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MAR 05 2018

ITEM: 7.1 PUD2018-0170  
Admin Presentation - Public  
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# Urban Design Initiatives Update

PUD2018-0170

March 05, 2018

## **Council direction re: Urban Design Review Framework**

**July 24 2017, Council:**

1. Approved the revised Terms of Reference for the Urban Design Review Panel;
2. Received the revised Urban Design Review Protocol and revised Implementation Plan for information; and
3. Directed Administration to bring back a Report, through the Standing Policy Committee on Planning and Urban Development, that identifies and evaluates what, if any, design gaps currently exist in new outline plans, and determine, in conjunction with the development industry and stakeholders, how best to address that gap, and redundancies that may exist among the organizational bodies involved in the review process, no later than 2019 Q1.



## Purpose of this Report

- Seek Council's confirmation of Administration's direction on work related to the *Urban Design Review Framework*:
  - a) Outline plan design gap evaluation;
  - b) Redundancies of organizational bodies in the design review process;
  - c) Urban design review monitoring program;

as outlined in Attachments 1, 2 and 3, and

- Provide an update on other Urban Design initiatives, including:
  - Backyard suites (laneway housing design guidelines)
  - The *Quality Development Project*

# Outline Plan Design Gap Evaluation

- Will focus on three core areas to help determine where any gaps may exist:
  - Policy
  - Process
  - Product (*Built Environment*)
- Industry, communities, and internal stakeholders will be engaged to identify and evaluate issues and opportunities and determine, collaboratively, how best to address them.
- Three stakeholder-specific workshops were held 2018 January;
- Engagement will continue throughout 2018:
  - Evaluation (June)
  - Exploring strategies (August)
  - Refining strategies (October)

# Monitoring Program

- Will track a variety of aspects of urban design review services
- Will separate process from content, and
- Tracking will include, for example:
  - the number of projects referred to urban design groups and any impacts of those reviews on application timelines;
  - the number of urban design recommendations acted on by applicants, and
  - the use of and response to design policies and guidelines, including the MDP's 13 Urban Design Elements.
- Analysis will identify where role, process or policy gaps or overlaps may occur, while highlighting urban design topics that are well understood and executed compared to those that require additional focus.



# Redundancies

- The Framework introduced process revisions to avoid unnecessary redundancies between those involved in the design review process and to ensure that any overlaps were productive.
- Often, issues and comments that appear redundant or repetitive may in fact be usefully reinforcing and emphasizing similar themes.
- As part of the monitoring program Administration is collecting information from stakeholders involved in the urban design review process and will be assessing whether non-productive redundancies still occur.



# Other Urban Design Initiatives

## 1. Laneway Housing Design Guidelines

### Council Direction:

On 2017 January 23, Council approved PUD2017-0049 to defer “*preparation of design guidelines for laneway housing into the city wide urban design guideline project, commencing in 2017 and reporting back to Council in Q1 2018.*”

### Work underway or complete

- Best practice research and analysis
- Land Use Bylaw review
- Laneway Housing brochure (draft)

### Project completion dependencies

- Secondary suite March 12, 2018 Council
- Application Guidebook
- Monitoring Program results





## Other Urban Design Initiatives

### 2. Getting to Quality Development

- In response to this greater emphasis on realizing high quality development, Administration has also launched the *Quality Development Project*;
- This project will build on the results of these initiatives to more fully understand and define what quality is and to develop criteria to measure quality outcomes. All of the work in this report will contribute to the overall result;
- **McGill University Project:** *Defining Quality Planning Outcomes for the City of Calgary*  
“Provide a clear and simple criteria for quality planning outcomes for The City of Calgary when considering relevant public plans/policies, and the input of planning staff and key stakeholders”.





