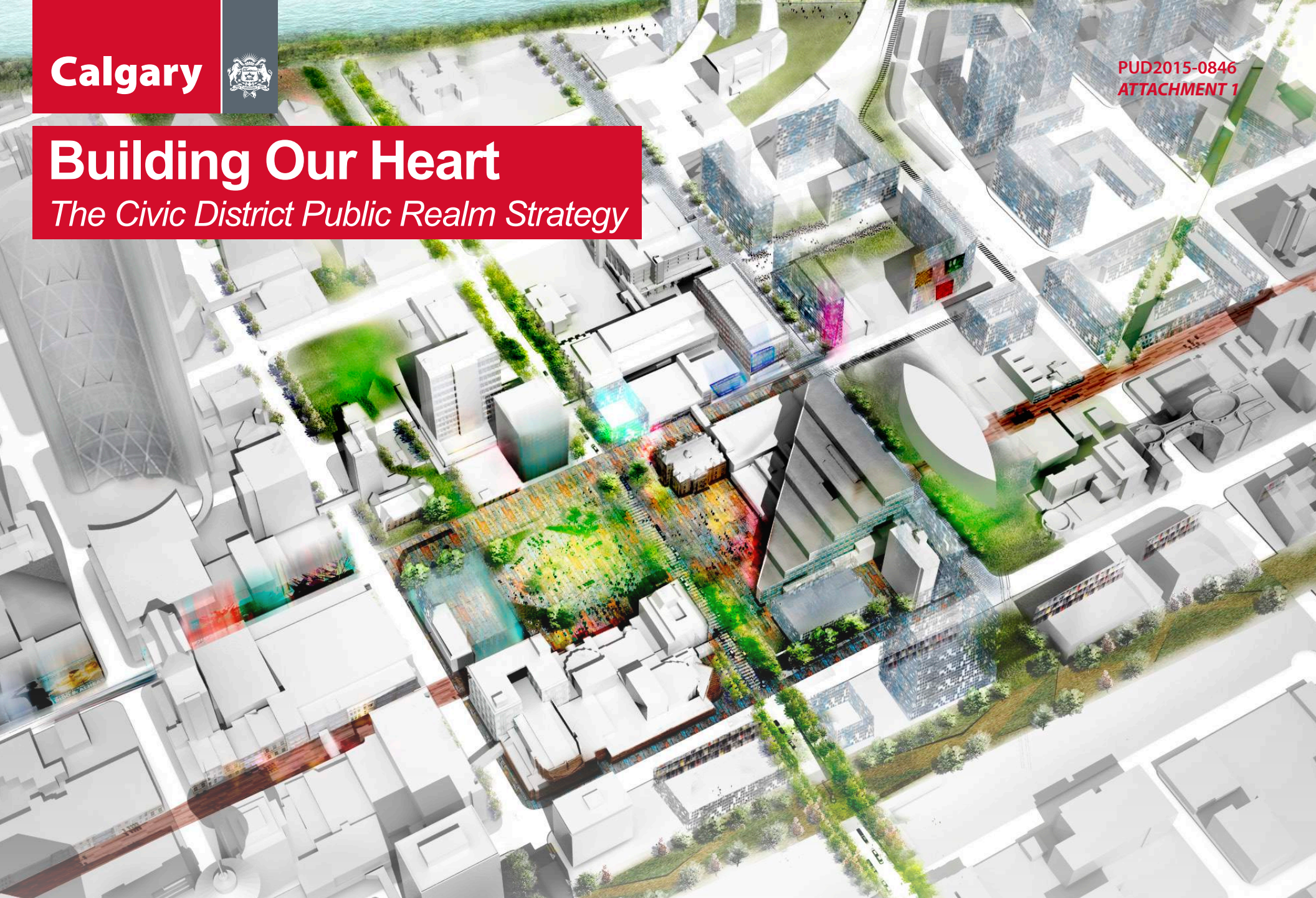




# Building Our Heart

## *The Civic District Public Realm Strategy*



## **Publishing Information**

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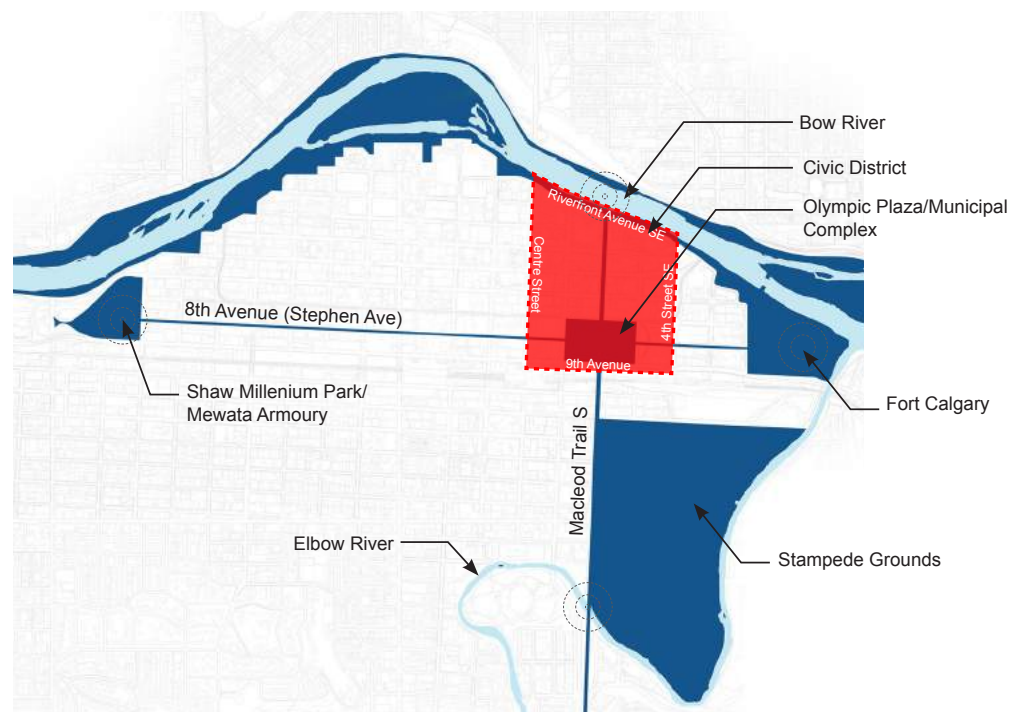
AUTHORS: MARC BOUTIN ARCHITECTURAL COLLABORATIVE INC  
PLACESCAPE  
PFS STUDIO  
ARRIOLA + FIOL ARQUITECTES

LOCAL AREA PLANNING & IMPLEMENTATION

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## Executive Summary

### Where is the Civic District?

The Civic District is centered around the Municipal Building, Olympic Plaza, and the New Central Library, and radiates outward towards Fourth Street S.E. to the East, the Canadian Pacific Railway tracks to the South, Centre Street to the West, and the Bow River to the North.

### What is the Civic District Public Realm Strategy?

The Civic District Public Realm Strategy is a district/neighbourhood Vision consolidation plan and implementation prioritization guideline that can be used to bring the right stakeholders to the table for the right projects leading to the realization of the vision.

The document describes an aspirational future state that reflects what citizens and stakeholders said was important and it includes public realm design principles and criteria that provide guidance for the review of development applications and assessing collaborative stakeholder opportunities in the district. The guidelines describe how spaces should be enhanced and provides a framework to connect the various cultural institutions in the area. In this context the document provides guidance on the implementation prioritization of initiatives, scoping of projects, lists of actions (short, medium and long term) leading to work plans for investment projects to assist in the sustainment of the economic engine of the City.

The Civic District Public Realm Strategy is not a statutory prescriptive policy document but a public realm design guideline to assist in assessing opportunities and needs of the district. In addition the document does not include a funding strategy as this would be developed with projects as they become priorities.

### Understanding What We Heard in the Past

The Civic District PRS aligns with and builds on previous city policies and documents including the *Centre City Plan*, *Centre City Mobility Plan*, and *Centre City Urban Design Guidelines* to support citizens' desires for a Centre City that is Livable, Caring, and Thriving, with Great Streets, Memorable Places, and Quality Buildings as captured in the stakeholder engagement process undertaken for past documents.

### Who Did We Talk To?

To ensure the relevancy of past engagement findings, a multi-tiered engagement process was undertaken for the Civic District PRS that included internal City of Calgary Business Units, nearby institutions and landowners, and the public at large. During this process, Calgarians were asked in-person and online to share their input towards the vision of the Civic District. The vision contained in this document, therefore emerged from this engagement process and is guided by existing documents.

### The Civic District Vision

***The Civic District will be Calgary's focal point for civic pride and a welcoming destination for citizens and visitors alike.***

***Connected public spaces will promote community and urban social living while fostering new opportunities for culture and innovation in a place of discovery.***

***It will be a vibrant, beautiful, safe, and memorable district that reflects the spirit of Calgarians in the heart of the City.***

### Principles

***The Civic District will have animated, human-scaled, and well-connected public spaces.***

***The Civic District will showcase public vitality and energy through education, innovation, and creativity.***

***The Civic District will facilitate and support a renewed sense of spontaneity, discovery, and spectacle during every season of the year.***

***The Civic District will be inclusive, diverse, transformative, and foster cultural growth.***

***The Civic District will celebrate its history and exhibit a sense of pageantry.***

***The Civic District will be environmentally, economically, and socially sustainable.***

### Urban Design Criteria

CRITERION 1 **Legibility**

CRITERION 2 **Active Edges**

CRITERION 3 **Programming**

CRITERION 4 **Activity & Amenity**

CRITERION 5 **Access & Linkages**

CRITERION 6 **Historical Resources**

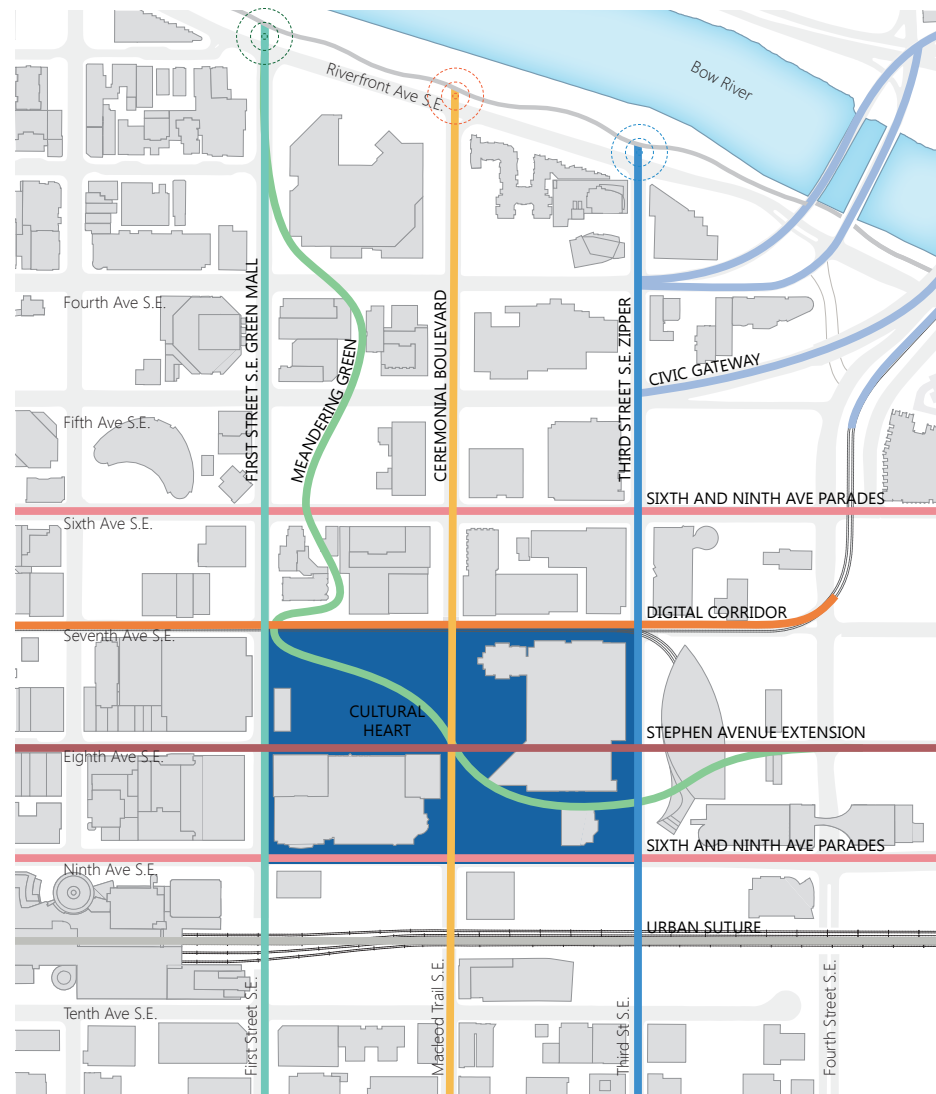
### Implementing the Vision

The vision for the Civic District will be implemented through short, medium, and long term actions embedded in a series of Public Realm Strategies. Each of the Public Realm Strategies described in the following section can be implemented in a variety of ways, including, where appropriate, incorporation into City of Calgary policies, bylaws or procedures and realized through Request for Proposal design processes. The implementation of this document's strategies must be coordinated with the Centre City Plan Implementation Strategy on an ongoing basis. This includes funding strategies in collaboration with public and private partners, as well as taking advantage of better project synergies.

## Public Realm Strategies & Actions

In order to guide the evolution in the public realm over time within the Civic District, ten Public Realm Strategies are presented in the document. Each of these Ten Strategies are connected to existing documents and policies and have been tailored in response to specific stakeholder comments. Each is described through a set of specific Principles, Public Realm Criteria, and Actions to be prioritized and implemented as opportunities arise through public and private development initiatives. The Ten Public Realm Strategies detailed in the Civic District PRS are:

- 01 Cultural Heart:** A legible, transformative, and animated space that unites Olympic Plaza and the Municipal Plaza as the Cultural Heart of the Centre City.
- 02 Stephen Avenue Extension:** A pedestrian and cyclist-focused walk from the Mewata Armoury to Fort Calgary.
- 03 Ceremonial Boulevard:** Connecting the Elbow River, Stampede Grounds, CP Rail lines, Olympic Plaza and the Bow River.
- 04 Third Street S.E. Zipper:** An active, pedestrian-scaled street that supports connections to its diverse collection of destinations.
- 05 First Street S.E. Green Mall:** An engaging, safe, and attractive mobility street that links pedestrians and cyclists to the River pathways through a vibrant public space.
- 06 Digital Corridor:** A rich visual and auditory experience for the thousands of Calgarians who use Seventh Avenue each day.
- 07 Civic Gateway:** An iconic, welcoming, memorable Gateway connecting the Centre City to the rest of the City.
- 08 Meandering Green:** A connected, meandering, green, public art walk for pedestrians in the city.
- 09 Sixth and Ninth Avenue Parades:** Major thoroughfares and a source of pageantry in the city, defined by tall buildings and a vibrant, generous pedestrian realm.
- 10 Urban Suture:** The gradual reclamation of an historical landscape into a public experience that reconnects and reinvigorates the Centre City.

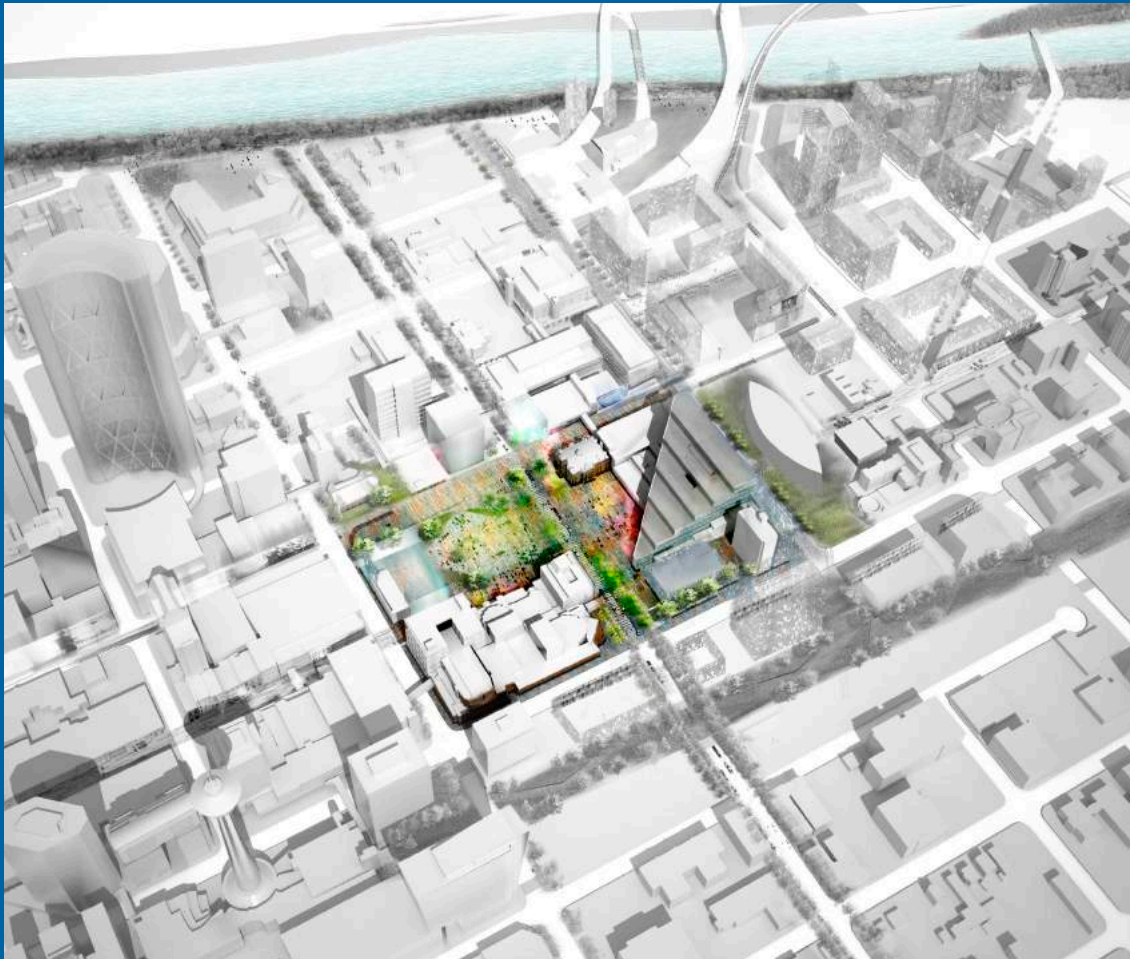


# 01

## The Cultural Heart

A legible, transformative, and animated space that unites Olympic Plaza and the Municipal Plaza as the Cultural Heart of the Centre City.

The Cultural Heart of the Civic District and of the city is the place to embrace the everyday activities of citizens and facilitate events that act as the landmarks in our collective history. Being legible, transformable, and animated are its hallmarks; ingredients that will breathe life into the space for decades to come. As the Cultural Heart, the plaza will connect to public spaces and cultural institutions around it.



