

Downtown Truckee park not likely this summer

By Greyson Howard
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TRUCKEE, Calif. — A small park in downtown Truckee may not be in the cards this summer, but those involved with its construction assure that funding is on its way.

The pocket park, proposed by the Mountain Area Preservation Foundation for the Corner of Bridge and Jibboom streets, was put on hold earlier this year when a \$93,500 grant from the state was frozen. But as state funds are beginning to thaw, planning is moving forward, said Kaitlin Backlund, executive director of the foundation.

“Starting construction this summer is very optimistic at this point because we are working with the delayed grant,” Backlund said.

Backlund said she is working with the Sierra Nevada Conservancy on the grant, and with the Town of Truckee on a new timeline.

“We want to have good timing with the town to hold at least one workshop to get ideas from the public on the conceptual plan,” Backlund said.

Grant funding will be used for project planning and design, which tentatively could include a small plaza, landscaping and art, she said.

“We want the project to be completed up to the standards set by the Sustainable Sites Initiative of LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) landscaping architecture,” Backlund said.

Once the plans and public process are complete, Backlund hopes \$50,000 already set aside by the town is enough to complete the construction phase.