



## Urban Design Review Panel

### Mandate and Composition

|                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| <b>Mandate</b>     | 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. |
| <b>Composition</b> | The Panel is comprised of 12 public members as follows:<br>5 Architect members of the Alberta Association of Architects;<br>3e members of the Alberta Association of Landscape Architects;<br>2 members of the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of Alberta; and<br>2 members of the Alberta Professional Planners Institute.                             |

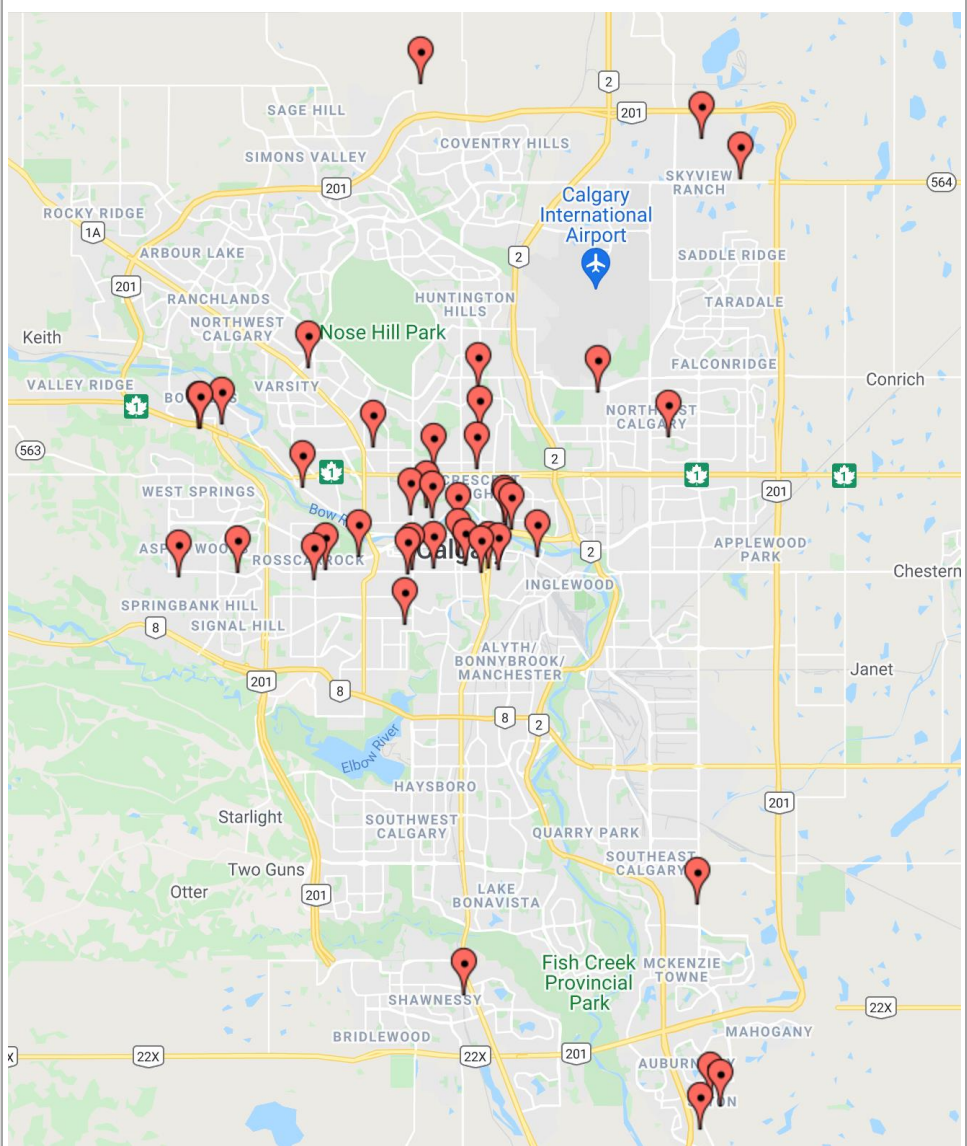
### Details

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Chair</b>   | Chad Russell, Chris Hardwicke (Co-chairs)   |
| <b>Summary of initiatives, projects or work completed or ongoing in the last year.</b> | <p><a href="#">Recent Policy Changes &amp; Feedback</a></p> <p>The Panel continues to review PEs and Land Use Amendments, as per the Terms of Reference. Early review of projects continues to be critical for the review to have impact on the development.</p> <p>The Panel continues to review electronic submissions which has reduced both proponent costs and the environmental impact, as well as provided a smoother transition to COVID-19 implications.</p> <p><a href="#">Summary of Work</a></p> <p>The following chart outlines the UDRP activities itemized by meeting type comparing yearly statistics from 2017 to 2020. The following map locates all the applications that were reviewed in 2020.</p> |