### CONNECTING TO WHAT WE HEARD

#### Citizen and Stakeholder Engagement, 2014

Olympic Plaza was identified by citizens and stakeholders as an essential destination and key priority for the Civic District Public Realm Strategy. A general consensus among Calgarians revealed that Olympic Plaza, as well as the Cultural Heart as a whole, could be a more vibrant, comfortable, and animated space for citizens and visitors alike.

One major improvement citizens and stakeholders identified was the need for an enhanced public space centered on Olympic and Municipal Plazas that could provide a memorable, beautiful focal point in the City. More activities, events, and amenities were identified as ways to attract people as well as accommodate a greater diversity of gatherings.

#### Centre City Parks & Public Realm Enhancements Plan, 2010

The Parks and Public Realm Enhancements Plan identified Olympic Plaza as a distinct place in our collective memory that is a stage to the world. The document recognizes Olympic Plaza as a unique emblem of Calgary, and the opportunity for it to be a destination hosting large scale events and festivals while also providing a venue for the everyday activities of citizens.

#### Centre City Plan, 2007

Referred to as the Olympic Plaza Cultural District (OPCD), the Civic District is identified in this document as Calgary's flagship cultural area, housing many of the major cultural institutions, as well as many eating and drinking establishments and retail stores.

Olympic Plaza and its surrounding spaces are recognized as a special area which contributes to the civic and cultural vitality of the Centre City through its programmatic and artistic opportunities. As such, Olympic Plaza is labelled as a key priority for the rejuvenation of the Civic District. The Centre City Plan emphasizes the highest quality of design in this area as well as the active integration of its surrounding land uses.

#### Olympic Plaza Cultural District Manifesto, 2007

In 2007, the Cultural District Manifesto set midrange goals for the area in and around Olympic Plaza. The goals stated that:

- > We will create a place where people not only have a wonderful experience, they expect it.
- > We declare this neighbourhood an Experimental Zone for urban vitality.
- > We are committed to creating a place of exemplary quality in all respects. "Is it good enough for Calgary?" will be the gauge for all new development.

> Every plan, policy and action undertaken by the Cultural District, on its own and with its many partners, will move us closer to realizing the vision for the benefit of all Calgarians.



These goals set a precedent for the character of the Cultural Heart.

## Cultural Heart | Guiding Principles

### PRINCIPLE 1

A space for an intensity of use within the Centre City.



**Director Park, Portland, US** | Previously a parking lot the size of a city block, Director Park was envisioned as a welcoming public destination for all. The canopy, sitting space, lighting, and cafe create an animated porch space which also accommodates large gatherings during events. The center of Director Park provides for an intensity of occupation, while allowing programming and people to spill out onto the streets beyond.

### PRINCIPLE 3

A destination with varying scale and density of public space.



**Federation Square, Melbourne, AU** | A sense of identity and place were the key drivers in envisioning Federation Square as a civic and cultural hub. Federation Square is built on top of working railways and the surrounding buildings produce a variety of scale and density through cascading and interlocking spaces. The space is successfully programmed with over 2000 events a year and the surrounding buildings contain 86% recreational/cultural use and 14% commercial use.

### PRINCIPLE 2

A gathering space that embraces the everyday actions of its users.



**Union Square, New York City, US** | Union Square covers three blocks in Manhattan, and is best known for hosting regular market days throughout the week. Greenery and sunny seating spaces make it a welcoming, comfortable destination that embraces the everyday actions of its users. Markets and amenities attract not only tourists, but encourages locals to animate the square day and night.

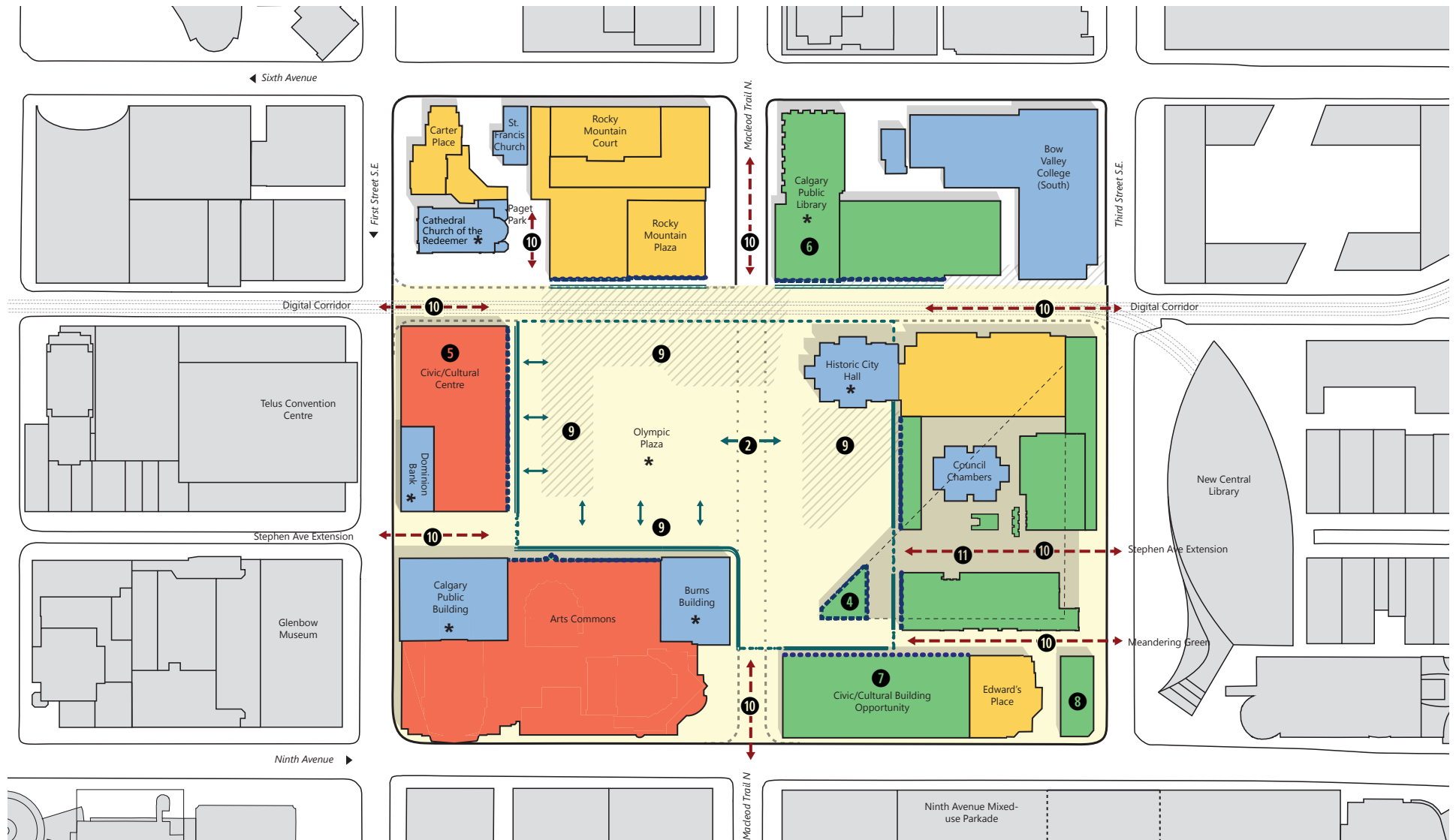
### PRINCIPLE 4

A legible space defined by active edges and a diversity of program.



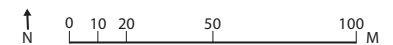
**Rittenhouse Square, Philadelphia, US** | Rittenhouse Square is a popular destination in Philadelphia surrounded by busy shopping areas, streets, and residential use. The edges of the park are well defined with active, multi-use building frontages. The park is animated with greenery, comfortable sitting space, and unique sculptures, in addition to having good connectivity to popular streets such as Walnut Street which make it an accessible destination for all.

# Cultural Heart | Public Realm Criteria



## Legend

- |  |   |  |   |   |
|--|---|--|---|---|
| <span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 15px; background-color: #4f81bd; border: 1px solid black;"></span> Existing Civic/Institutional                               | <span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 15px; background-color: #e6554d; border: 1px solid black;"></span> Proposed Development      | <span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 15px; border: 2px dashed #0070c0;"></span> Consolidated Plaza                                 | <span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 15px; border: 2px dashed #0070c0;"></span> Active Building Edges   | <span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 15px; border-top: 2px dashed #e6554d;"></span> Access Routes |
| <span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 15px; background-color: #fde725; border: 1px solid black;"></span> Existing Office, Commercial, Residential, Hotel, Mixed-Use | <span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 15px; background-color: #4daf4a; border: 1px solid black;"></span> Redevelopment Opportunity | <span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 15px; border-left: 2px solid #0070c0; border-right: 2px solid #0070c0;"></span> Legible Edges | <span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 15px; background: repeating-linear-gradient(45deg, transparent, transparent 2px, #fde725 2px, #fde725 4px);"></span> Sunlight Exposure |   |
| <span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 15px; background-color: #ffffcc; border: 1px solid black;"></span> * Approved Historical Resources                            | <span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 15px; background-color: #ffffcc; border: 1px solid black;"></span> Perceived Space           |  |   |   |



## Cultural Heart | Public Realm Criteria

### CRITERION 1 Legibility

- ③ Redefine the edges of the consolidated plaza by joining the Municipal Plaza and Olympic Plaza to read as a whole.
- ② Allow Macleod Trail to act as a bridge between Olympic Plaza and the Municipal Plaza.

### CRITERION 2 Active Edges

- ③ Activate the edges of the consolidated plaza with pedestrian oriented frontages.
- ④ Express the presence of the Triangle building with active edges.

### CRITERION 3 Programming

- ⑤ Propose a new Civic/Cultural Centre that is programmed with cultural, recreational, and commercial use.
- ⑥ Program the current public library upon vacancy with a use which will contribute to the vibrancy of the plaza.
- ⑦ Propose a new civic, cultural, and/or commercial building/residential hotel at the existing Municipal Parkade.
- ⑧ Program the corner of Ninth Avenue and Third Street S.E. with use that will contribute to at-grade pedestrian activity.

### CRITERION 4 Activity & Amenity

- ⑨ Activate the sunny outdoor space adjacent to the plaza edges and animate the spaces with public use and amenity. Minimize shading/shadowing Olympic Plaza and the open spaces throughout the Cultural Heart through all four seasons.

### CRITERION 5 Access & Linkages

- ⑩ Frame the arrival into the plaza with memorable and welcoming entry ways.
- ⑪ Allow the Municipal Building Atrium to act as an extension of the plaza and a major connector into the East Village.

### CRITERION 6 Historical Resources

- ⑫ Retain the existing historical resources as a source of identity.
- ⑬ Acknowledge Olympic Plaza as a Cultural Landscape and a historical resource and build on the Olympic Legacy through the recognition of significant milestones in Calgary's history.
- ⑭ Acknowledge the importance of our aboriginal heritage.

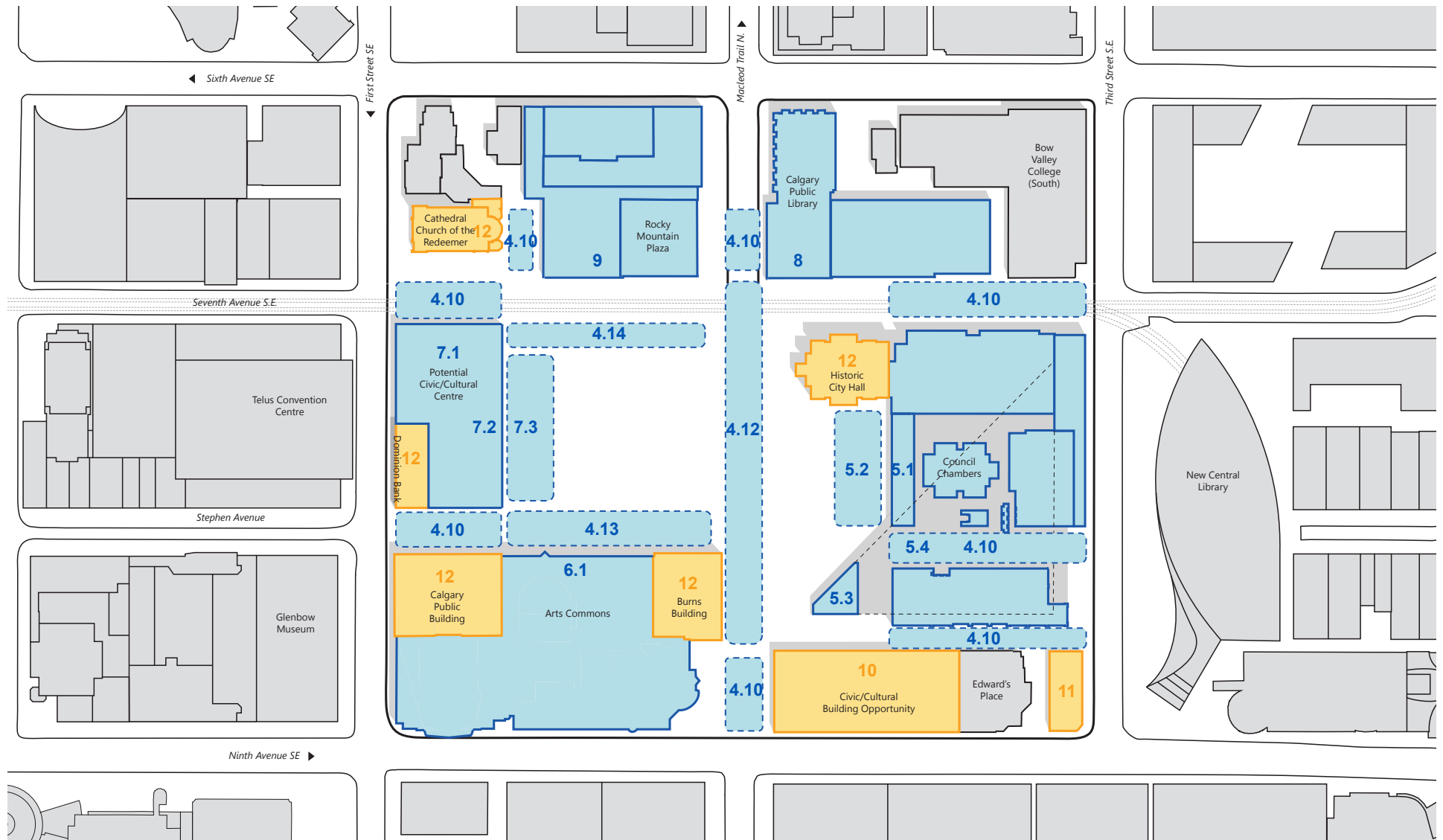


**Millenium Park, Chicago, US** | An urban park with strong public linkages that hosts public art, greenery, and wide variety of public concerts and events.



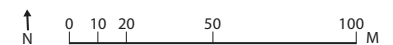
**Schouwburgplein, Rotterdam, NL** | A large urban room that transforms throughout the year to accommodate markets, festivals, art installations, and other events.

## Cultural Heart | Actions



## Legend

- Short-Term Actions
- Medium-Term Actions
- Long-Term Actions



## Cultural Heart | Actions

### Short-Term Actions

- 1 Undertake an integrated street furniture program in and around the Cultural Heart. Identify items such as fences, bins, newsstands, and utility boxes, and remove or renovate them to promote an attractive, unified, and welcoming public realm.
- 2 Support funding dedicated to managing the redevelopment, maintenance, and programming of the public spaces in and around the plaza.
  - 2.1 A website and marketing strategy should highlight the plaza's programming potential, and streamline the process of booking space for events. A marketing campaign should promote the Civic District as a centre of innovation at a local and global scale. The team should also be responsible for the maintenance of facilities, safety, and cleanliness of the area.
  - 2.2 Support a programming strategy to advertise and facilitate a diversity of festivals, events, temporary markets, food truck stands, and exhibitions which activate Olympic Plaza, the Municipal Plaza, and the Municipal Building during all four seasons, at day and at night. Identify with citizen input, a recreational, cultural, and civic programming needs list for the Cultural Heart.
  - 2.3 Investigate funding options, including partnering with the private sector.
- 3 Undertake a lighting strategy for the Civic District as a first step towards a Centre City Lighting Plan.

### Medium-Term Actions

- 4 Refine, phase, and implement a comprehensive Master Plan for the Olympic Plaza, Municipal Plaza, and surrounding buildings to include the following:
  - 4.1 Undertake a cultural landscape evaluation for Olympic Plaza and the Municipal Plaza.
  - 4.2 Engage Citizens, Community Groups, Businesses, Institutions, and City of Calgary Business Units. The redesign of the plazas should be a community driven, collaborative effort of placemaking that advocates citizen ownership and public participation.
  - 4.3 Perform a land use study that identifies the major requirements for new or renovated development adjacent to the space. As part of the development permit applications bordering plazas, review applications to ensure active edges which contribute to the overall vision of the consolidated plaza.
  - 4.4 Study the capacity of the consolidated plaza to accommodate a large standing event and stage with integrated event service. Infrastructure should facilitate a wide range of plug and play events, including temporary seating, covered areas, equipment, and service accessibility. Additional exhibition services include integrated access to power, water, and gas. *[See Appendix C: Diagram C.1, Diagram C.2]*
  - 4.5 Create a strategy to facilitate everyday uses and programmed events that foster creativity and attract everyday interest by incorporating public art, buskers, vendors, water features, and greenery into the improved plaza.
  - 4.6 Define how the role of Olympic Plaza differs from other public spaces in the Centre City including Eau Claire Plaza, Prince's Island Park, and St. Patrick's Island. Develop a cohesive and integrated lighting plan for the plaza and its surrounding buildings. The lighting plan should activate the edges of the consolidated plaza, and create an animated, welcoming, and comfortable space at night. Host a design competition to reinterpret the Cultural Heart, and select a design team to develop a phased Master Plan for the plazas and surrounding buildings.

- 4.7 Follow sustainable design practices with LEED® certification in all new developments and renovations in order to achieve City of Calgary sustainability targets. This includes sustainable stormwater management, the reduction of GHG emissions through alternative energy sources, a waste management strategy, and the promotion of healthy, diverse ecosystems.
- 4.8 Explore the opportunity to create a consistent ground plane that promotes views, gathering spaces, and interconnected public spaces. The grading should reinforce pedestrian connectivity and accessibility within the plaza and provide new opportunities for public programming. *[See Appendix C: Diagram C.1]*
- 4.9 Locate food kiosks, amenities, pedestrian infrastructure, and public porch space in areas of high sun exposure. Amenities may include skate rentals, games rentals, washrooms, change rooms, sitting space, kiosks, and bicycle infrastructure.
- 4.10 Frame the arrival into the plaza at each of the eight potential access points, using programming, landmarks, lighting, wayfinding, public art, and/or civic/cultural buildings. *[See Stephen Avenue Extension, Ceremonial Boulevard, Meandering Green, Digital Corridor Strategy]*
- 4.11 Explore the removal of any existing trees that clutter or block views and pedestrian connectivity between the plaza and its active edges.
- 4.12 Develop a consistent at-grade paving plan across Macleod Trail that reinforces the integration of the two plazas. Develop a pedestrian crossing strategy across Macleod Trail that is safe, and reinforces the integration of the two plazas.
- 4.13 Explore the removal of the existing grade separation in the south end of the plaza and incorporate Stephen Avenue into the plaza footprint. *[See Stephen Avenue Extension Strategy]*
- 4.14 Explore the removal of the existing stand of coniferous trees along Seventh Avenue and re-grade the northern edge of Olympic Plaza to promote the connectivity of Seventh Avenue. Locate amenity along this renovated edge to activate both the plaza and Seventh Avenue (e.g. food trucks, ice skate

## Cultural Heart | Actions

rentals, etc.).

