Plazas tend to anchor urban civic institutions. The front of the Orange County Courthouse does just that. It anchors the northern end of Orange Avenue which is bookended by the Orlando City all on the southern side. The courthouse plaza focuses visitor’s attention on the massive 23 floor tower which houses the region’s most important halls of justice. It contains both hardscape and landscape features, including a ring of trees, and sculptures.

HLM Design Architects of Charlotte, NC, said their concept was created to consider both building use and pedestrian traffic and scale. The courthouse is located in Orlando’s Central Business district and only a short stroll from bustling restaurants and businesses. Highly walkable, downtown Orlando also houses beautiful Lake Eola, the Orlando History Center, and the Orlando Library.

If current plans are realized, the Orange County Courthouse will form a district completed to the west by the “Creative Village” project which is still under the conceptualization process.