## Administration Recommendation:

**That the SPC on Planning & Urban Development recommend that Council:**

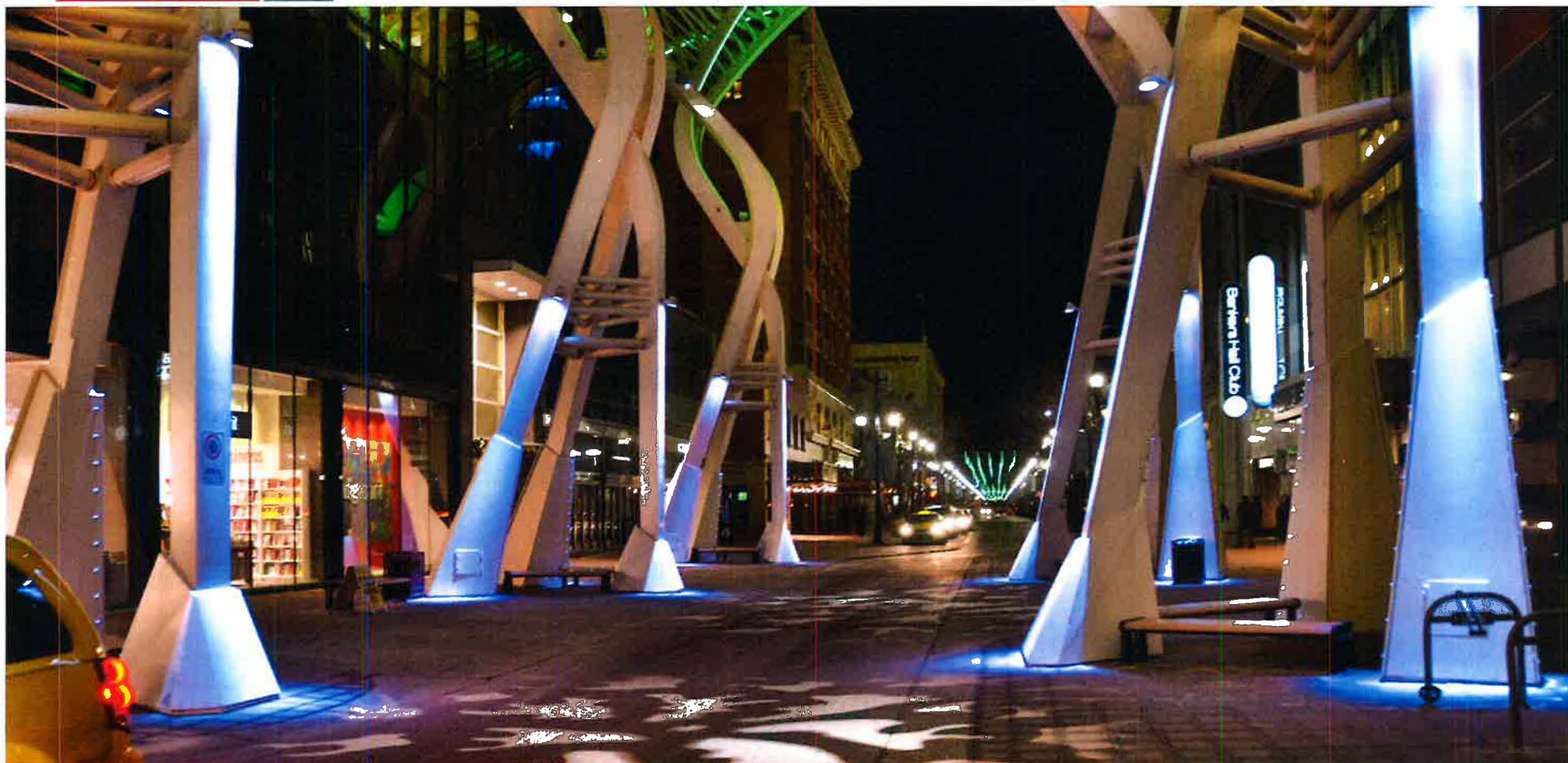
1. Forward this report to the 2017 March 19 Regular Council meeting,
2. Receive for information the following:

Scope of Work - Outline Plan Design Gaps (Attachment 1)

Scope of Work - Redundancies of Organizational Bodies in the Design Review Process (Attachment 2), and

Scope of Work - Urban Design Review Framework Monitoring Program (Attachment 3)

and direct Administration to report back on these items in a combined report not later than Q1 2019.



Thank You