

Downtown Silver Spring

LOCATION Silver Spring, MD

CLIENT
Peterson Companies
Prince Georges County

MARKET Urban Design

AWARDS & CERTIFICATIONS
ICSC International Design &
Development Award Certificate of
Merit (2005)

The Downtown Silver Spring project is a prominent mixed-use redevelopment near the Silver Spring Metrorail Station. The master plan includes more than 400,000 square feet of retail; nearly 300,000 square feet of office space; two public parking garages with integrated ground floor retail; a 20-screen cinema complex; a 170-room hotel; and one of the American Film Institute's three locations that showcases the restored Depression-era Silver Theater. The plan also includes the historic preservation of one of the country's first strip shopping centers.

To enhance the image of Silver Spring as an arts district, LandDesign designed plazas and others space to accommodate everyday users while still remaining flexible enough for small events. The historic Gateway Plaza shopping center marks the entrance to Downtown Silver Spring and is highlighted by a plaza and a pedestrian breezeway that lead users through the shopping center to Silver Plaza. This events plaza is surrounded by retail spaces and contains an interactive fountain and a variety of landscape features.

LandDesign was engaged by the development team to help make the transition from plan to reality. This role included working with the Maryland National Capital Parks & Planning Commission to refine the signature set submissions to the County and develop construction documents for over half of the redevelopment area. The greatest challenge involved accommodating the extensive existing infrastructure within the project vision.