

Kiosk, signs featured in downtown Clemson

BY GREG OLIVER
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CLEMSON — Portions of downtown Clemson received a kiosk and four wayfinding signs Friday.

The kiosk is placed in front of the old Planning and Codes office while the wayfinding, or primary, signs are from S.C. 93 to Keith Street. Five to six additional signs will be installed once permission is formally granted by the state Department of Transportation.

"We're on track to have a good and aesthetically pleasing downtown to welcome students back," Blondeau said.

The signs were installed by Hilton Displays.

Blondeau said the kiosk is a 12-foot decorative display containing information about downtown dining and shopping, Clemson Area Transit buses and all athletic events.

"People can download the information they receive into their smartphones," he said.

The kiosk and new street signs — which include business placards to indicate which businesses are located on the side streets branching off College Avenue — are part of the city's initial phase of its multi-year Streetscape project.

"It will give the downtown more of a unique identity and provide more exposure to businesses on College Avenue, particularly those

on the side streets where improvements have been taking place," Blondeau said. "Each business had the opportunity to buy advertising space (on the street signs) and 19 businesses participated."

Streetscape improvements not only included sidewalks, landscaping, on-street parking and decorative street lighting, but also overhead utility relocation by Duke Energy on North Clemson Avenue and new mast arm traffic signals on Tiger Boulevard and College Avenue.

Blondeau said several new trees will be planted on the side streets of North Clemson, Sloan and Earle streets in October.

"It's just too hot right

now to tear down existing trees," he said.

After Welcome Back Clemson takes place Monday night, Blondeau said no significant work with the Streetscape project would occur until October. He said a new mast arm signal is also scheduled for installation on Berkeley Drive and S.C. 93 sometime this fall.

Although the Streetscape project is nearing the end of its first phase, with three summers remaining, Blondeau said he is pleased with the improvements the downtown area has experienced so far.

"When we look back on what we did, you can tell we were there," Blondeau said.

greg@dailyj.com | (864) 973-6687

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The first kiosk was officially installed Friday in front of the former Planning and Codes office on College Avenue in Clemson. In addition to the kiosk, which contains business and restaurant information, four new wayfinding street signs were installed on nearby side streets.

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