We think the compromise helps address two of the problems confronting the downtown area. It will provide more parking and make that corner more attractive from an aesthetic standpoint.

While the condemnation resolution speaks to landscaping of the Sixth and Main corner, we think consideration must be given to the aesthetics of other parking areas in the downtown area.

We understand that is encompassed in the downtown beautification plan for which funds are earmarked. The project is in a “hold” position right now since it involves not only parking lots but development of the 600 and 700 blocks on the north side of Main Street, the memorial park south of the Civic Center, the Sixth Street connecting link between the civic center and downtown and development of a new sign ordinance.

The components must be pulled together soon so that the downtown beautification plan can be implemented during the next construction season. If progress hinges on a joint effort of city officials and downtown property owners and businesses, steps to forge that alliance and move the project forward should be taken quickly.