

# **URBAN DESIGN REVIEW PANEL**

May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024

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## Outline

- UDRP Overview
- Panel Selection Process
- New and Outgoing Members
- Application Geography
- Panel Workload
- 2024 Main Priorities
- UDRP Impact



## **UDRP Overview**

The Panel's mandate is to provide **independent** and **professional** Urban Design and Architectural advice.

The Panel provides comments on development proposals that may have a significant impact on the public realm.

The Panel reviews and comments on:

- Pre-application enquiries,
- Land use redesignations,
- Development permit applications
- Development liaisons on sites citywide



## **UDRP** Composition

UDRP is not an approving body but an **Advisory Group** with a mandate to help improve and/or peer review projects with an **outcome of creating exceptional projects** within the City of Calgary.

The Panel is comprised of two alternating teams. The alternating groups ensure diversity of experience as each Panel team consists of min:

- 5 Architects
- 2 Planners
- 3 Landscape Architects
- 2 Engineers

The Panel comments are distributed to City Staff, the Calgary Planning Commission, and Council to inform the approval process.



### **Panel Selection Process**

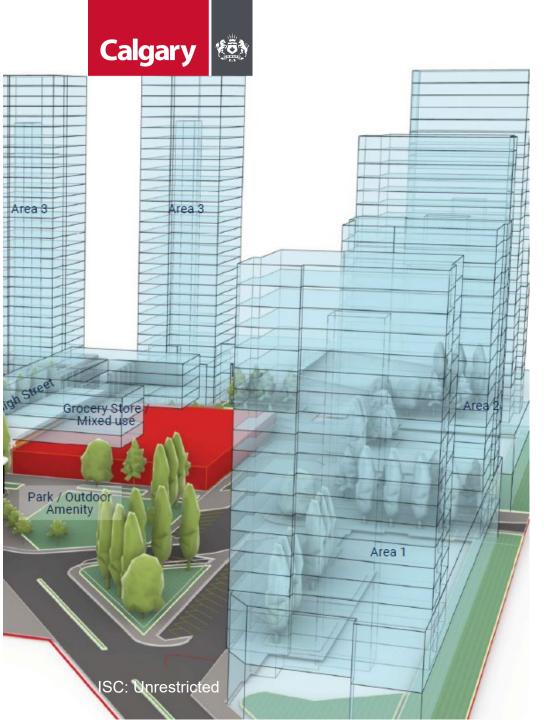
### **Skills Matrix and Diversity**

- Assists in the selection process for new panel members
- Includes professional affiliations and specialized skills
- Supports focus on getting to the best balance of skill sets while working to ensure gender balance and diversity overtime

Panel members attended an Equity, Diversity and Inclusion session hosted by the City.

### **Member Selection Process**

A more open and public selection process is attracting a broader range of applicants. This will continue to improve the potential to assemble a more diverse and inclusive panel in the future.



# **New & Outgoing Members**

### Wish to thank our outgoing members

- Chris Hardwick
- Jadwiga Kroman
- Gary Mundy
- Glen Pardoe
- Jack Vanstone

### Welcome our new members:

- Rasool Ghodoosi
- Boris Karn
- Maria Landry
- Ryan Martinson
- Brendan Stevenson





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# New Projects June 2023 - May 2024

UDRP reviews projects which range in complexity and context from greenfield auto court and auto oriented midrise residential, non-market and mixed-use developments, to important landmark buildings such as the Arts Commons Transformation and Event Centre

The Panel considers the economics, context and project typology to provide design recommendations that are feasible for each project reviewed.

1204, 1210, 1212, 1216 11 Av SE 615 17 Av SW 4611 17 AV SW 531 24 Av NW 17070 72 St SE 9935 Elbow Dr SW 2138 33 Av SW 1550 Na'A Dr SW 527 17 Av NW 630 1 Av NE 120 10 A St NW 1550 84 ST SE 615 17 Av SW 1001 17 St NW 13425 Symons Valley Rd 6086 Country Hills Blvd NE 332 17 Av SW 321 10 St NW 55 Shawnee Blvd SW 1015 3 Av NW 1609 4 St SW 110 12 Av SW 1108 4 St SW 3613 33 St NW 4126 Perraton Av NW 13651 Sage Hill St NW 1301 16 Av NW 1878 Na'a Dr SW

10 11A St NE 906 1 Av NE 560 Belmont Wy SW 1201 Na'a Dr SW 519 12 Av SE 2020 Crowchild Tr NW 1130-1132 Gladstone RD 332 17 Av SW 222 8 Av SE 3416 3 Av NW 11519 29 St SE 1429 9 AV SE 3633 Westwinds Dr NE 2505, 2519 Richmond Rd SW 740 19 St SE 2101 33 Av SW 1400 1 St SW 305. 329 Belmont Av SW 205 Greenbriar VW NW 519 12 Av SE 35 11A St NE 104 13 Av SE 2152 Mahogany BV SE 101 17 Av SW 414 1 Av NE 15350 37 St SW 13651 Sage Hill St NW 1301 16 Av NW