## Urban Design Review Panel

| UDRP Statistics                  | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 |
|----------------------------------|------|------|------|------|
| UDRP Meetings Held               | 24   | 25   | 24   | 26   |
| Regular Scheduled Sessions       | 22   | 20   | 23   | 24   |
| Special Sessions                 | 2    | 5    | 1    | 2    |
| Projects Reviewed                | 46   | 47   | 40   | 44   |
| Land Use Amendments              | 1    | 7    | 4    | 4    |
| Pre-Application/Schematic Review | 7    | 14   | 10   | 14   |



**Map: Applications reviewed in 2020**



## Urban Design Review Panel

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <p><b>Outline of 2021-2022 work plan.</b></p>  | <p>The Panel continues to meet every two weeks (pending on applicant submissions and application review timelines). COVID-19 did not interrupt scheduled review sessions as the Panel immediately transitioned to Teams. While this change took some adjustment for all participants, it has proven to still be effective in the review of applications.</p> <p>Meeting format begins with approximately thirty minutes of general administrative items, followed by review of one, two or three submissions per session.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> |
| <p><b>Challenges to fulfilling mandate.</b></p> <p><i>(COVID impacts will be documented in the next section)</i></p> | <p><b>Submission Quality</b></p> <p>Submission packages presented to the Panel vary in completeness and quality dramatically. Although the Panel welcomes the opportunity to review projects early in their development some packages do not have enough information to inform the discussion.</p> <p><b>Feedback</b></p> <p>There is no feedback loop between UDRP and CPC or Council. UDRP has no information as to the results of the applications other than viewing all CPC and Council meetings. Without feedback it is difficult to understand how effective the UDRP comments are at improving results.</p>  |
| <p><b>Additional information you would like to share with Council.</b></p>   | <p><b>Urban Design Elements</b></p> <p>One of seven goals in Calgary’s Municipal Development Plan is to “make Calgary a livable, attractive, memorable and functional city by recognizing its unique setting and dynamic urban character and creating a legacy of quality public and private developments for future generations.” In addition to a number of urban design objectives, the Municipal Development Plan includes a set of guiding urban design principles that contribute to achieving excellent design outcomes, which inform city policy, establish urban design expectations</p>  |



## Urban Design Review Panel

|  |   |
|--|---|
|  | <p>on all projects across the city, and create the framework against which the urban design aspects of all project applications will be measured.</p> <p>The Panel is advising staff on a revision to the Urban Design Elements that are used as a guide for Urban Design Review. The revisions are intended to clarify the intent and meaning of the Elements while making them more easily applicable in the evaluation of applications as part of the design review process. A revised Quality Evaluation Template will reflect the changes to the Elements.</p> <p><a href="#">Panel Selection Process</a></p> <p>The Co-chairs of the Panel worked with staff to develop a UDRP Skills Matrix to assist in the selection process for new Panel members. The matrix includes professional affiliations and specialized skills. Selection of panel members took into consideration gender balance and diversity to ensure a wide representation. A challenge to achieving diversity on the Panel is that applicants are not given the opportunity to self-identify as part of the application process.</p> <p>The addition of Katherine Robinson and Anna Lawrence as new Panel members will contribute to achieving greater gender balance. Staggered terms will allow the panel to continue to address gender balance and diversity over time without compromising the ongoing effectiveness of the panel.</p> |
|--|---|

### Impact of COVID-19

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>How many meetings were held since March 2020?</b>  | 26  |
| <b>How has public participation in meetings been impacted?</b><br><br><b>Please identify any barriers to accessibility, participation, etc.</b> | The public does not participate in UDRP meetings.   |
| <b>How do you manage to continue the work of the</b>  | 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 |



---

## Urban Design Review Panel

---

**committee in the current situation?**

process, and timelines for deliverables remain consistent in delivery of UDRP review and comments.

Attachment:

A. Rosedale Affordable Modular Housing Tour

City Staff arranged a tour of the Rosedale Affordable Modular Housing for UDRP members. Rosedale Highlights is managed by Calgary Housing Company and is comprised of 16 new homes that will provide housing stability for up to 50 Calgarians. These units are unique in that they have been built as prefabricated buildings offsite and delivered complete to the site at nighttime by a crane over the 16 Avenue sound wall, then completed in place with interior finishing, exterior cladding and landscaping. Below is an image from the tour:



**Urban Design Review Panel**





---

## Urban Design Review Panel

---