- 5 Develop a renovation plan for the existing Municipal Building which reflects its role as a civic monument in the Cultural Heart and as an active contributor to the public realm and includes the following: *[See Stephen Avenue Extension Strategy]*
  - 5.1 Renovate the Municipal Building with an active west edge that spills programming into the plaza with civic, cultural, or commercial use. *[See Stephen Avenue Extension Strategy]*
  - 5.2 Locate outdoor public porch space with good sun exposure adjacent to the west face of the Municipal Building.
  - 5.3 Renovate the Municipal Building Triangle with inviting, exterior focused frontage and outdoor porch space that attracts citizens and visitors. Develop a strategy that utilizes signage, exterior programming, and a well-defined entrance to express its presence.
  - 5.4 Renovate the Municipal Building atrium so that it acts as an extension of the plaza and as a major connector into the East Village. Establish accessibility as a key metric for success. *[See Stephen Avenue Extension Strategy]*
- 6 Support the renovation of the Arts Commons into an externalized cultural hub that allows performing arts activity to spill into the plaza to include the following:
  - 6.1 The North face of the Arts Commons should be an interactive building edge that activates the outdoor space as part of the plaza and compliments the legibility of Stephen Avenue. *[See Stephen Avenue Extension Strategy]*
  - 6.2 Conduct stakeholder engagement to determine infrastructure requirements to enable performing arts programming along Stephen Avenue.
- 7 Support a new Civic/Cultural Centre on the west side of the plaza, whose façade is aligned with the west edge of Paget Park to include the following:
  - 7.1 Develop a needs assessment and programming strategy for the civic centre to include a mix of

cultural, recreational, and commercial use. Program the building to support uses which activate and animate the plaza.

- 7.2 Incorporate an engaging facade that integrates large-scale digital media for art, advertisements, or event screening. *[See Digital Corridor Strategy]*
- 7.3 Incorporate an outdoor space in the space East of the building that includes at-grade food and beverage, patio space, and public seating.
- 8 Investigate opportunities for the current public library to provide a source of animation, activity, and density to the plaza upon vacancy. *[See Digital Corridor Strategy]*
- 9 Support the renovation of Rocky Mountain Plaza and the Calgary Public Library to have engaging facades that animate the public experience day and night. *[See Digital Corridor Strategy]*

## Long-Term Actions

- 10 Investigate the potential for a new civic and/or cultural building above the existing Municipal Parkade which frames the arrival into the Plaza from Macleod Trail, and to provide a consistent, active building edge along Ninth Avenue SE. *[See Sixth and Ninth Avenue Parades Strategy]*
- 11 Investigate the potential for developing the vacant lot on the corner of Ninth Avenue and Third Street S.E. to animate the street corner with active edges, and to complement the New Central Library with the open space to the east. Ensure that the proposed building height allows sunlight into the new plaza South of the New Central Library. *[See Sixth and Ninth Avenue Parades Strategy]*
- 12 Preserve, and, if necessary, rehabilitate the existing historical resources to accentuate their presence as a source of history, identity, and memory. The historical buildings which contribute to the character of the plaza include, but are not limited to:
  - Historic City Hall
  - Dominion Bank
  - Calgary Public Building
  - Burns Building
  - Cathedral Church of the Redeemer

**N.B. To achieve some of these actions, policy and land-use may have to be revised.**

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# 02

## Stephen Avenue Walk Extension

A pedestrian-focused walk along historic Stephen Avenue from the Mewata Armoury, through the Municipal Building, to Fort Calgary.

Stephen Avenue walk is one of the most successful and celebrated pieces of the Centre City's public realm. The historic pedestrian mall sponsors diversity and cultural production through an eclectic mix of shops, cafes, buskers, and festivals. Building on this success, it has the potential to provide a pedestrian and cyclist-focused linkage across the entire Centre City to connect major historical landmarks and cultural institutions.

The Municipal Building provides a unique opportunity to reconnect East Calgary with part of a vibrant public realm. As the key pedestrian gateway into the East Village, the Municipal Building has the potential to provide day and night animation and support a multitude of public activities year round.



### CONNECTING TO WHAT WE HEARD

#### Citizen and Stakeholder Engagement, 2014

Stephen Avenue was identified by Calgarians as a successful and essential pedestrian mall in the City. Citizens enjoyed the animation along the street and identified the opportunity of extending this density of activity across the entire Centre City. In the Civic District, citizens and stakeholders identified that a strong connection through the Municipal Building would greatly improve pedestrian linkage to the New Central Library, East Village, and St. Patrick's Island.

#### East Village Master Plan

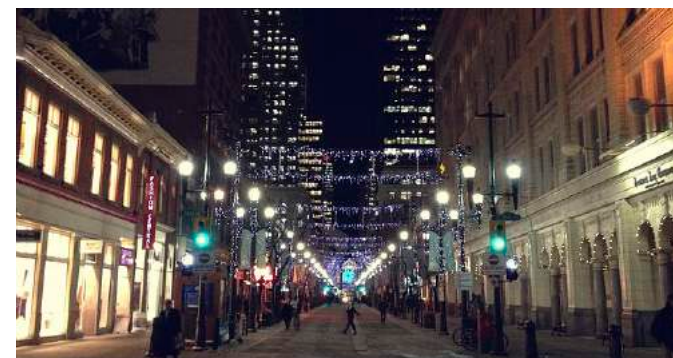
Citizens focused on connecting the East Village with Stephen Avenue as a key recommendation. The improved connectivity of Stephen Avenue through the Municipal Building into the East Village is a unique opportunity to link new commercial and cultural facilities, especially the New Central Library, which is expected to be completed in 2018.

#### Centre City Urban Design Guidelines Draft, 2015

In the Centre City Urban Design Guidelines Stephen Avenue is classified with the character of a 'High Street'. The aspiration of a High Street is to have a mix of uses, with high-density retail areas, historic character, and a large concentration of pedestrian movement in an animated and safe environment. The guidelines also identify that 'High Streets' have the opportunity to provide flexible, multi-modal transportation options to accommodate peak pedestrian use and potential bicycle use (as an extension of the Stephen Avenue Shared Use-Pilot study).

#### Centre City Plan, 2007

The Centre City Plan identifies Stephen Avenue as a special area that should have the highest quality of development and appropriate land uses within and surrounding the street. The Centre City Plan specifically states that Stephen Avenue Walk should have active, pedestrian use at-grade within the mall.



## Stephen Avenue Extension | Guiding Principles

### PRINCIPLE 1

A public thoroughfare which invigorates the Municipal Building Atrium as an important piece of the public realm.



**The Hague City Hall, The Hague, NL** | The Hague City Hall was designed as a central public meeting space where a mix of cultural, educational, social, and commercial activities could take place. The atrium is an urban room that is welcoming, dynamic, open to public use, and consistently transforming throughout the year to accommodate exhibitions, events, public art, concerts, and daily porch space.

### PRINCIPLE 3

A street to showcase local performances, events, and arts.



**Sainte-Catherine Street, Montreal, CA** | Sainte-Catherine Street is one of Montreal's major urban streets, linking many key destinations with a mix of residential, retail, institutional, and nightlife use. Sainte-Catherine Street connects key institutional, cultural, and civic districts including McGill College Avenue, Phillips Square, and Place-des-Arts.

### PRINCIPLE 2

A street where pedestrians and cyclists are given the priority.



**Strøget, Copenhagen, DK** | Strøget is one of the world's longest, vehicle free, pedestrian-oriented streets. When cars began dominating central streets in the City, a 'temporary' experiment in 1962 proposed that the street be closed to vehicular traffic. Due to its success in revitalizing public street life, Strøget was permanently designated a car free zone. Over many years Copenhagen has expanded its pedestrian network and the City is a popular destination loved for its urban vitality.

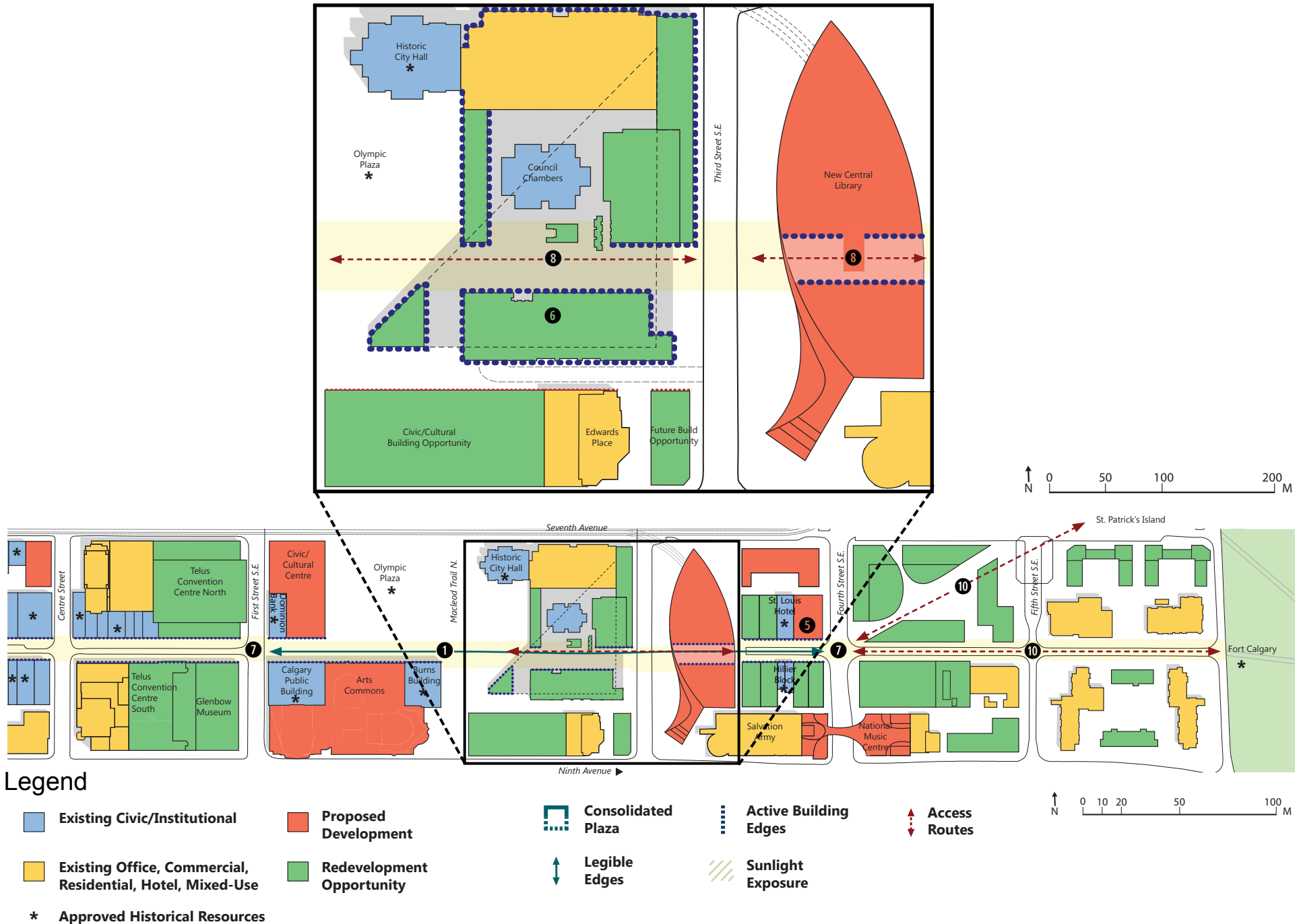
### PRINCIPLE 4

A street which links historical and cultural destinations with a diversity of at-grade uses.



**Avinguda de Gaudi, Barcelona, ES** | Avinguda de Gaudi is a welcoming, comfortable, and relaxing pedestrian street with patio spaces, fountains, trees, and architecture which contribute to a vibrant public realm. The street links two famous historical landmarks: the Hospital de las Santa Creu i de Sant Pau and the Sagrada Familia, both of which are well known UNESCO World Heritage Sites.

# Stephen Avenue Extension | Public Realm Criteria



## Stephen Avenue Extension | Public Realm Criteria

### CRITERION 1 Legibility

- ① Extend Stephen Avenue to be a consistent, pedestrian-oriented, legible walk from Fort Calgary to the Mewata Armoury.

### CRITERION 2 Active Edges

- ② Activate the edges of internalized institutions along Stephen Avenue including the Telus Convention Centre, the Glenbow Museum, and Arts Commons.
- ③ Activate the interior edges of the Municipal Building atrium with a mix of public use.
- ④ Activate the vacant east facade of the Municipal Building with a mix of services and programming oriented towards Third Street S.E.

### CRITERION 3 Programming

- ⑤ Develop the existing vacant lots between the New Central Library and Fourth Street S.E. to have uses which contribute to the pedestrian-centric character of the street.
- ⑥ Program the interior of the Municipal Building with public amenities, and a mix of public use to activate the space day and night.

### CRITERION 4 Activity & Amenity

- ⑦ Activate the public realm of Eighth Avenue and First Street S.E., and of Eighth Avenue and Fourth Street S.E. with uses which contribute to animating the street corners.

### CRITERION 5 Access & Linkages

- ⑧ Create an accessible, legible shared use route that moves pedestrians and cyclists through the Municipal Building and through the New Central Library into the East Village.
- ⑨ Link Stephen Avenue across First Street S.E., Macleod Trail, and Third Street S.E. with safe and attractive pedestrian and cyclist-oriented crossings.
- ⑩ Link to Fort Calgary and St. Patrick's Island by continuing a pedestrian and cyclist-oriented street typology along Stephen Avenue and along 'The Riff'.

### CRITERION 6 Historical Resources

- ⑪ Support conservation of historical resources along Stephen Avenue by respecting their presence, history, and scale.
- ⑫ Highlight the importance of the two key Civic Monuments: Historic City Hall and the City Council Chambers as a source of civic identity.

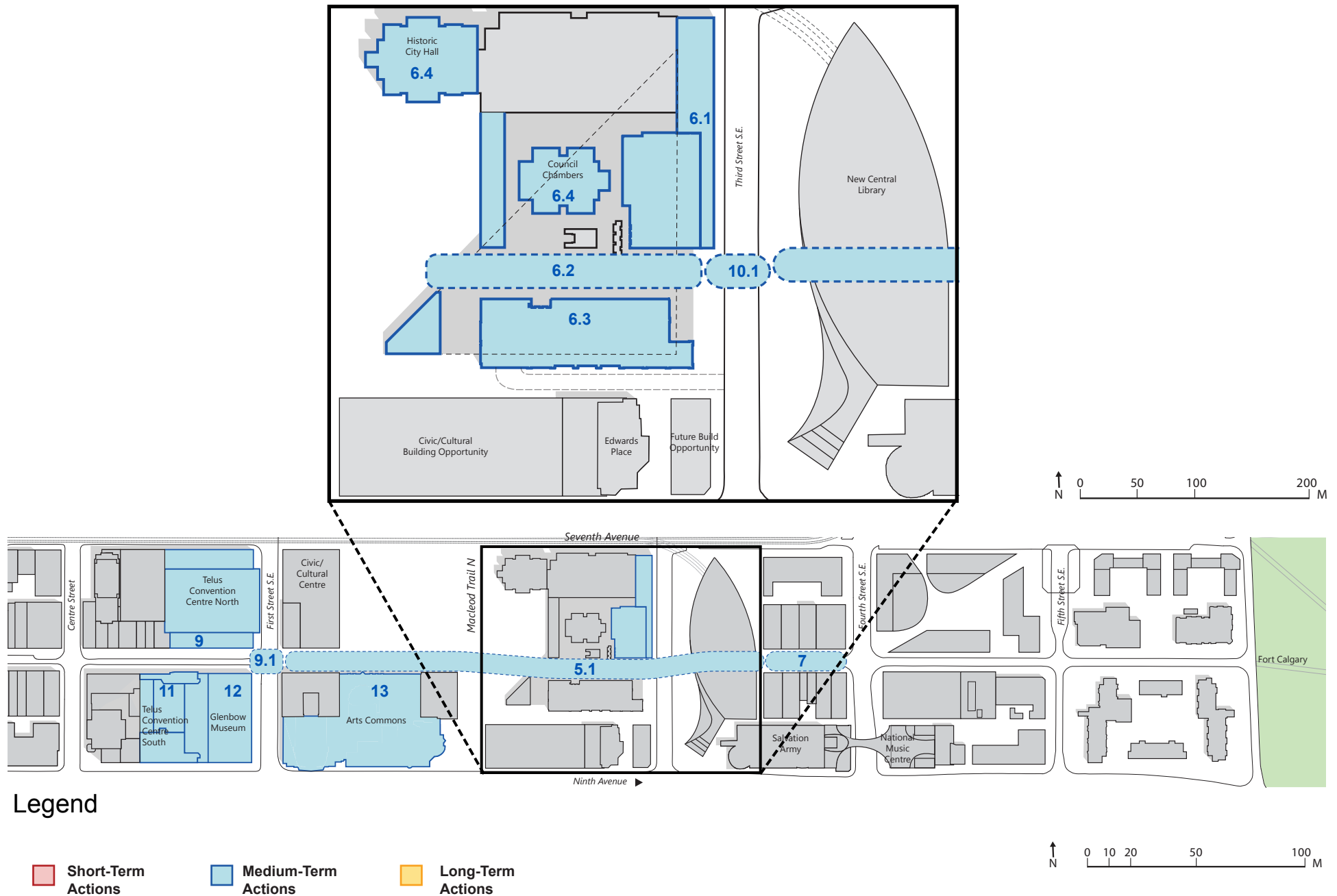


**Downtown Crossing, Boston, US** | Pedestrian streets and building frontages are animated by retail, restaurants, and a successful four-season vending cart program.



**Rideau Canal, Ottawa, CA** | An animated public corridor with bridges and pedestrian pathways that showcases art installations and highlights key civic destinations.

## Stephen Avenue Extension | Actions



## Stephen Avenue Extension | Actions

### Short-Term Actions

- 1 Promote an integrated streetscape furniture program in order to maintain an attractive, comfortable, unified, and welcoming pedestrian streetscape along Stephen Avenue walk.
- 2 Investigate the potential for and location(s) of installing temporary and permanent kiosks where building renovations are not feasible to contribute fine grained programming and active edges.
- 3 Develop wayfinding strategies to connect people to the New Central Library, National Music Centre, etc.
- 4 Undertake a lighting strategy for the Civic District as a first step towards a Centre City Lighting Plan.

