

### TRANSPORTATION ACHIEVEMENT AWARD – COMPLETE STREETS

#### GBA, Miles Excavating Inc., and Olathe, Kansas, for the Kansas Avenue Streetscape Initiative



GBA, Miles Excavating Inc., and the City of Olathe, Kansas, have received a 2023 Transportation Achievement Award in the Complete Streets Category for their **Kansas Avenue Streetscape** initiative. The Transportation Achievement Awards recognize excellence in the advancement of transportation to meet human needs, by entities concerned with transportation, such as governmental agencies, Tribes, legislative bodies, consulting firms, industry partners, and other organizations. Awards are presented in five categories: Complete Streets, TSMO, Safety, Planning, and Traffic Engineering.

Located in downtown Olathe, Kansas, this streetscape project encompassed over 2,500 linear feet of roadway improvements with the goal to advance safety for all the traveling public, including pedestrians, cyclists, and users of alternate means of transport. Just south of the busiest intersection in downtown Olathe, this stretch of Kansas Avenue provides access and on-street parking for multiple Olathe businesses and government buildings. Kansas Avenue's 16-foot-wide through lanes appeared to be encouraging higher than posted traffic speeds through the corridor. With a total pavement width of 78 feet, the design intent of the project was to reduce the vehicular roadway width from an overly wide, three-lane road to a more typical two-lane road shifted to the west. On-street parking would be maintained, and the remaining roadway width on the east side could be repurposed to incorporate a 10-foot wide, two-way protected cycle track. The streetscape improvements planned for the project were also an opportunity to bring a sense of aesthetic continuity to the downtown area.

The design for the project incorporated multi-modal transportation for vehicles, cyclists, and pedestrians as well as spot subgrade improvements and a mill and overlay; the project includes what is likely the first two-way, buffered cycle track in Kansas.

Congratulations to team members: **Lucas Rosenbaum**, PE, Project Manager, GBA; **Austin Lamparter**, PE, Project Manager, City of Olathe; **Jane Miles-Breuer**, Director of Operations, Miles Excavating, Inc.; **Kendra Miller**, PE, PTOE, Traffic Leader, GBA; **Chris Novosel**, PE, Traffic Engineer, GBA; and **Brandon McBride**, PLA, Senior Landscape Architect, Olsson Studio.

View more about the [Kansas Avenue Streetscape](#) project.