1878 Na'a Dr SW 10 11A St NE 906 1 Av NE 560 Belmont Wy SW 1201 Na'a Dr SW 519 12 Av SE 2020 Crowchild Tr NW 1130-1132 Gladstone RD 332 17 Av SW 222 8 Av SE 3416 3 Av NW 11519 29 St SE 1429 9 AV SE 3633 Westwinds Dr NE 2505, 2519 Richmond Rd SW 740 19 St SE 2101 33 Av SW 1400 1 St SW 305, 329 Belmont Av SW 205 Greenbriar VW NW 519 12 Av SE 35 11A St NE 104 13 Av SE 2152 Mahogany BV SE 101 17 Av SW 414 1 Av NE 15350 37 St SWv

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### **Panel Workload**

The Panel meets every two weeks with two alternating UDRP teams.

In addition to this, special sessions are scheduled when required to accommodate higher application volumes.

Panel members frequently swap sessions to accommodate individual commitments, conflicts of interest, etc.

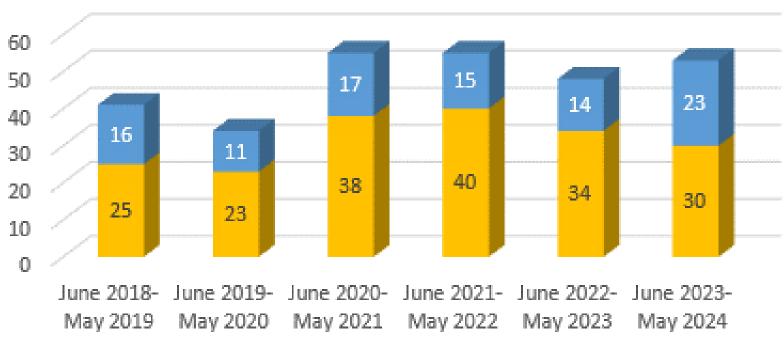
The early review of projects is the most effective opportunity to meaningfully impact design quality.

### **Pre-Application Submissions**

Very pleased to see an uptake in Pre-Application Submissions across the City which enables effective feedback in advance of time and energy being spent.

Applicants should be commended for being willing to engage in early discussions as the Pre-Application Submissions have increased by 64% as compared to 2023.

## Panel File Review Volume



# Development Permit / Development Liaison Reviews # Early Design Reviews

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# Panel Workload

	June 2018 – May 2019	June 2019 – May 2020	June 2020 – May 2021	June 2021 – May 2022	June 2022 – May 2023	June 2023 – May 2024
UDRP Meetings	27	23	32	28	27	27
Regularly Scheduled	24	21	27	26	24	22
Special Sessions	3	2	5	2	3	5
Development Permit/Development Liaison Reviews	25	23	38	40	34	30
Pre-Application, Schematic Reviews	16	11	17	15	14	23
Land Use Amendment Reviews	4	4	5	2	2	4
# Total Early Design Reviews	20	15	21	17	16	27
<b>Total Applications Reviewed</b>	45	38	60	57	50	57

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## **Time Commitment**

Panel Members ± 120 hours Chairs ± 150 hours

Total ± 1500 hours

Equivalent to (in professional fees)

±\$300,000



### **2024 Main Priorities**

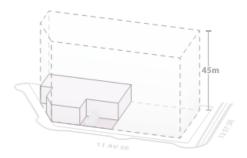
Priorities for the Panel for the upcoming year are:

Collaborate with City Staff to ensure that the quality and consistency of submission package materials will continue to improve. There has been a measurable improvement of the application materials year over year.

Continue to develop comment guidelines to guarantee that Panel comments are clear, consistent, and proactive to ensure an effective peer review relationship with applicants.

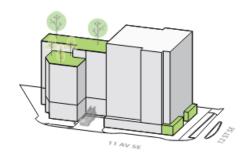
Request that City Staff deliver Planning and Urban Design staff comments together with applicant packages for review in advance of meetings.





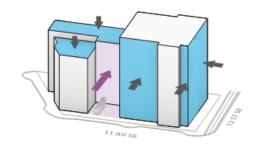
### 3. Emerging Local Area Policy

Align maximum building scale to reflect the emerging draft policy of the Historic East Calgary Local Area Plan.



#### 5. Resident / User Amenities & Publicly Accessible Multi-Modal Hub

Introduce indoor / outdoor resident and user amenity spaces, with publicly accessible program space at grade.



#### 4. Massing & Scale Relief

Provide the required Fire Station tarmac overhead clearance while introducing transitions of building mass and scale to maximize public realm on the east and south.



#### 6. Streetscape Activation

Integrate streetscape improvements to activate all street-fronting building edges.

## **UDRP** Impact

Urban Design Review Panel ensures that **Design Quality** is prioritized in the approvals process.

The impact of the UDRP is **significant** and wide-ranging in increasing Design quality in our City.

Outcomes of increased Design Quality:

- Maintaining and creating neighborhood character
- Promotion of walkability
- Activation of public streets
- Improved Main Street retail
- Attraction of tourism
- Fostering city pride
- Building community and social cohesion

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# Questions?

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