### Medium -Term Actions

- 5 Integrate the extension of Stephen Avenue into a comprehensive Master Plan for the Olympic Plaza, Municipal Plaza, and the surrounding buildings. *[See Cultural Heart Strategy]* to include the following:
  - 5.1 Differentiate Stephen Avenue Walk as a legible pedestrian route, with a consistent paving strategy which connects First Street S.E., through the plaza, the Municipal Building, and the New Central Library into the East Village.
  - 5.2 A cohesive illumination and signage strategy to increase legibility and improve the safety, comfort, and wayfinding along Stephen Avenue Walk. *[See Centre City Illumination Guidelines, Centre City Wayfinding Program]*
- 6 Develop a renovation plan for the Municipal Building to reflect its role as a civic hub in the Cultural Heart. *[See Cultural Heart Strategy]* to include the following:
  - 6.1 Infill the existing colonnade along the east façade of the Municipal Building with services and active programming that is oriented towards the street. *[See Third Street S.E. Zipper Strategy]*
  - 6.2 Continue the street language and legibility of

Stephen Avenue through the Municipal Building with generous, permeable entryways which clearly define their connectivity to the plaza and to the East Village.

- 6.3 Locate a new mix of public uses and City of Calgary services along the interior edges of the Municipal Building atrium, in alignment with Stephen Avenue.
- 6.4 Renovate the Municipal Building to formally reveal and underline the importance of the two key Civic Monuments: Historic City Hall and the City Council Chambers.
- 6.5 Support the promotion, and programming of the Municipal Building Atrium with public events, exhibitions, fairs, displays of public art, as well as everyday activities and amenities.
- 6.6 Investigate the logistics of extended municipal building hours to activate Stephen Avenue as part of a transparent, accessible pedestrian route. Aim to increase vibrancy in the Municipal Building during all four seasons, day and night.
- 6.7 Investigate the feasibility of bringing the south half of the Municipal Building to-grade to promote the east-west accessibility, views, and legibility through the Municipal Building.
- 7 Develop a Master Plan for Stephen Avenue between the New Central Library and Fourth Street S.E. with the character of a pedestrian-oriented hub, mall, or square. Infill the adjacent vacant lots with cultural, residential, or commercial use and create a programmable, public street that responds to the presence of the New Central Library. *[See East Village Master Plan]*
- 8 Support the extended Stephen Avenue Walk as an international destination and highlight its programming potential through the dedicated management and maintenance of the mall. Support this route for smaller scale parades.
- 9 Develop a Master Plan for First Street S.E. that integrates with the intersection of Stephen Avenue Walk. *[See First Street SE Green Mall Strategy]* to include the following:

- 9.1 Design an active intersection at Stephen Avenue and First Street S.E. which integrates the Glenbow Museum, Convention Centre, and celebrates arrival into the Cultural Heart plaza. *[See Cultural Heart Action ]*
- 9.2 Develop a pedestrian crossing strategy across First Street S.E. that is safe, attractive, with consistent paving, promoting pedestrian connectivity with the plaza.
- 10 Develop a Master Plan for Third Street S.E. *[See Third Street S.E. Zipper Strategy]* to include the following:
  - 10.1 Design a safe, attractive at-grade pedestrian crossing between the Municipal Building and the New Central Library.
- 11 Support the renovation of the Telus Convention Centre to have an exterior focused, permeable facade that animates Stephen Avenue. *[See First Street SE Green Mall Strategy]*
- 12 Support the renovation of the Glenbow Museum to provide an active, permeable edge that will attract visitors from Stephen Avenue, as well as animate the building corners. *[See First Street SE Green Mall Strategy]*
- 13 Support the renovation of Arts Commons to increase the façade's transparency and permeability. The renovation should allow the performing arts activity to spill into the plaza. *[See Cultural Heart Strategy]*

### Long -Term Actions

- 14 Continue to monitor Stephen Avenue to ensure that new development preserves the character of the existing historical resources. Evaluate and if necessary restore these resources to honor their source of identity and memory.

***N.B. To achieve some of these actions, policy and land-use may have to be revised.***

# 03

## Ceremonial Boulevard

Connecting the Elbow River, Stampede Grounds, CPR lines, Olympic Plaza and the Bow River.

Macleod Trail North is a critical route into the Centre City which traverses several iconic elements of Calgary's geographic and cultural landscape. Linking these elements as part of a singular ceremonial route defines a sense of place for Macleod Trail which is representative of its role as a gateway into Calgary's downtown for 29,000 vehicles and 10,800 pedestrians each day.



### CONNECTING TO WHAT WE HEARD

#### Citizen and Stakeholder Engagement, 2014

Macleod Trail was identified by citizens and stakeholders as a central commercial corridor and key mobility route. In the Centre City Plan, Macleod Trail N was identified as a vehicular oriented street needing pedestrian realm improvements. Some of the comments suggested an improved pedestrian streetscape with generous sidewalks and safe pedestrian crossings.

#### Centre City Urban Design Guidelines Draft, 2015

The Centre City Urban Design Guidelines identify Macleod Trail as a 'Commercial Street' with the potential to integrate a mix of land uses, with a wide range of transportation options. As a commercial street the guidelines recommend a generous pedestrian zone, wide sidewalks, street furniture, and amenities. It is also identified as a Pedestrian, Bike, and Transit priority corridor.

#### Centre City Plan, 2007

The Centre City Plan identifies Macleod Trail N as a Ceremonial Route which links the Elbow River and Stampede Grounds to the Bow River. As a Ceremonial Route the plan advocates to increase pedestrian activity through improved lighting, trees, wide sidewalks, and multi-modal transportation options which prioritizes pedestrians, cyclists, and public transit over single occupancy vehicles.

#### Municipal Development Plan + Calgary Transportation Plan, 2009

The MDP and CTP identify Macleod Trail N as an 'Urban Boulevard' which is a higher density urban corridor and activity centre. A high quality streetscape, green infrastructure, and multi-modal transportation options, particularly walking, cycling, and public transit are encouraged. The MDP and CTP also state that the street could be programmed with a diversity of retail, office, mixed-use and residential uses.



## Ceremonial Boulevard | Guiding Principles

### PRINCIPLE 1

A Ceremonial Boulevard that embraces civic identity and links key destinations.



**Buckingham Palace Mall, London, UK** | Buckingham Palace Mall connects Buckingham Palace, Admiralty Arch, and Trafalgar Square. The Mall was envisioned in the early 1900s as a ceremonial route and ever since has become one of the most iconic civic streets in the world. One unique characteristic of the Mall is that surface of the road is coloured red, which is sometimes described as a red carpet draped up to Buckingham Palace.

### PRINCIPLE 3

A Ceremonial Boulevard that can transform its program throughout the year.



**Champs Elysees, Paris, FR** | Monuments, cinemas, cafes, shops, and iconic destinations make Champs Elysees one of the most famous streets in the world. Champs Elysees connects several historical monuments in Paris such as the Arc de Triomphe and Place de la Concorde. The street transforms and hosts a number of large events throughout the year such as the Bastille Day parade, Tour de France, and New Year's Eve.

### PRINCIPLE 2

A Ceremonial Boulevard that is active day and night.



**Omotesando, Tokyo, JP** | Omotesando is a famous route that connects the entrance of the Meiji Shrine to Omotesando Station. The boulevard features a number of flagship retail stores with wide sidewalks which carry a high density of pedestrian activity. The boulevard is animated with world class architecture, pedestrian scaled frontages, streetscape lighting, and regular events which contribute to pedestrian activity, day and night.

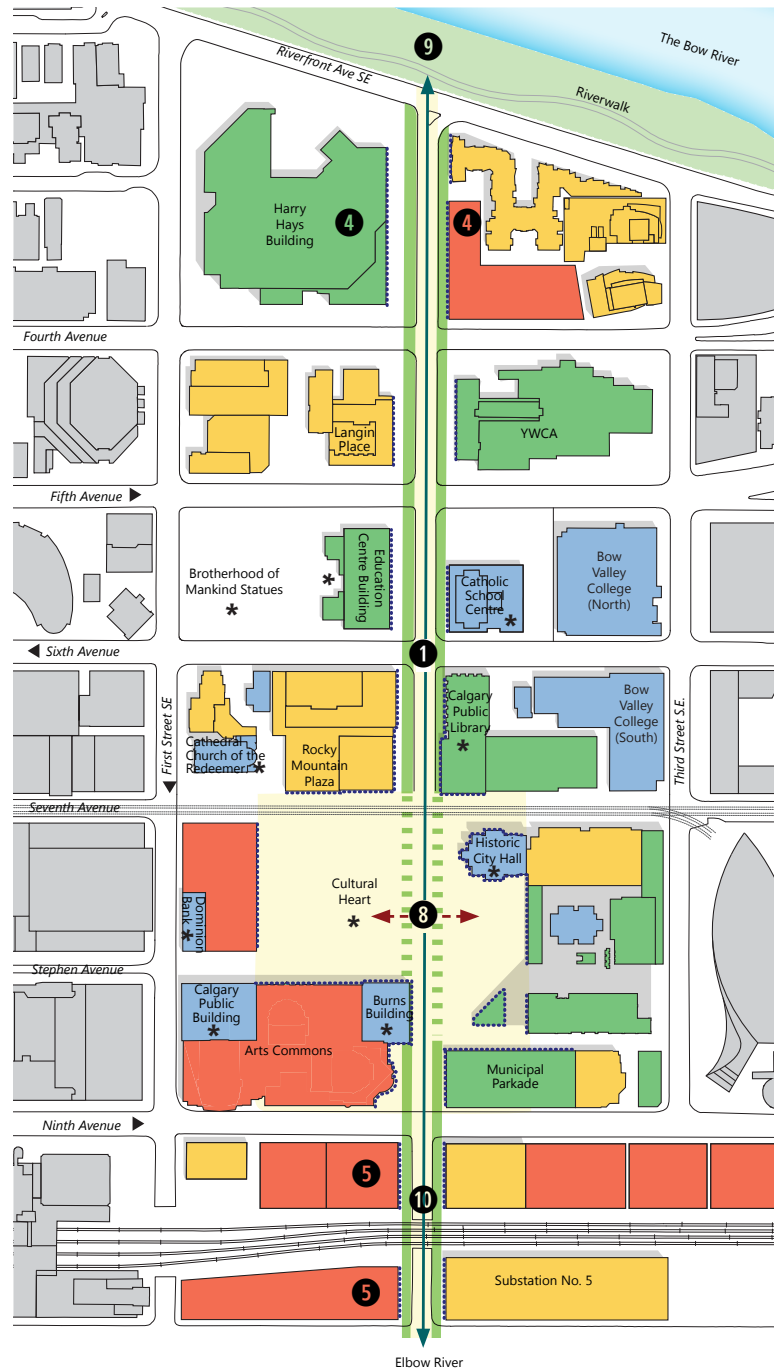
### PRINCIPLE 4

A Ceremonial Boulevard that carries a mix of uses including civic, cultural, commercial, office & residential.



**Market Street, San Francisco, US** | Market Street is San Francisco's main boulevard which terminates at the Embarcadero on the eastern waterfront, connecting to the Civic Centre and Twin Peaks. The street hosts a mix of uses including a number of popular retail stores, plazas, public art, offices, and various cultural destinations. Market Street is a popular venue for numerous temporary events and festivals including the annual San Francisco Pride Parade.

# Ceremonial Boulevard | Public Realm Criteria



## Legend

- Existing Civic/Institutional
- Existing Office, Commercial, Residential, Hotel, Mixed-Use
- Proposed Development
- Redevelopment Opportunity
- \* Approved Historical Resources
- ↕ Legible Edges
- ↔ Access Routes
- ⋮ Active Building Edges
- | Tree Allée



## Ceremonial Boulevard | Public Realm Criteria

### CRITERION 1 Legibility

- ① Connect the Ceremonial Boulevard as a ceremonious, legible route from the Elbow River to the Bow River.
- ② Create a legible pedestrian streetscape with a double allée of trees and landscape views to the riverfront.

### CRITERION 2 Active Edges

- ③ Activate the edges of existing buildings and under-utilized parcels to create a consistently lined building frontage.

### CRITERION 3 Programming

- ④ Animate the north end of the Ceremonial Boulevard including the Harry Hays site and the opposite block with a destination which can accommodate cultural events and link pedestrians to the riverfront.
- ⑤ Develop the existing surface parking lots between Ninth and Tenth Avenue SE. Recognize those parcels' role in framing a major gateway into the Cultural Heart.
- ⑥ Mark the location where Macleod Trail splits into divided north/south routes with an appropriately scaled gateway experience that reflects the character of the Ceremonial Boulevard.

### CRITERION 4 Activity & Amenity

- ⑦ Animate the Ceremonial Boulevard with amenities, improved and unified lighting, and street furniture to foster pedestrian use and activity.

### CRITERION 5 Access & Linkages

- ⑧ Connect the consolidated plaza by ensuring accessibility and transparency across Macleod Trail.
- ⑨ Provide a source of animation to the waterfront intersection by linking the Ceremonial Boulevard to the Riverwalk with strong pedestrian connectivity across Riverfront Avenue as well as a termination element such as public art.

### CRITERION 6 Historical Resources

- ⑩ Celebrate the gateway experience of the Macleod Trail Underpass through improvements and public art which animate this entryway.
- ⑪ Support conservation of historical resources along the Ceremonial Boulevard and feature them as a source of identity and character.
- ⑫ Recognize the opportunity for both the redevelopment and the historical presence of the former Calgary Board of Education Site, the Workers Compensation Board Site, and the Harry Hays Building.

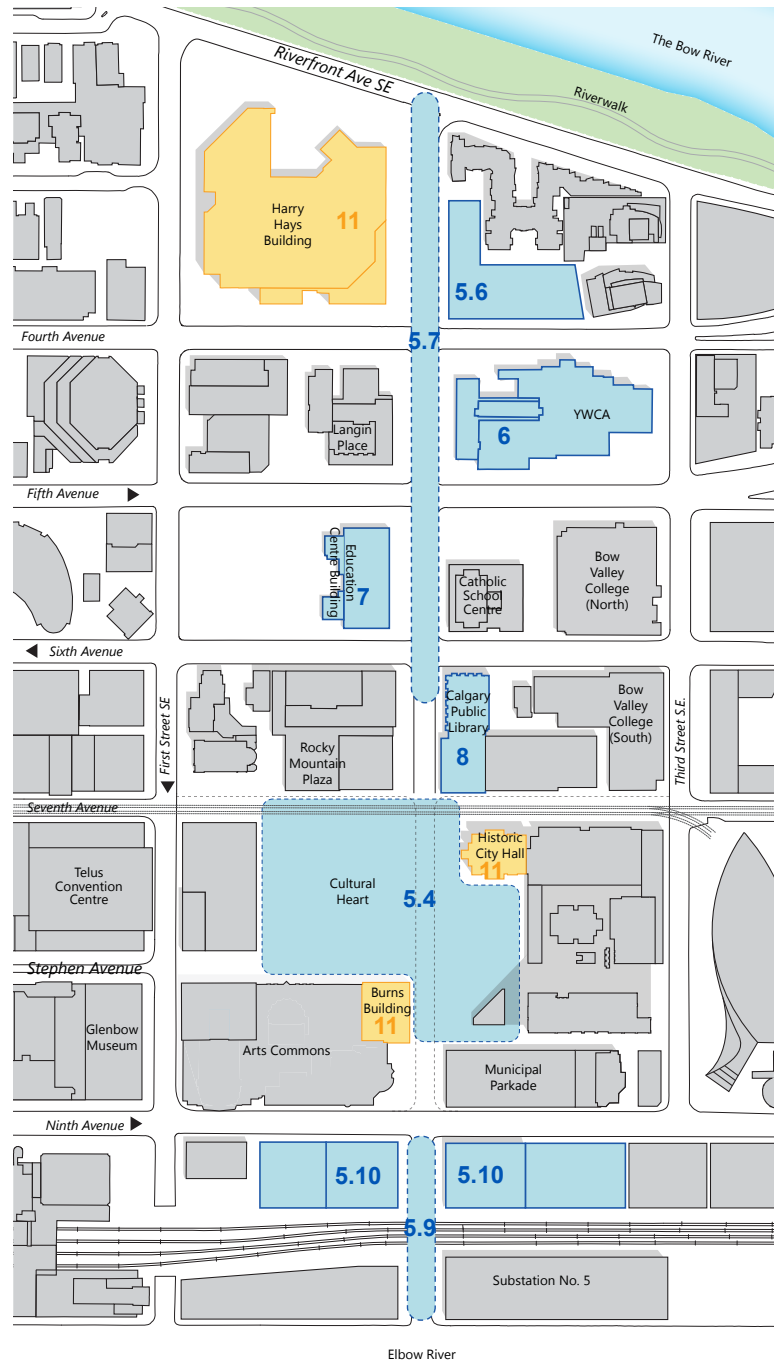


**Benjamin Franklin Parkway, Philadelphia, US** | A mile-long promenade linking the City's cultural heart to its downtown core that frequently hosts concerts, festivals, and parades.



**Institute of Contemporary Art, Boston, US** | A civic destination that terminates at the water's edge, with strong interior and exterior connections to Boston's Harbourwalk.

# Ceremonial Boulevard | Actions



## Legend

- Short-Term Actions
- Medium-Term Actions
- Long-Term Actions



## Ceremonial Boulevard | Actions

### Short-Term Actions

- 1 Develop a consistent building and street light illumination strategy for the Ceremonial Boulevard from the Elbow River to Riverfront Avenue S.E. to provide a safe and welcoming boulevard at night. *[See Centre City Illumination Guidelines]*
- 2 Explore a programming strategy to activate the Riverwalk where the Ceremonial Boulevard terminates with festivals, markets, and events as well as the potential of placing temporary structures and amenities to host such events. *[See s-Parks, Centre City Plan]*
- 3 Review Master Plan setback requirements and encourage new development permit applications to ensure new developments follow a build-to line with active frontage that is appropriate in scale and character to the Ceremonial Boulevard.
- 4 Undertake a lighting strategy for the Civic District as a first step towards a Centre City Lighting Plan.

