

VISIONS OF BELEN

April 5, 2018

Vision of Belen is a monthly feature in our newsletter which provides illustrations of how buildings and vacant lots in our MainStreet District might look. Sketches of existing buildings show how they might be improved to make them more attractive to businesses and potential customers. We might also provide sketches of buildings on vacant lots that people are looking at to purchase and illustrate some of their ideas about how they are thinking of utilizing the property. These Visions of Belen could have a significant impact on our district, adjacent businesses and our community in general.

This month we are featuring a vacant lot on the southwest corner of 2nd and Becker. This lot is directly across from the Belen Hotel and if you were at our Great Blocks presentation or our Biz Briefs Breakfast at Rita's (4th Thursday of each month) you would have seen the potential park which could be located across the street on the southeast corner of 2nd and Becker and the beautiful roundtable intersection improvements that are being planned for this intersection.



The elevation sketch below illustrates what a building being considered for this location might look like. The sketched building below covers everything from the corner to the bowling alley which is lightly outlined to the right. If you zoom in a little you can see that some of the style features were borrowed from the Harvey House but they are not exact duplication but rather similar to suggest local vernacular from by gone days. Specifically, the covered sidewalk arches, the arched opening with the awning, the warehouse type street lamps, the pitched roof and the accessible balconies.



What we imagine occupying this building are shops on the ground floor and apartments on the two floors above them with off street parking in the rear, out of sight. This façade would also wrap around the corner and run to the alley.

For our Visions of Belen we try to look at the best case scenario because we want the best for the people of Belen and if that is what we show that is what people will start expecting. If you have any comments you want to share you can contact us at the Chamber of Commerce offices on Dailies or come to our Biz Brief Breakfast and comment and get involved.

UPDATE: Unfortunately a few years after this was written the bowling alley burned down.