

Urban Design Review Panel

Mandate and Composition

Mandate	The Urban Design Review Panel's mandate is to provide independent, professional design advice, from an urban design and architecture perspective, on public and private development and major redevelopment proposals through pre-application enquiries development permit applications and development liaisons on sites citywide with significant impact on the public realm.
Composition	 6 Architect members of the Alberta Association of Architects 3 Members of the Alberta Association of Landscape Architects 2 Members of the Alberta Professional Planners Institute 2 Members of the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of Alberta

Details

Chair	Chad Russill
Number of meetings in the last year.	 Team Composition & Make-Up The Urban Design Review Panel is divided into two teams to handle the overall workload, each team typically meeting once a month. Collectively the Panel reviews presentations every two weeks, with special sessions scheduled to address workload when required. Co-chairs and Panel members frequently alternate between teams to address both schedule and the occasional company conflicts, as well as to satisfy increased attendance purposes (when required).
	 Recent Policy Changes & Feedback The Panel continues to review PEs and Land Use Amendments, per recent Terms of Reference amendment that revised past processes in this regard. Early review of projects continues to be critical, as this is the time at which review has greater impact on the final outcome. The implementation of electronic submissions reduced both proponent costs and the environmental impact, as well as provided a smoother transition to COVID-19 implications. Meeting Format & COVID-19 Changes The Urban Design Review Panel continues to meet and review presentations, via Microsoft Teams. Distribution of electronic submissions remains consistent factor

	in preparation. Format, meeting process, and timelines for deliverables remain consistent in delivery of UDRP review and comments. See Outline of 2020 Workplan for additional reference.
Summary of initiatives, projects or work completed or ongoing in the last year.	 Basic 2019 Statistics - 24 UDRP meetings held 23 regular scheduled sessions 1 special session - 40 projects reviewed (majority being Development Permits) 4 Land Use Amendments 10 Pre-Application/schematic reviews
Outline of 2020 work plan.	- The Panel continues to meet every two weeks (pending on applicant submissions and application review timelines). COVID-19 did not interrupt scheduled review sessions through March and April of this year, as the Panel immediately transitioned to a virtual platform being implemented. While this change takes some adjustment for all participants, it has proven to still be effective in the review of applications.
	- Meeting format begins with approximately thirty minutes of general administrative items, followed by review of one, two or three submissions per session.
	- Each individual presentation and Panel review lasts one hour in duration.
	- The Panel consolidates comments verbalized during the meeting, distributes draft internally for member review and comment, required revisions/additions are integrated and then forwarded to Administration for circulation to the applicants.
	- Final comments are completed within one week after the presentation review session.
	- Timing to revert the current Microsoft Teams format back to in-person meetings is unknown and will only occur when it is safe and advisable to do so. Until that time, the Panel continues to function in the adjusted format and meet the defined UDRP objectives.
Challenges to fulfilling mandate.	None submitted
Additional information you would like to share with Council.	Presentation