### Medium-Term Actions

- 5 Develop a Master Plan for Macleod Trail N from the Elbow River to Riverfront Avenue S.E. to include the following:
  - 5.1 Develop a public engagement strategy to inform the redevelopment and programming opportunities through the collaborative efforts of citizens and stakeholders.
  - 5.2 Incorporate consistent building setbacks, wide pedestrian sidewalks, improved public amenities, high quality paving, and the unified placement of street furniture.
  - 5.3 Include a double allée of trees with improved growing conditions and a generously planted, consistently treated setback. The tree allée should be consistent with the exception of the Cultural Heart, where the intersection is modified to provide greater transparency across Macleod Trail N.
  - 5.4 Design a paving and pedestrian crossing strategy to create a legible consolidation of the Olympic Plaza and Municipal Plaza using landscaping and grading where appropriate. Study the opportunity to temporarily close a portion of Macleod Trail to vehicular traffic in order to facilitate a major event, festival, or parade. *[See Cultural Heart Strategy]*

- 5.5 Create a public art plan that strategically locates and prioritizes the installation of public art at various locations along the Ceremonial Boulevard.
- 5.6 Encourage the development of vacant parcels to enforce the quality of a consistently lined building wall with active street frontages.
- 5.7 Design the Ceremonial Boulevard to preserve the existing landscape views from Sixth Avenue to the Bow River. *[See Centre City Plan]*
- 5.8 Develop the Master Plan in alignment with Macleod Trail improvements from 25th Avenue S. to Anderson Road. *[See Macleod Trail Corridor Study]*
- 5.9 Renovate the Macleod Trail N underpass and improve the pedestrian experience with streetscape maintenance, public art, and improved lighting. *[See Downtown Underpass Urban Design Guidelines]*
- 5.10 Develop a plan for the existing surface parking lots and utility buildings between Ninth and Tenth Avenues SE. Encourage development which recognizes the parcels' role in framing a major entry point into the Cultural Heart and require development to provide active building frontages which connect to pedestrian level.
- 6 Support the redevelopment of the YWCA site with increased density and animation. Investigate the opportunity to increase the density of the site, animate the street with active building frontage, and promote a use which contributes to the vibrancy of the Civic District.
- 7 Support the renovation/redevelopment of the Calgary Board of Education site. Investigate the potential for the former CBE to contribute a historical presence to the Civic District. In alignment with citizen and City input determine whether to preserve, renovate, or redevelop the site while still encouraging an active, consistent street wall along Macleod Trail N.
- 8 Renovate the current public library upon vacancy to provide active street frontage along the Ceremonial Boulevard and a source of density to the plaza. *[See Cultural Heart Strategy]*
- 9 Develop the vacant parcel between 18th Avenue SE and the Elbow River where Macleod Trail splits into divided north and south routes with an appropriately scaled gateway experience. *[See First Street SE Green Mall Strategy]*

### Long-Term Actions

- 10 Encourage the development of a renovation plan for the Harry Hays site and reprogram the site with a civic, recreational, and/or cultural use. Investigate the opportunity of linking the site to the Riverwalk to animate the riverfront. *[See First Street S.E. Green Mall Strategy]*
- 11 Support the conservation of legally protected historical resources along the Ceremonial Boulevard, including, but not limited to, Historic City Hall and the Burns Building, in order to maintain their presence as a source of history, identity, and memory.

***N.B. To achieve some of these actions, policy and land-use may have to be revised.***

# 04

## Third Street S.E. Zipper

An active, pedestrian-scaled street that is a transition zone between the Civic District and the East Village, and that unifies their diverse collection of destinations.

Third Street S.E. marks the transition between the East Village and the Civic District. As such, it carries the crucial role of binding these two areas together, facilitating the redevelopment of the East Village and creating the public connection between the New Central Library and the Municipal Building. To this end, the Third Street S.E. Zipper induces East-West public connectivity through the pedestrian-centric nature of this street, its tuning to climate, and by aligning complimentary programming and building facades.



### CONNECTING TO WHAT WE HEARD

#### Citizen and Stakeholder Engagement, 2014

Citizens and Stakeholders identified Third Street S.E. by its unique role as a transition zone into the East Village. Many citizens and stakeholders thought that Third Street S.E. was neglected and that it could be improved to be a more active and pedestrian friendly street with improved connections to the Bow River and Bridgeland. With the upcoming New Central Library and surrounding development, Third Street S.E. was also identified as a priority for public realm improvements due to its future role as gateway into the East Village.

#### East Village Master Plan

As the edge separating the Downtown from the East Village, Third Street S.E. is marked as a key corridor that transitions the Civic District to the tighter urban grain of the East Village. With the upcoming New Central Library as well as planned commercial and residential development, Third Street S.E. has been identified as a unique opportunity for pedestrian street life with active commercial and cultural frontages.

#### Centre City Urban Design Guidelines Draft, 2015

The Centre City Urban Design Guidelines identify Third Street S.E. as a 'Commercial Street' which integrates a range of land uses with a variety of transit and transportation options.

#### East Village Area Redevelopment Plan, 2005

The East Village Area Redevelopment Plan recommends that Third Street S.E. have commercial, retail, restaurants, and institutional uses. A consistent at-grade commercial character is suggested to create a visually permeable, vibrant street front.



## Third Street S.E. Zipper | Guiding Principles

### PRINCIPLE 1

A pedestrian-oriented, transitional zone from the East Village to the Civic District.



**Exhibition Road, London, UK** | Located in the area known as Albertopolis, part of Exhibition Road includes the transition zone between the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea, and the City of Westminster. The road is a great example of shared-use space that connects Hyde Park and Kensington Gardens to a number of museums, institutions, and schools such as the famous Royal Albert Hall and the Natural History Museum.

### PRINCIPLE 3

A street that connects a diverse collection of public destinations.



**Royal Mile, Edinburgh, UK** | The Royal Mile carries a mix of retail stores, cafes, museums, historical sites, and even residences. The street features a number of historical highlights including the Royal Museum of Scotland and the Queen's Palace. As such, a diverse collection of destinations attract different types of people visiting for different reasons. In addition to being a busy pedestrian space, the street is also successfully open to vehicular traffic.

### PRINCIPLE 2

A pedestrian-scaled street with density and compact urban grain.



**Boulevard Saint Laurent, Montréal, CA** | A mix of restaurants, cafes, and shops along Boulevard Saint Laurent create a unique experience of diverse cultures and lifestyles. The street links the Garment District, Little Italy, the Plateau, Chinatown, and Vieux Montréal. Low rise frontages, narrow streets at intersections, and mix of old and new architecture create a compact, active, pedestrian-scaled streetscape for all.

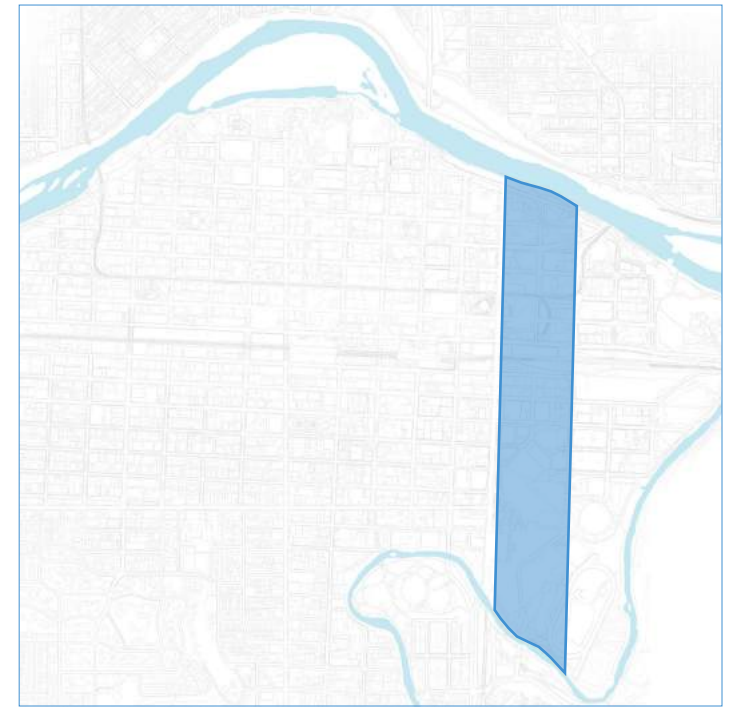
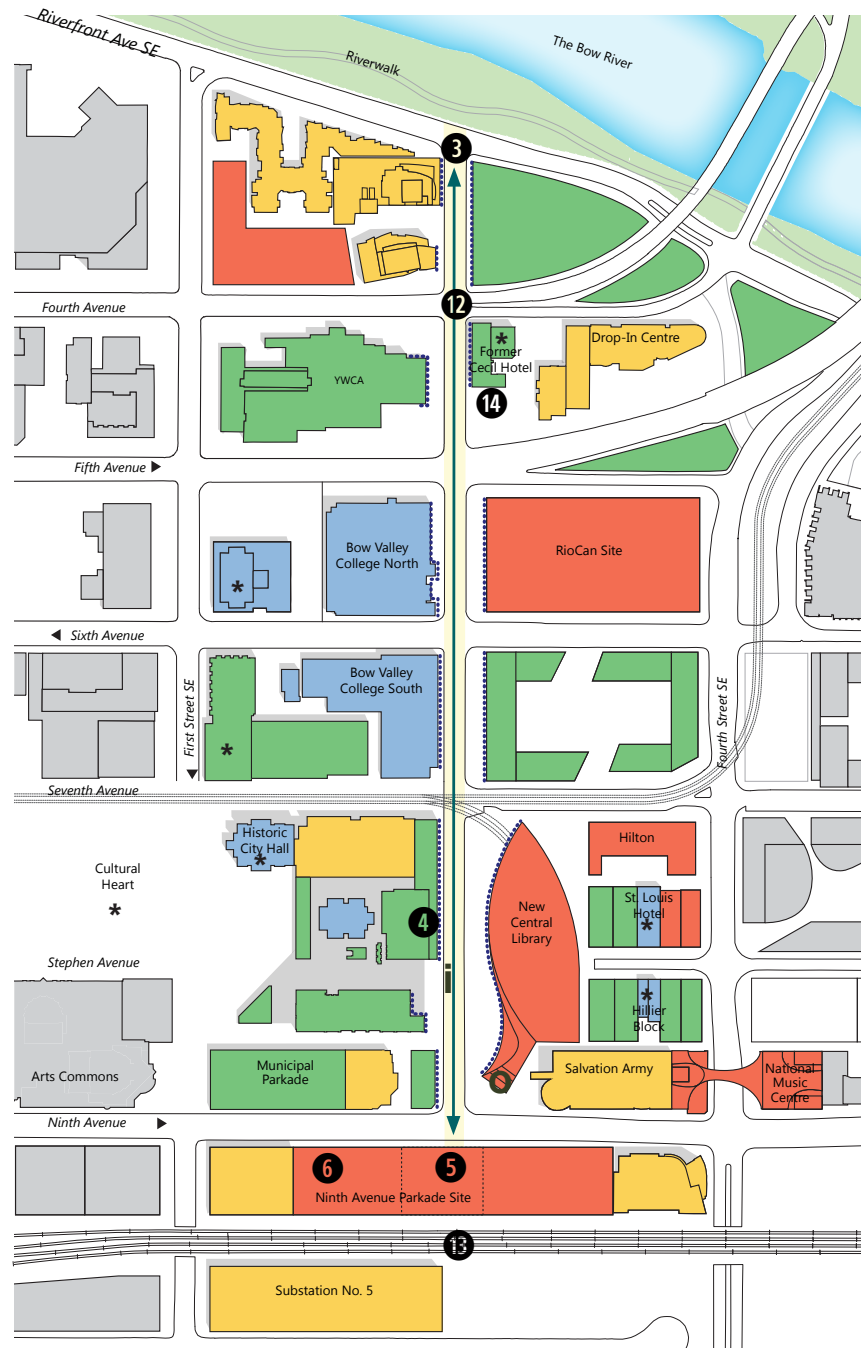
### PRINCIPLE 4

A multi-modal, active, mixed-use street where pedestrians are given priority.



**State Street, Madison, US** | State Street is busy, pedestrian-oriented street located in a social area of Madison, Wisconsin. The street is consistently occupied with pedestrian traffic and is made accessible to all modes of transit, including bikes, trolleys, buses, and auto traffic. The street connects the University of Wisconsin campus and the State Capitol, and is occasionally closed for street fairs or events.

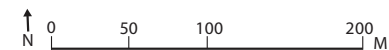
# Third Street S.E. Zipper | Public Realm Criteria



Context Map

## Legend

- Existing Civic/Institutional
- Existing Office, Commercial, Residential, Hotel, Mixed-Use
- Redevelopment Opportunity
- Proposed Development
- \* Approved Historical Resources
- ↕ Legible Edges
- ⋮ Active Building Edges
- ↕ Access Routes



## Third Street S.E. Zipper | Public Realm Criteria

### CRITERION 1 Legibility

- ① Provide a cohesive, legible, pedestrian-oriented streetscape from the railway to the river with wide, generous sidewalks, street trees, and sunlight access.

### CRITERION 2 Active Edges

- ② Create a consistent line of active building frontages which animate building corners and intersections.

### CRITERION 3 Programming

- ③ Terminate the northern end of Third Street S.E. with an interactive public destination that connects to the riverfront.
- ④ Animate the east edge of the Municipal Building by programming covered exterior portions of the building arcades with active use.
- ⑤ Terminate the southern end of Third St S.E. where it meets the CPR with an active public space.
- ⑥ Program the vacant surface parking lots along Ninth Avenue with active building frontages which contribute to vibrancy along the street.

### CRITERION 4 Activity & Amenity

- ⑧ Celebrate the intersection of Third St S.E. and Stephen Avenue with a generous east-west pedestrian crossing with active building edges, amenity, and public space.
- ⑨ Activate the under-utilized parkette south of the New Central Library with a sunlit public space that complements the library.
- ⑩ Bias the pedestrian realm to the east of Third St S.E. in response to sunlight access and to promote movement into the East Village

### CRITERION 5 Access & Linkages

- ⑪ Prioritize pedestrian movement and promote cross-street linkages through attractive, generous pedestrian crossings.
- ⑫ Improve the pedestrian crossing at Fourth Avenue to link pedestrians from Third Street S.E. to the riverfront.
- ⑬ Anticipate the potential future connectivity of Third Street S.E. across the CP Railway, by preserving the right of way for a potential at-grade link to the Stampede Grounds.

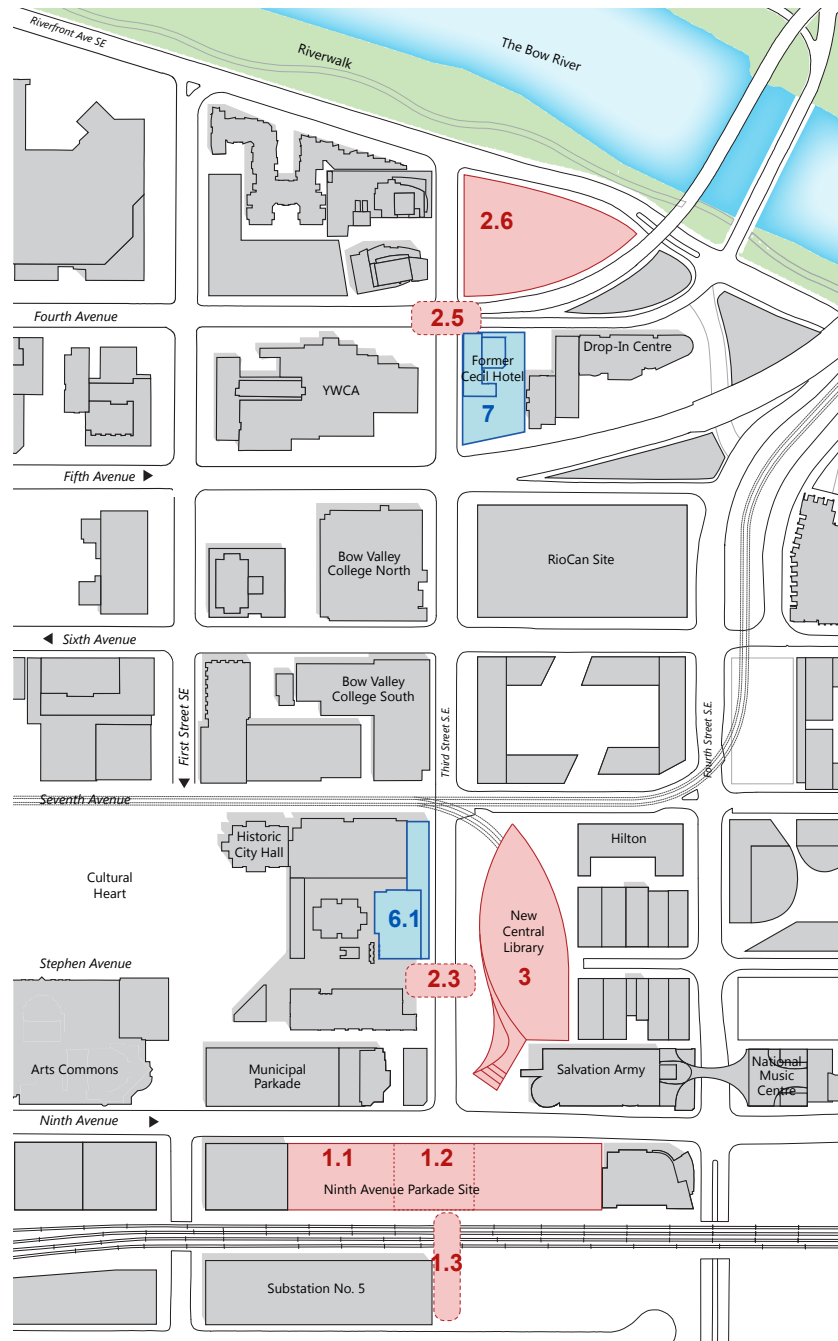
### CRITERION 6 Historical Resources

- ⑭ Recognize that the Cecil Hotel is a historical resource and investigate the opportunity of improving the quality of the public realm at this site.



**Oxford Circus, London, UK** | Streetscape improvements and a scramble crossing at one of London's busiest intersections make for a welcoming, comfortable, and accessible experience for visitors.

## Third Street S.E. Zipper | Actions



### Legend

- Short-Term Actions
- Medium-Term Actions
- Long-Term Actions



## Third Street S.E. Zipper | Actions

### Short-Term Actions

- 1 Develop the vacant parcels along Ninth Avenue with the Eastside (Ninth Avenue) Parkade to include the following:
  - 1.1 Develop the parkade with high quality architectural design and active frontages that contribute to Third Street S.E. and Ninth Avenue. *[See Sixth and Ninth Avenue Parade Strategy]*
  - 1.2 Integrate a sunny public space at the parcel where development restrictions occur, due to the submerged CTrain tunnel.
  - 1.3 Study the potential future connection of Third Street S.E. across the CP Railway and investigate preserving the right of way for the future at-grade connection of public space. *[See Urban Suture Strategy]*
  - 1.4 Ensure that the building massing does not shadow the public spaces West and South of the New Central Library through a comprehensive shadow analysis.
- 2 Develop a Master Plan for Third Street S.E. as a pedestrian oriented legible streetscape. *[See East Village Master Plan]* to include the following:
  - 2.1 A paving strategy that promotes a pedestrian-oriented street typology that extends the full width of the street.
  - 2.2 Design through the master plan a consistent setback of building frontages which animate the street with a diversity of uses.
  - 2.3 Design the intersection of Third Street S.E. and Stephen Avenue as a vital at-grade pedestrian link. Develop an east-west pedestrian crossing strategy with consistent at-grade paving, a generous crossing width, and active edges in integration with the New Central Library and Municipal Building development. *[See Stephen Avenue Extension Strategy]*
  - 2.4 Design all Third Street S.E. intersections to promote pedestrian linkage across the street through welcoming and safe pedestrian crossings. Investigate the opportunity to promote public art through crosswalk design, in addition to investigating opportunities for alternative crossing typologies that promote and prioritize pedestrian movement where appropriate.

