is underway. A Dallas-based firm, Gateway Planning, is behind this project that may kick-off, as early as next month.

"The downtown plan really reflects the unique personality of the people that are already part of downtown," Polikov said.



City of Rogers Mayor, Greg Hines, says one of the goals for this initiative is sustainability.

"Focusing on this residential development. That will take care some of the other issues that have historically plagued us, because we'll now have a market of people living in a walkable, bikable distance of Downtown," Hines said.

Hines says this plan requires about 200 acres of Downtown Rogers to be rezoned, a task to be handled by the Rogers Planning Commission.

"We're trying to make the downtown, which was platted and developed a hundred years ago, fit into today's zoning. For me I think it's important to get rid of those barriers for those folks that are interested in developing or redeveloping in downtown," Hines said.

Polikov says their focus is for downtown to give people a "sense of arrival".

"There's a perception that Downtown Rogers is kind of off the beaten path from the rest of the region. We want you to feel like that you're arriving in downtown much sooner," Polikov said.

Polikov says they are planning to take Rogers to the next level while working with what's already being developed in the city.

"This has the opportunity to have a range of housing all kinds of retail all kinds of businesses and employment. It could become, in the truest sense, the full downtown of the Northwest Arkansas region," Polikov said.

The next step for the Rogers Downtown Initiative is for the planning commission to adopt this plan which may happen during their meeting, next Tuesday.

Rogers City Council Members will be presented with the plan, July 14th.