

# Spotlight: Dayton's Community Park

In 2011, Dayton Main Street established a vision to transform a surface parking lot, adjacent to the town's renowned historic train depot, into a vibrant community park and town center. Through three phases over eight years, the Main Street program, the Dayton Development Task Force, worked to bring this vision to life. The Main Street organization funded the entire creation of the public space through fundraising with private donors and leveraging the B&O Tax Credit program. In addition, the organization facilitated a three-way memorandum between the Main Street, the City of Dayton and the Dayton Historic Depot to ensure the park is well-maintained into the future.

Caboose Park and Town Center celebrated its dedication in September 2019, providing Downtown Dayton with a quality public space. Flowering landscaping, well-used playground equipment, meandering walkways, and plenty of seating for gathering and socializing fill the half-acre park. For the parents who bring their children to the park for playdates to tourists and visitors of the Historic Caboose Museum, to teenagers hanging out with friends after school, the Caboose Park and Town Center now serves as a valued public space in Downtown Dayton.

Images: Downtown Dayton Association



## 78% Clean-Up

Initiatives range from hosting Community Clean-Up days to employing street ambassadors to maintain clean sidewalks.



## 33% Storefront Signage

Signage efforts include storefront, façade signage, and A-frame sidewalk signs for businesses.



## 63% Lighting

Between streetlights, helping business install exterior lighting and seasonal lighting displays, Main Streets help ensure downtowns are well lit.



#### 52%

#### **Street Banners**

Street banners, often created and maintained by Main Streets, promote the area and strengthen the individual brands of downtowns.