- 2.5 Design a safe, legible, and attractive pedestrian crossing at Fourth Avenue that improves the connectivity of Third Street S.E. to the riverfront.
- 2.6 Address the dead-end nature of Third Street S.E. and design the north terminus to be a public destination with access to sunlight and connectivity to the riverfront. Acknowledge the infrastructural limitations to building at the flyovers and investigate the parcel north of Fourth Avenue for either a cultural use, or residential use with at-grade restaurants, cafes, and/or retail. *[See Civic Gateway Strategy]*
- 2.7 Perform an integrated traffic study to investigate the opportunities in accommodating pedestrian density while reducing vehicular traffic. This traffic study should investigate/identify which streets will serve as a detour for Macleod Trail when Cultural Heart programming precludes vehicular access. The study should encompass the entire Civic District area and should be based on the Centre City Mobility Plan. *[See Centre City Mobility Plan]*
- 2.8 Encourage an at grade connection to the New Central Library on Third Street S.E. in order to strengthen it as a pedestrian-oriented street and to promote outdoor public activity.
- 2.9 Integrate the streetscape improvements with public and stakeholder engagement, including collaboration with the following upcoming developments, which currently include:
  - Potential 'Civic Gateway' Developments
  - Potential Cecil Hotel Site Redevelopment
  - Potential YWCA Redevelopment
  - RioCan Development
  - New Central Library
  - Ninth Avenue Parkade
  - Proposed Residential in East Village Master Plan
- 3 In the development of the New Central Library acknowledge the parkette south of the building as an underutilized public space with the opportunity to be revitalized. Preserve sunlight access to this space and consider its redevelopment to improve animation along Third Street S.E. and Ninth Avenue.
- 4 Review the development permit applications along Third Street S.E. to require active at-grade uses which align with the master plan for the street. *[See East Village Master Plan]*

- 5 Undertake a lighting strategy for the Civic District as a first step towards a Centre City Lighting Plan.

### Medium-Term Actions

- 6 Develop a renovation plan for the Municipal Building *[See Stephen Avenue Extension Strategy]* to include the following:
  - 6.1 Renovate the east facade of the Municipal Building by infilling covered exterior portions of the building arcades with public programming, services and/or retail which contribute to activity along Third Street S.E.
- 7 Renovate or redevelop the parcel where the former Cecil Hotel currently sits. Improve the street corner and promote a more welcoming pedestrian experience by activating the site with new programming.

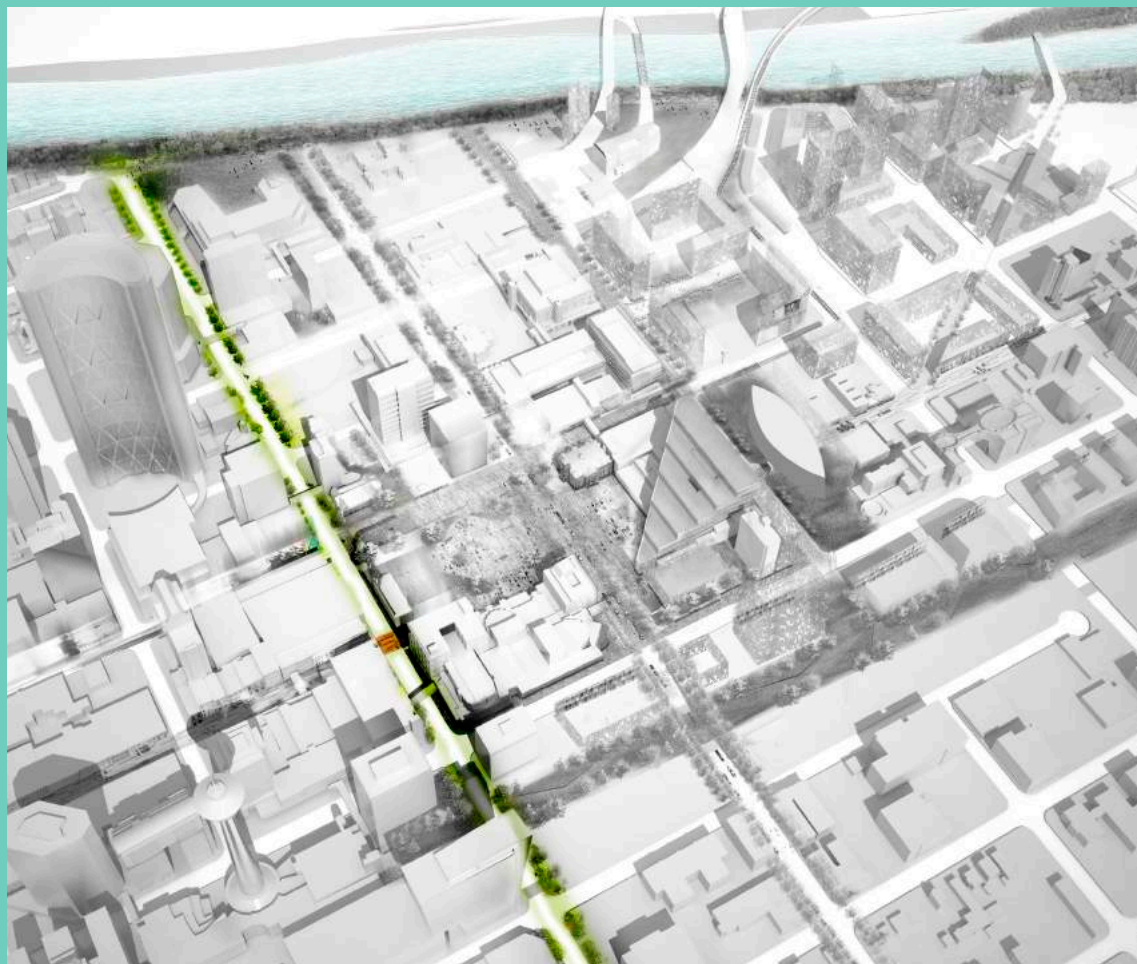
***N.B. To achieve some of these actions, policy and land-use may have to be revised.***

# 05

## First Street S.E. Green Mall

An engaging, safe, and attractive multi-modal street that links pedestrians to the River pathways through a generous and vibrant public route.

The First Street SE Green Mall is a public realm corridor which connects key public destinations including the Harry Hays site, Chinatown, Olympic Plaza, the Bow River, and Elbow River. The First Street S.E. Green Mall provides people with all the necessary public realm improvements to facilitate pedestrian connectivity along this vital North-South link. As an active pedestrian corridor the First Street SE Green Mall is a convenient, comfortable, sustainable, multi-modal route to parks, the rivers, key amenities, and retail.



### CONNECTING TO WHAT WE HEARD

#### Citizen and Stakeholder Engagement, 2014

First Street SE was identified by citizens and stakeholders as an important North-South link that could have an improved streetscape and pedestrian-oriented experience. Throughout the engagement sessions many Calgarians commented on the feasibility of a cycle track along First Street SE, those in favour and opposed. In an ongoing review, the Centre City Cycling Network Study will engage the public and investigate the Cycle track pilot evaluation plan, approved cycle track pilot network, Cycling Strategy (2011), Council's Fiscal Plan for Calgary 2012-2014 (2011), 2020 Sustainability Direction (2011), Centre City Mobility Plan (2010), Calgary Transportation Plan, Bicycle Policy and Needs Report and Policy (2008).

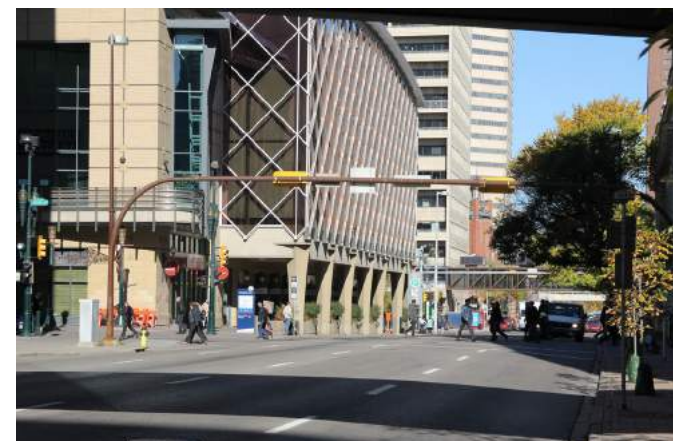
Generally speaking, citizens and stakeholders supported a Civic District with vibrant streets which efficiently and effectively manage safe, attractive, and sustainable forms of movement downtown.

#### Centre City Urban Design Guidelines Draft, 2015

The Centre City Urban Design Guidelines identify First Street SE as a 'Commercial Street' which integrates a range of land uses with a wide range of transportation options and a 'Pedestrian, Bike, and Transit Priority Corridor'.

#### Centre City Plan, 2007

The Centre City Plan identifies First Street SE as a street for high pedestrian movement, with particular focus on the connectivity from Seventh Avenue to the Riverfront. The plan promotes the improved connectivity of First Street SE to the riverfront, as well as connecting the open space on the Harry Hays site to the riverfront.



## First Street S.E. Green Mall | Guiding Principles

### PRINCIPLE 1

A multi-modal street with attractive and sustainable forms of transportation for all.



**Hornby Street, Vancouver, CA** | In 2011, the City of Vancouver created an initiative to make cycling a safe and attractive mobility option by adding separated bike lanes to key city streets. With the goal of reducing traffic congestion and reducing the use of fossil fuels, Hornby Street was identified as one of the ideal streets for accommodating pedestrians, cyclists, and automobiles. After the installation of the separated lanes Vancouver saw an increase in both cycling and walking trips.

### PRINCIPLE 3

A mobility route with efficient, safe, and accessible forms of transportation for pedestrians.



**16th Street Mall, Denver, US** | 16th Street Mall is a mile-long, pedestrian friendly street with retail, restaurants, outdoor cafes, theatres, and general attractions. Free electric shuttle buses travel up and down the mall, stopping at every corner, making destinations attractive and accessible for all. On Sundays the Mall is made accessible to cyclists and directly one street over exists the 15th Street Bikeway which is a dedicated downtown cycling lane.

### PRINCIPLE 2

A street that benefits, integrates, and enhances private space through public use.



**Granary Square, London, UK** | Granary Square is a large open public space in Kings Cross, next to a canal where barges once unloaded their goods. One of the unique features of the site is that it is privately owned and managed, but open entirely to the public. The square features over 1000 choreographed fountains which are colorfully illuminated at night, and is directly adjacent to the University of the Arts London.

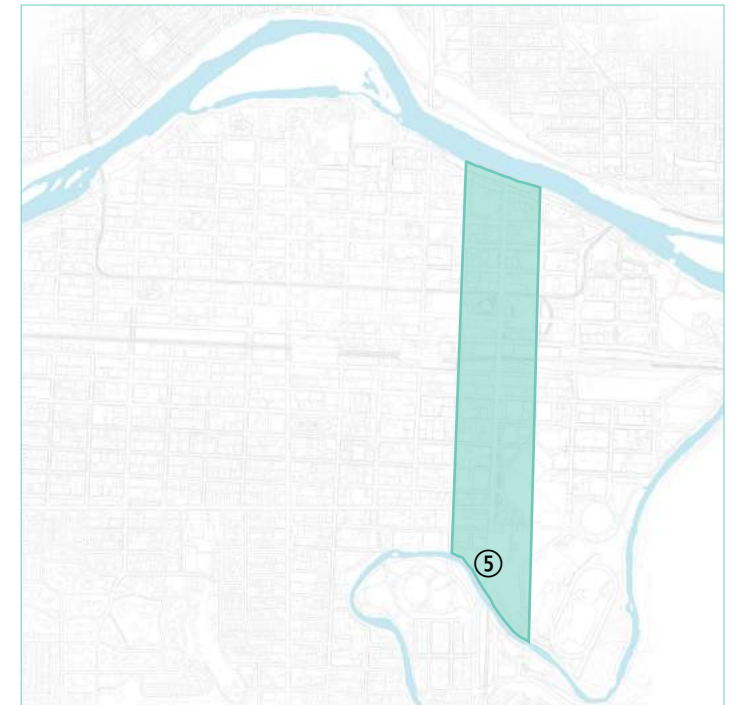
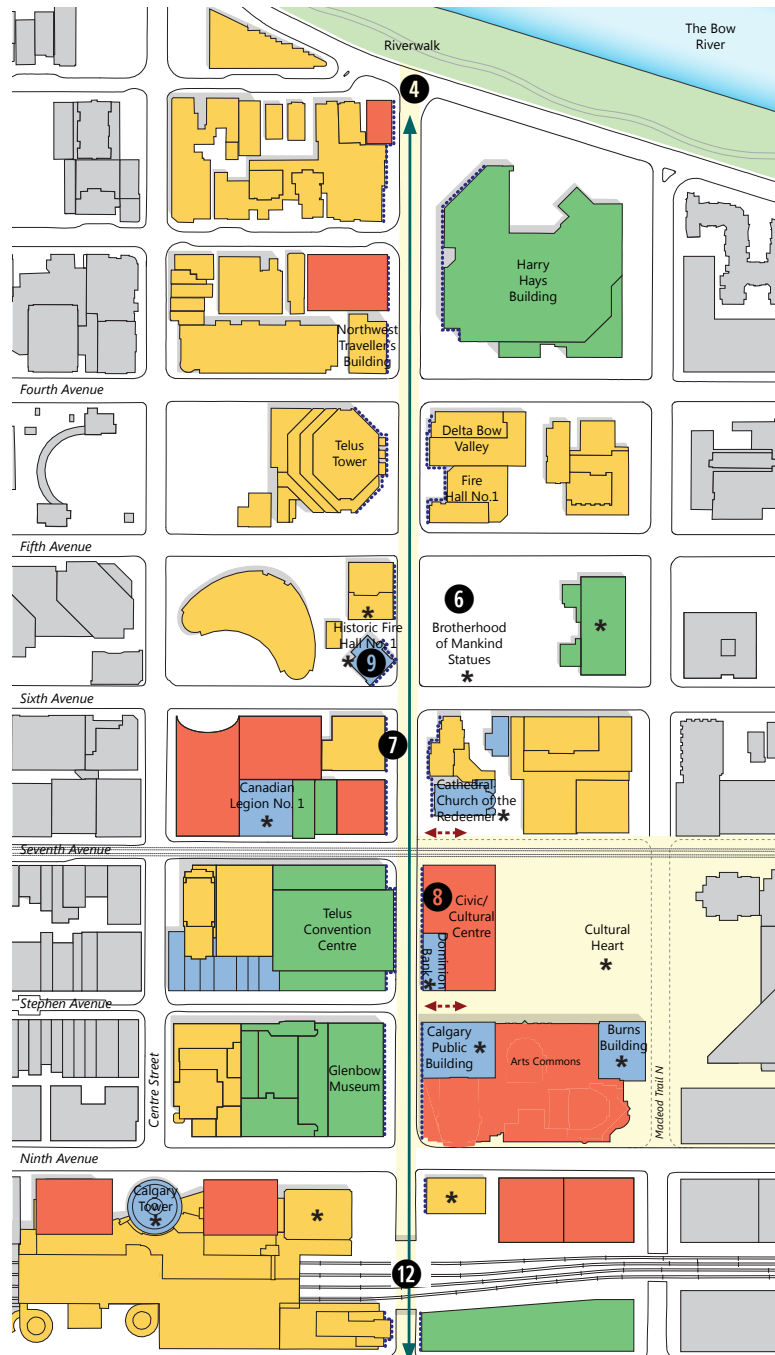
### PRINCIPLE 4

A pedestrian-oriented street that interfaces retail and activity.



**Chelsea, New York City, US** | In 2007, New York City began making an effort to increase safety and decrease congestion by promoting cycling as an attractive, sustainable, and active method of transportation. After expanding Manhattan's cycling network, a census between 2009 and 2012 discovered that the number of residents riding to work increased by 26%. Another study discovered that after the installation of the first protected bicycle lane in Chelsea, Ninth Avenue became a more vibrant corridor with 58% decrease in injuries and a 49% increase in retail sales.

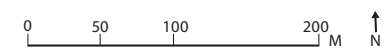
# First Street S.E. Green Mall | Public Realm Criteria



Context Map

## Legend

- Existing Civic/Institutional
- Existing Office, Commercial, Residential, Hotel, Mixed-Use
- Redevelopment Opportunity
- Proposed Development
- \* Approved Historical Resources
- ↕ Legible Edges
- ⋮ Active Building Edges
- ↕ Access Routes



## First Street S.E. Green Mall | Public Realm Criteria

### CRITERION 1

#### Legibility

- ① Create a legible, active, multi-modal mall along First Street S.E.

### CRITERION 2

#### Active Edges

- ② Create a mix of active use by infilling the vacant parcels and aligning the building edges along First Street S.E.
- ③ Animate First Street S.E. with transparent, active building frontages at-grade.

### CRITERION 3

#### Programming

- ④ Program the north end of the Green Mall with a cultural/recreational destination that integrates the Riverwalk and the Harry Hays site.
- ⑤ Program the south end of the Green Mall where Macleod Trail splits into divided north/south routes with an engaging, civic experience that connects to the Elbow River pathways.
- ⑥ Support programming at the site of the Brotherhood of Mankind statues.
- ⑦ Program the east edge of the Andrew Davison building with public space which provides pedestrian amenity.
- ⑧ Program the proposed Civic/Cultural Centre with at-grade use which activates First Street S.E.
- ⑨ Support the programming of Historic Fire Hall No.1 with a use which reflects its historical resource quality and activates the street corner.

### CRITERION 4

#### Activity & Amenity

- ⑩ Locate pedestrian and cycle track routes to interface with building frontages and support retail and restaurant.
- ⑪ Promote a pedestrian culture by locating key amenities at public spaces.
- ⑫ Activate and improve the connectivity of walking and cycling routes through the First Street S.E. underpass through public realm improvements and public art.
- ⑬ Develop a legible tree canopy on both sides of the First Street S.E. Green Mall as an urban amenity and a ribbon of green infrastructure.

### CRITERION 5

#### Access & Linkages

- ⑭ Frame the arrival into the Cultural Heart plaza through a memorable and welcoming entryway.
- ⑮ Recognize First Street S.E. as a vital North-South artery in facilitating the connectivity of the Rivers, and support strong pedestrian linkages through multi-modal transportation options.

### CRITERION 6

#### Historical Resources

- ⑯ Support conservation of historical resources along the Green Mall by respecting their presence, history, and scale.

