



Lately:



We have kicked into high gear for 2024. Each of our committees have put forth their project work plans for the year and have begun chipping away at getting those projects moving. See below for a peak. We applied for a \$2500 grant for bike audits in partnership with the Putnam County Health Department and are almost ready to submit for the \$7500 placemaking grant for the alley. We were fortunate enough to use the Ottawa Boy Scout House twice in the new year: for the first of our 'Parks Conversation Series,' and for our Annual Membership Meeting with a special guest from Heritage Ohio. We were also able to speak at an Ottawa Kiwanis meeting and enjoyed participating in the Ottawa Area Chamber's #lovelocal campaign! We are looking forward to what the next couple months brings. Last, but not least, the Cultural Committee has decided to join our ranks as part of our Promotions Committee! Grateful to have their support!

Go Ottawa's Upcoming Plans

THIS WINTER

'Parks Conversation Series' + Finalizing alley design & implementation + Drafting wayfinding & design guidelines

THIS SPRING & SUMMER

Spring themed event + Opening of DORA + Bike Audits + Thursdays at the Rex + Kids Fest on 8/10

THIS AUTUMN

Go Ottawa Race on 9/28 + Main St 2nd Floor Tour + Friday Pep Sessions



There is still much planning to be had for all of these initiatives to occur, but this is our aim. If one draws your interest, please reach out and we would love to get you involved.

Heritage Ohio

In our 'Lately' section, we mention that Heritage Ohio came for our Annual Meeting. Go Ottawa is an Aspiring Community of the Heritage Ohio Main Street program. By being a part of this program, we are joining a trusted network with a proven track record for revitalizing our beloved downtowns. It offers to be a valuable resource for our new non-profit: guiding us on our structure, connecting us with other communities, and providing trainings on the tools available to us.

The Main Street program is guided by eight key principles.

- 1) Comprehensive: For successful and lasting results, a comprehensive approach must be used.
- 2) Incremental: Starting with small projects creates progress and momentum at the same time.
- 3) Self-help: Long-term success depends upon the involvement and commitment of the community.
- 4) Public/Private Partnerships: Each sector has a role to play, and each must understand the other's strengths and limitations so that an effective partnership can be forged.
- 5) Identifying and Capitalizing on Existing Assets: Business districts must capitalize on the assets that make them unique.
- 6) Quality: Quality must be emphasized in every aspect of the revitalization program.
- 7) Change: Changes in attitude and practice are necessary to improve current economic conditions.
- 8) Implementation-Oriented: Frequent, visible changes are a reminder that the revitalization process is under way.

The Alley

Thank you to all that participated in providing feedback on our three design options for the alley. Our reach was over 13,000 on Facebook! It may be just an alley, but it can be so much more - and that was evident in your engagement. We are still working through final design decisions and budget, but will continue to keep you updated as we progress. To the right is our latest iteration. If interested in contributing towards the alley, please reach out at: hello@go-ottawa.com.



Get to know our Board



Design Director, Principal
@ Krouse Design & Brick
Street Studio

My wife Trista and I moved to Ottawa in 2006. We have three daughters. When we travel as a family, we seek out vibrant, walkable towns and cities. I once commented to my wife that I wished Ottawa had a little more life, energy and offering downtown; similar to the places we like to visit. She looked at me and said strongly but calmly, "Well why don't you do something about it." Fast forward, I'm grateful to be on this board surrounded by some of the most motivated, insanely talented people who share that same passion, vision and hope for what Ottawa can become. There definitely is something happening here and I'm grateful to be part of it. Onward!
