



## Hickory Inspiring Spaces Initiative

**LOCATION**  
Hickory, NC

**CLIENT**  
City of Hickory

**MARKET**  
Planning

Hickory has made significant investment in its public spaces over the years with parks, greenways, Union Square, the SALT Block, landscaped intersections on Hwy 70 and in downtown. The plan for Inspiring Spaces will seek to make strategic investments in Hickory through a capital improvements plan over the next 10 years in order to attract additional private investment.

As communities compete with one another to attract such investment, the presence of quality parks and greenways, attractive streetscapes, vibrant plazas and other public spaces becomes an important marketing tool. With the Inspiring Spaces initiative, Hickory is positioning itself to be a community of choice in the region. The Inspiring Spaces Plan will identify opportunities for bolstering economic development through improvements to key cultural, institutional, and natural destinations, and the linkages between them.

It is a city-wide planning process that will provide a framework for prioritizing improvements to the public infrastructure and properties to promote Hickory as a welcoming and vibrant city, as well as a thriving place to work, live, and play. The plan will identify priority construction projects, their associated costs, and an implementation schedule for improving the appearance and functionality of streets, parks and public areas throughout the city.