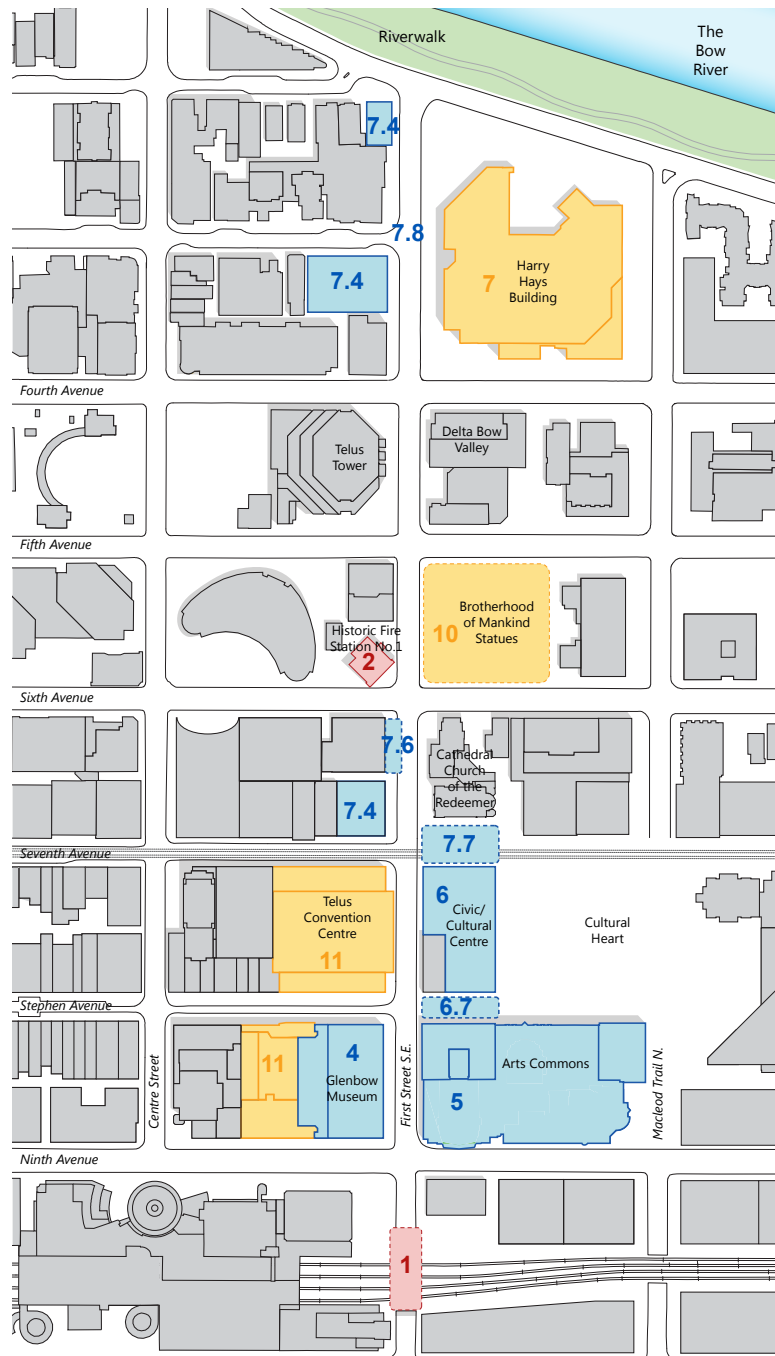


**Superkilen, Copenhagen, DK** | A large urban park with cultural and recreational destinations connected by pedestrian walkways and cycle tracks.



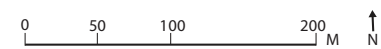
**Esplanade, Helsinki, FI** | A promenade that connects pedestrians to the waterfront and is animated by cafes, restaurants, retail destinations, and street performers.

# First Street S.E. Green Mall | Actions



## Legend

- Short-Term Actions
- Medium-Term Actions
- Long-Term Actions



## First Street S.E. Green Mall | Actions

### Short-Term Actions

- 1 Renovate the First Street S.E. underpass with public realm and infrastructural improvements, as well as public art and improved lighting conditions. *[See Centre City Underpass Urban Design Guidelines]*
- 2 Support the programming of Historic Fire Hall No. 1 with uses which animate First Street S.E. as well as Sixth Avenue. Support the opportunity for amenities that complement the Brotherhood of Mankind statues site.
- 3 Undertake a lighting strategy for the Civic District as a first step towards a Centre City Lighting Plan.

### Medium-Term Actions

- 4 Promote the renovation of the Glenbow Museum to provide an active, permeable edge that will attract visitors along First Street S.E. and animate the building corners at Ninth Avenue and Stephen Avenue. Acknowledge First Street S.E. as a loading route for the museum and investigate strategies to improve at-grade frontage along this street. *[See Stephen Avenue Extension Strategy]*
- 5 Promote the renovation of Arts Commons into an externalized cultural hub with permeable, active building frontages. Investigate the west face of the Performing Arts Centre to have active frontages which animate First Street S.E. *[See Cultural Heart Strategy]*
- 6 Locate a new Civic/Cultural Centre with active frontage along First Street S.E. which brings pedestrians into the Cultural Heart plaza. *[See Cultural Heart Strategy]*
- 7 Develop a Master Plan for the First Street SE Green Mall which reflects its role as a vital north-south link and vibrant, multi-modal route that includes the following:

- 7.1 A public engagement strategy which fosters collective support and citizen involvement. Allow for discussion around features of mobility, recognizing that First Street S.E. is a multi-modal route with the opportunity to link key civic destinations.
- 7.2 Support opportunities for First Street S.E. to host a safe, attractive cycling route from the Bow to the Elbow River. Examine the east side of the First Street S.E. to connect cyclists to Olympic Plaza and to capture the afternoon sunlight. Integrate the study as part of the *Centre City Cycle Track Network Study, Centre City Mobility Plan, and Calgary Transportation Plan* to promote bicycle safe traffic management and

healthy, sustainable, attractive options for movement downtown.

- 7.3 Streetscape improvements to First Street SE including consistently planted rows of trees, street furniture, wayfinding, and a cohesive illumination strategy. *[See Centre City Illumination Guidelines, Centre City Wayfinding]*
- 7.4 Infill the vacant parcels along First Street S.E. and create setbacks to align building edges with wide sidewalks and a mix of at-grade uses.
- 7.5 Locate amenities at key public spaces along First Street S.E. such as public washrooms, locked storage, wayfinding maps, area information, bicycle racks, and bicycle sharing hubs.
- 7.6 Investigate locating and programming a public destination or rest area at the vacant, underutilized area next to the east edge of the Andrew Davison building.
- 7.7 Define the arrival into the Cultural Heart plaza by providing bicycle racks, pedestrian amenities, public art, and/or landmarks where First Street intersects with Seventh Avenue and Stephen Avenue. *[See Cultural Heart Strategy, Digital Corridor, Stephen Avenue Extension]*
- 7.8 Acknowledge the importance of Chinatown in Calgary's urban fabric and develop an appropriate transition into this distinct neighbourhood.

### Long-Term Actions

- 8 Explore the potential renovation of the Harry Hays site to terminate the north end of First Street S.E. with a cultural event which integrates the riverwalk and Chinatown. Acknowledge the Harry Hays site as an opportune location for cultural/recreational use which provides a mix of amenity, retail, and public space. *[See Ceremonial Boulevard, Meandering Green Strategy]*
- 9 Develop the vacant parcel between 18th Avenue SE and the Elbow River where Macleod Trail splits into north and south routes with an engaging, civic destination that connects to the Elbow River. *[See Ceremonial Boulevard Strategy]*

- 10 Support conservation of the historical resource, the Brotherhood of Mankind statues, within the site of the Education Centre Building, as a connected green space along First Street S.E., and facilitate uses and amenities that activate its presence along the Green Mall. *[See Ceremonial Boulevard, Meandering Green Strategy]*
- 11 Encourage the renovation of the Telus Convention Centre to provide an active, permeable building edge which animates First Street S.E. as well as the building corners at the Seventh Avenue and Stephen Avenue. *[See Stephen Avenue Extension, Digital Corridor Strategy]*
- 12 Support the conservation of legally protected historical resources along First Street S.E. which contribute to the character of the plaza including - but not limited to - North-West Traveller's Building, Historic Fire Hall No. 1, Cathedral Church of the Redeemer, Dominion Bank, and the Calgary Public Building. *[See Cultural Heart Strategy, Calgary Heritage Strategy]*

**N.B. To achieve some of these actions, policy and land-use may have to be revised.**

# 06

## Digital Corridor

A rich visual and auditory experience for the thousands of Calgarians who use Seventh Avenue each day.

The CTrain transit system provides access into Calgary's downtown for tens of thousands of people each weekday. Arriving, departing, and waiting are all everyday actions common in this area and so it should be an attractive, pedestrian friendly environment for all. The Seventh Avenue Digital Corridor recalibrates the existing transit corridor into an interactive public realm. By re-purposing blank facades as interactive digital art surfaces and promoting digital media for private advertising, the Digital Corridor will create a rich visual experience for the thousands of people who use the avenue everyday. In addition, the Digital Corridor promotes the consolidation of transit amenities into a single, coordinated infrastructure, thereby releasing usable space for pop-up amenities, cultural production, and activities that support transit users.



### CONNECTING TO WHAT WE HEARD

#### Citizen and Stakeholder Engagement, 2014

Citizens and stakeholders had many comments on what could be improved along Seventh Avenue, often specifically commenting on improving the CTrain experience. Some of the feedback included improving the comfort and security of the stops, improving the platform lighting, introducing more public art, and providing more amenities for transit users such as shops, food, and retail.

#### Centre City Urban Design Guidelines Draft, 2015

The Urban Design Guidelines identify that the LRT platforms should have good weather protection, wayfinding, street furniture, lighting, and public art.

The guidelines also identify the opportunity to incorporate large animated electronic displays for civic and commercial advertising. Digital public art may be considered to selectively add interest, comfort, and visual attractiveness to the streetscape.

#### RouteAhead, 2013

Route Ahead considers opportunities for improving the customer experience of public transit through the responsiveness toward attributes of safety, accessibility, cleanliness, convenience, comfort and reliability.

#### Centre City Plan, 2007

The Centre City Plan puts a high priority on public transit, specifically the C-train as an effective movement option for thousands of Calgarians arriving and departing the Centre City. Seventh Avenue is described as a transit mall which has the highest volumes of pedestrians, and as such, should be defined with mixed and commercial at grade uses. The transit mall should have a comfortable and attract streetscape, with the opportunity for civic and commercial advertising through digital art incorporated within facades.

#### Pedestrian Policy and Needs Report, 2008

The Pedestrian Policy and Needs Report focuses on four key objectives which relate directly to the movement of people and the character of the Seventh Avenue transit corridor. Those four needs are connectivity and convenience, space to travel, routes free of obstructions, and a character and a feeling of security and safety.



## Digital Corridor | Guiding Principles

### PRINCIPLE 1

A corridor that is animated day and night with media and public art.



**Yonge-Dundas Square, Toronto, CA** | In the heart of Toronto, Dundas Square is an open public plaza that accommodates a wide range of events including celebrations, festivals, concerts, theatre, and promotions. Surrounding the square are a number of key institutional, cultural, and commercial buildings including Toronto Eaton Centre, Ryerson University, Ed Mirvish Theatre, and the City TV building. The square regularly features pieces of public art, and is most well-known for its surrounding signage, neon lights, and LED screens which illuminate with information, advertisements, and public art.

### PRINCIPLE 3

A corridor that links and interfaces pedestrians with public destinations.



**Pioneer Courthouse Square, Portland, US** | Located in the heart of downtown Portland, Pioneer Courthouse Square is a central gathering space, and a hub for Portland's light rail transit system. A light rail transit line runs along two sides of the square with exterior, at-grade pedestrian access. Shelter and amenities are provided along the transit edges, which also integrate with the building edges to create an attractive, comfortable transit experience.

### PRINCIPLE 2

A pedestrian-oriented transit corridor that is accessible and integrated with the streetscape.



**Portland Mall, Portland, US** | Portland is an example of a city that has successfully integrated multi-modal transportation as part of a healthy and sustainable environment. The tram lines are efficient, highly used, and made accessible through Portland's extensive pedestrian zone.

### PRINCIPLE 4

A transit experience that is comfortable, welcoming, and commodious.



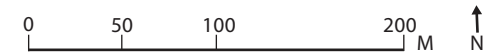
**Leidsestraat, Amsterdam, NL** | Leidsestraat is a busy pedestrian street with great transportation options including walking, biking, and the tram which connects the length of the street. The street hosts a mix of specialty shops, cafes, and retail. By consolidating amenity and reducing clutter the space efficiently and effectively provides an attractive, comfortable stop for citizens and visitors.

## Digital Corridor | Public Realm Criteria



### Legend

- |   |  |  |  |   |
|---|--|--|--|---|
| <span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 15px; background-color: #4f81bd; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Existing Civic/Institutional                               | <span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 15px; background-color: #e6554d; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Proposed Development      | <span style="display: inline-block; width: 0; height: 0; border-left: 5px solid transparent; border-right: 5px solid transparent; border-bottom: 10px solid #007060; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Legible Edges | <span style="display: inline-block; width: 10px; border-bottom: 2px dashed #007060; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Active Building Edges        | <span style="display: inline-block; width: 0; height: 0; border-left: 5px solid transparent; border-right: 5px solid transparent; border-bottom: 10px dashed #e6554d; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Access Routes |
| <span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 15px; background-color: #fde725; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Existing Office, Commercial, Residential, Hotel, Mixed-Use | <span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 15px; background-color: #4caf50; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Redevelopment Opportunity |  | <span style="display: inline-block; width: 10px; border-bottom: 2px solid #007060; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Graphic and Digital Animation |   |
| * Approved Historical Resources   |  |  |  |   |



## Digital Corridor | Public Realm Criteria

### CRITERION 1 Legibility

- ① Consolidate the footprint of Olympic Plaza to incorporate Seventh Avenue.
- ② Embrace canopies as part of Seventh Avenue's identity and support their capacity to serve as a canvas for digital media.

### CRITERION 2 Active Edges

- ③ Activate the edges of Seventh Avenue with a mix of uses which contribute to the street and to the platforms.
- ④ Animate the experience for transit users through the use of large scale graphic and digital media along the building edges.

### CRITERION 3 Programming

- ⑤ Program the northwest corner of Olympic Plaza with a potential Civic/Cultural Centre that animates Seventh Avenue and Cultural Heart plaza with digital media.
- ⑥ Terminate the Digital Corridor at Fourth Street S.E. with a pedestrian oriented, contemporary public space which incorporates the CTrain as a source of animation to the plaza.

### CRITERION 4 Activity & Amenity

- ⑦ Celebrate the crossing of the CTrain with the Cultural Heart plaza as a major public destination.
- ⑧ Consolidate CTrain specific amenities to reduce clutter at platforms to improve pedestrian movement and accessibility.
- ⑨ Activate the waiting platforms by locating a diversity of permanent and temporary amenities such as warming huts, restaurants, cafes, and retail which enhance the four season commuting experience.

### CRITERION 5 Access & Linkages

- ⑩ Celebrate the intersection of Third Street S.E. and Seventh Avenue to act as a gateway into the East Village by creating a pedestrian friendly intersection with great cross-street access.

### CRITERION 6 Historical Resources

- ⑮ Support the conservation of historical resources along the Digital Corridor by respecting their presence, history, and scale.

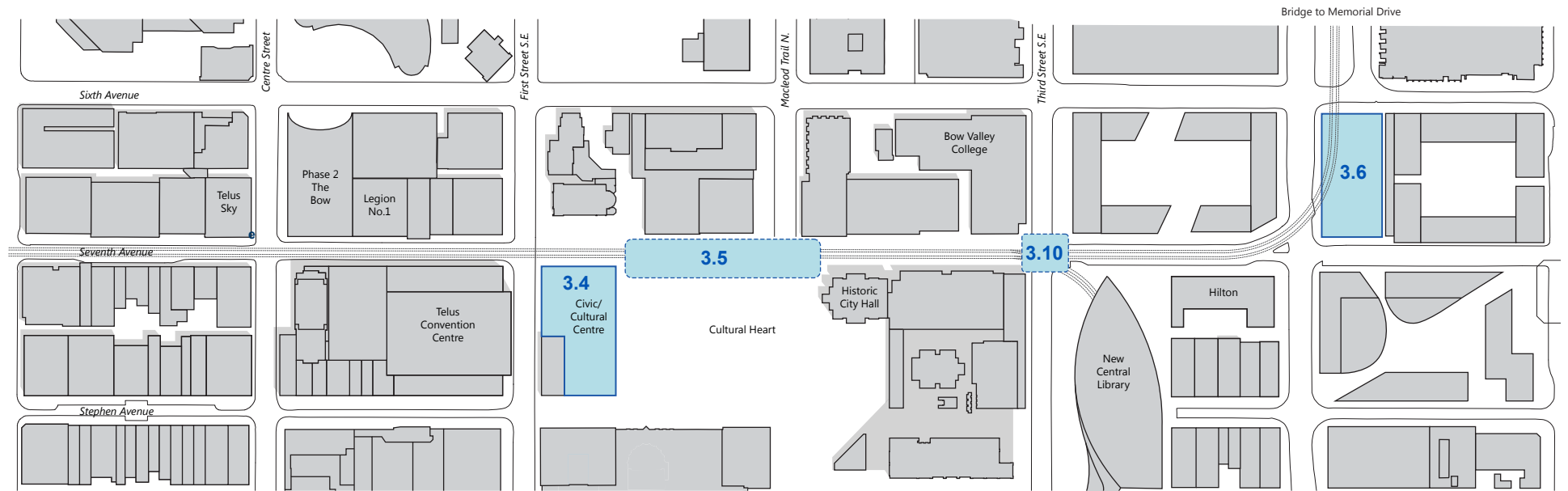


**Potsdamer Platz Sony Centre, Berlin, DE** | This partially enclosed plaza is protected from the elements by the surrounding buildings and a large canopy above, animating the space day and night through all four seasons.



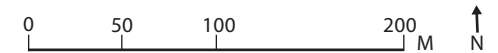
**Sun Salutation, Zadar, HR** | A plaza comprised of photovoltaic cells with LED lights, which illuminate when the sun sets, creating a unique public experience for visitors.

## Digital Corridor | Actions



### Legend

- Short-Term Actions
- Medium-Term Actions
- Long-Term Actions



## Digital Corridor | Actions

### Short-Term Actions

- 1 Engage citizens and stakeholders about digital media along Seventh Avenue. Integrate digital corridor plan with cultural heart master planning process.
- 2 Undertake a lighting strategy for the Civic District as a first step towards a Centre City Lighting Plan.

### Medium-Term Actions

- 3 Develop a Master Plan for the Seventh Avenue Digital Corridor to create a legible, animated route which celebrates the spirit of the Civic District, the opportunities for digital communication, and connects people to the Cultural Heart to include the following:
  - 3.1 A public engagement strategy to foster the collective vision and involvement of citizens, and build off of previous Seventh Avenue engagement findings.
  - 3.2 A strategy to activate the building facades with large scale graphic and digital media to animate the corridor experience for transit users. Activate the blank facades across from CTrain platforms for connected displays of public art, private advertisements, wayfinding, tourist information, not-for-profit creatives, local events and local retailers.
  - 3.3 Investigate the bylaws and strategies which would apply to curating graphic media and public art in public spaces.
  - 3.4 A new Civic/Cultural Centre in the northwest corner of Olympic Plaza and investigate the potential for the facade to animate the experience for transit users and pedestrians in the Cultural Heart plaza. *[See Cultural Heart Strategy]*
  - 3.5 Incorporate the crossing of the CTrain with the Cultural Heart plaza as a major public moment.
  - 3.6 Terminate the Seventh Avenue corridor to the east with a public destination at Fourth Street S.E. Promote that the Fourth Street S.E. C-Square act as a contemporary public space that animates the CTrain experience for both transit users and pedestrians. *[See East Village Master Plan]*

- 3.7 Investigate consolidating CTrain specific amenities at Seventh Avenue platforms, for example, ticket kiosks, route maps, trash bins, and third-party signage to improve pedestrian movement and access along the sidewalks.
- 3.8 Investigate the opportunity of locating new amenities which improve the winter commuting experience such as warming huts, heated seats, heated sidewalks, and public washrooms. Coordinate any new amenities with the existing infrastructure to prevent congestion, and create a welcoming environment for all.
- 3.9 A strategy to promote active edges and investigate permanent and temporary commercial uses which improve the pedestrian experience along Seventh Avenue such as food kiosks, pop-up retail, cafes, and commuter stores.
- 3.10 Design the intersection of Third Street S.E. and Seventh Avenue to celebrate the gateway into the East Village through active building corners and generous pedestrian crossings. *[See Third Street S.E. Zipper Strategy]*
- 3.11 Develop programming that situates local, national, and international digital art competitions using the Digital Corridor as the center of the festival.
- 3.12 Proceeds from advertising to be directed to public realm improvements in the Civic District, including operations and maintenance.
- 3.13 The unique presence, scale, and (approved) character defining elements of historical resources along the Digital Corridor should be respected and considered.

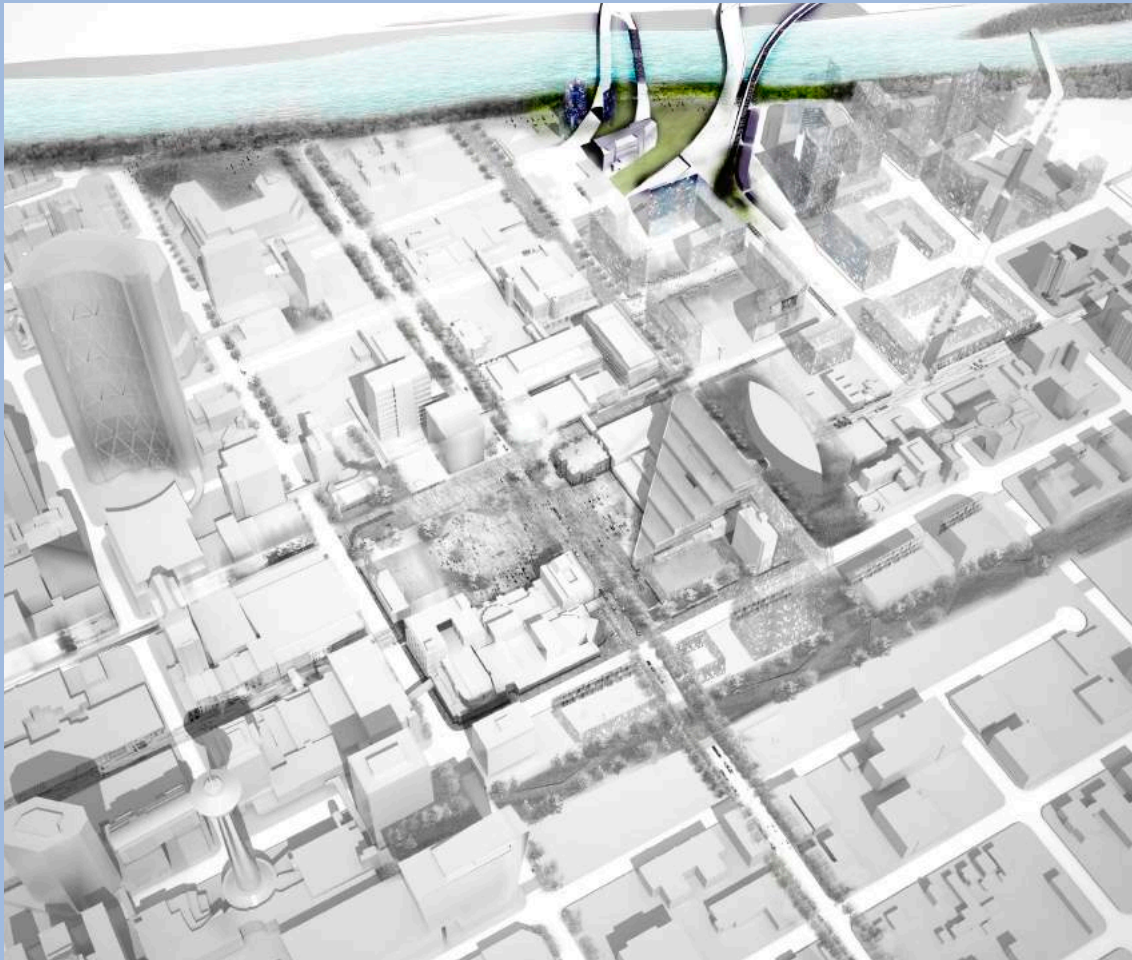
***N.B. To achieve some of these actions, policy and land-use may have to be revised.***

# 07

## Civic Gateway

An iconic, welcoming, memorable Gateway connecting the Centre City to the rest of the City.

The Fourth and Fifth Avenue fly-overs are monumental points of entry and exit, connecting the Centre City with the rest of the city, and managing thousands of commuter's everyday. The scale of this crossing, along with its prominence as a gateway to the East Village, the Civic District, and the broader Centre City, necessitates both the marking of this unique place within the city as well as the improvement of the at-grade condition, including the residual space left after the road infrastructure was established.



### CONNECTING TO WHAT WE HEARD

#### Citizen and Stakeholder Engagement, 2014

Calgarians also identified Langevin Bridge and the area around the Drop-In Centre as an opportunity to have an improved pedestrian experience for those entering and leaving the Centre City everyday.

#### East Village Master Plan

The East Village Master Plan identifies development parcels around the gateway which have the opportunity to activate the riverfront with a diversity of flexible uses. As the gateway into the East Village the area is identified as an iconic entrance into the Centre City with landmark building and pedestrian scale frontages which animate ground level, and the underutilized areas left vacant from the flyovers.

#### Centre City Plan, 2007

The Centre City Plan identifies the Fourth and Fifth Avenue flyovers, as well as Langevin bridge as important Gateways into the Centre City. The Centre City Plan identifies a 'Gateway' as a symbolic entry into unique areas which can be expressed through linkage elements and built form. Public realm enhancements and private development are encouraged at gateway locations to create a citizen and visitor experience with views, landscaping, streetscape, public art, lighting, and landmark buildings.



## Civic Gateway | Guiding Principles

### PRINCIPLE 1

A memorable, welcoming Gateway with distinct architectural form.



**Guggenheim Museum, Bilbao, ES** | The Guggenheim Museum Bilbao is one of the most recognizable pieces of architecture of its time. Located alongside the Nervion River, the museum merges with La Salve Bridge to link a curved pedestrian walkway to the waterfront. In the first three years of operation, this memorable, iconic, gateway welcomed nearly 4 million people, while generating approximately \$500 million in profit and \$100 million in taxes.

### PRINCIPLE 3

A Gateway that animates the at-grade condition.



**Beach & Howe Mixed-Use, Vancouver, CA** | This 49-story tower will become a beacon next to Granville Street Bridge; Vancouver's central downtown gateway. The tower is placed on a nine-story podium where a mixed-use urban village will connect at-grade, in the covered space under the bridge. The village will have a variety of shops, restaurants, and office space that will connect to public pathways and plazas along the waterfront.

### PRINCIPLE 2

A Gateway that activates residual spaces with urban vitality and density.



**A8ernA, Zaanstadt, NE** | In Koog aan de Zaan, as part of an urban renewal project and to restore the connection between both sides of town, the space under the Highway A8 bridge was transformed into a revitalized public space. The space is divided into several unique zones of activity, including a space for teens, a skate park, basketball courts, graffiti wall, as well as a public market, porch space, and a public marina to give citizens access to their waterfront.

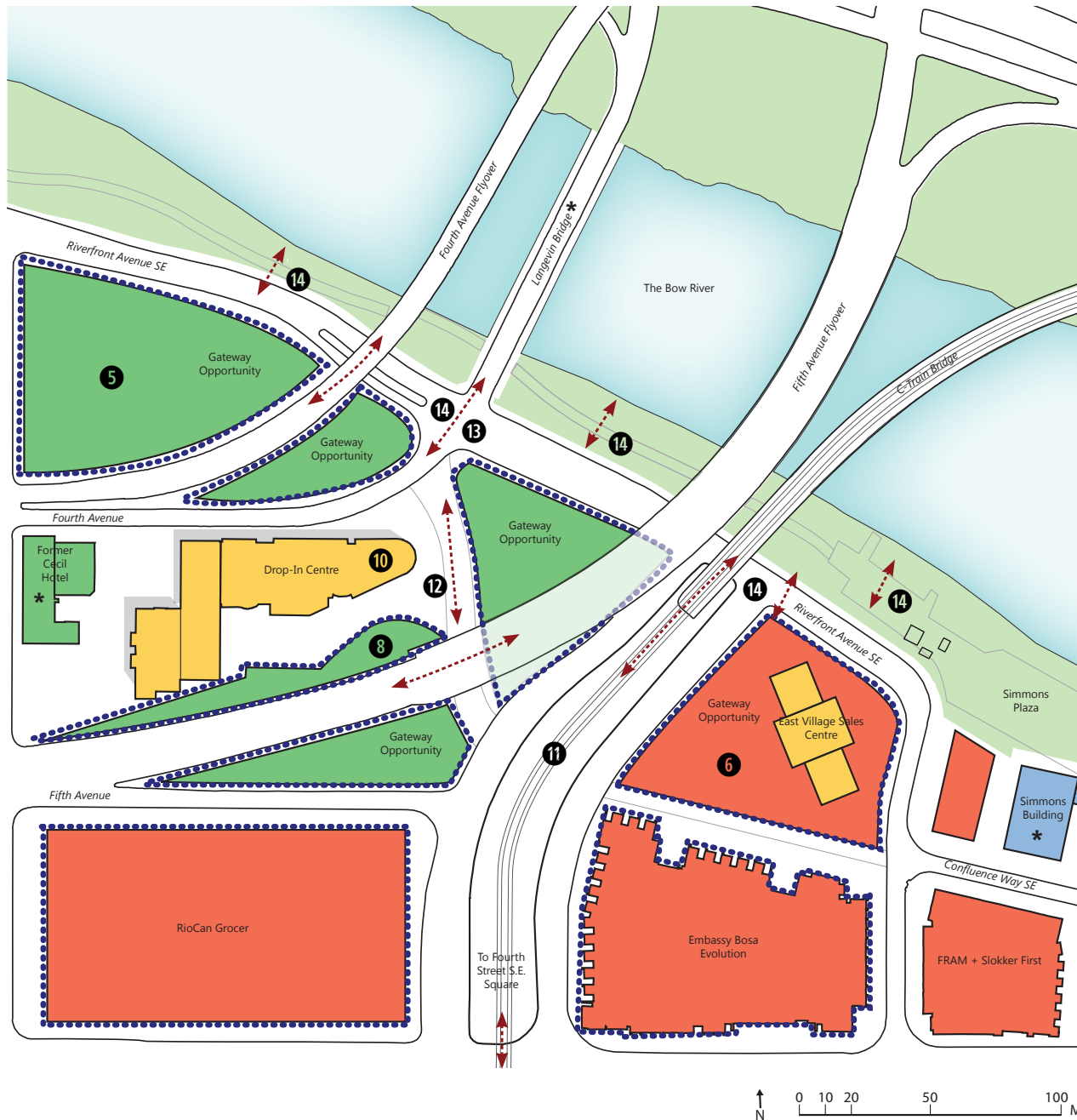
### PRINCIPLE 4

A Gateway that is connected to the waterfront.



**Oslo Opera House, Oslo, NO** | The Oslo Opera House is a building that functions as an engaging urban landscape. The large windows and vistas provide views to the islands in the distance. The building's access to sunlight, as well as amenities and events, creates a successful public destination that attracts not only opera fans, but citizens and tourists alike.

# Civic Gateway | Public Realm Criteria



## Legend

- Existing Civic/Institutional
- Existing Office, Commercial, Residential, Hotel, Mixed-Use
- Proposed Development
- Redevelopment Opportunity
- \* Approved Historical Resources
- Legible Edges
- Active Building Edges
- Access Routes

## Civic Gateway | Public Realm Criteria

### CRITERION 1 Legibility

- ① Frame the Fourth and Fifth Avenue gateway to honour the grandeur of the fly-overs with an iconic and welcoming architectural gesture.

### CRITERION 2 Active Edges

- ② Reinforce an animated ground level of building frontages by joining the existing residual parcels to utilize the space divided by the flyovers.
- ③ Promote continuous, permeable, active edges which wrap all pedestrian routes at-grade.

### CRITERION 3 Programming

- ④ Program the vacant, under-utilized parcels with a gateway feature that is flexible and activates the waterfront with a mix of recreational, cultural, civic, residential, and/or commercial use.
- ⑤ Program the under-utilized parcel north of Fourth Avenue with a higher density, mixed, residential, and/or cultural use which animates waterfront and the civic gateway.
- ⑥ Program the parcel east of the CTrain tracks and south of Riverfront Avenue SE, with a gateway feature that hosts residential and mixed use.

### CRITERION 4 Activity & Amenity

- ⑦ Activate the civic gateway through public art and by illuminating the buildings day and night.
- ⑧ Activate the under-utilized edge north of the Fifth Avenue flyover with public space

that acknowledges the presence of the Drop-In Centre.

- ⑨ Animate the riverfront with permeable, active frontages that provide amenities and recreational use for citizens and visitors.
- ⑩ Promote a welcoming and active public destination that is near the Drop-in Centre by improving the density, accessibility, illumination, diversity, and natural surveillance of the public realm.
- ⑪ Animate the pedestrian experience along the CTrain right-of-way with activity, illumination, and public art from Sixth Avenue until it crosses the Bow River

### CRITERION 5 Access & Linkages

- ⑫ Link pedestrians from the historic Langevin Bridge to Fourth Street S.E. through a legible and accessible pedestrian route that connects the space under the fly-overs.
- ⑬ Link pedestrians across the historic Langevin bridge with a safe, accessible, and attractive pedestrian route illuminated at night.
- ⑭ Link pedestrians and cyclists to the Riverwalk with safe and attractive crossings that promote free pedestrian movement from buildings to the riverfront.

### CRITERION 6 Historical Resources

- ⑮ Honour the existing historic Langevin Bridge as an historical resource that is an important piece of the gateway and utilize the existing conditions to enhance the gateway experience.

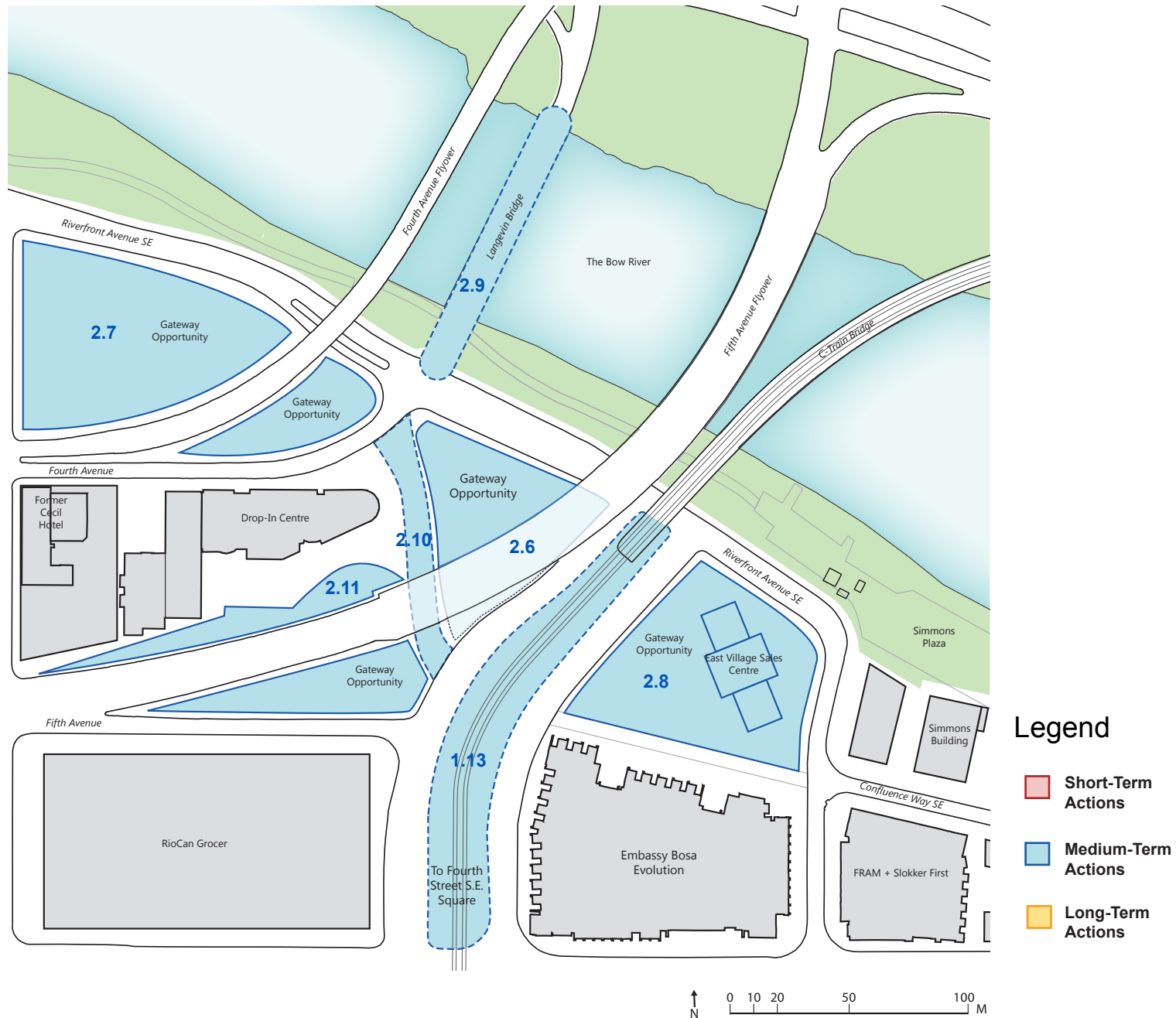


**Fuji TV Building Odaiba, Tokyo, JP** | An iconic architectural landmark that is graphically illuminated at night, welcoming people from the Rainbow Bridge where it crosses Tokyo Bay.



**Darling Harbour, Sydney, AU** | Darling Harbour hosts many of Sydney's most popular tourist destinations; its lights, restaurants, shops, entertainment, and public art animate the space day and night.

## Civic Gateway | Actions



## Civic Gateway | Actions

### Short-Term Actions

- 1 Undertake a lighting strategy for the Civic District as a first step towards a Centre City Lighting Plan.

### Medium-Term Actions

- 2 Develop a Master Plan for the Civic Gateway in consideration of the East Village Master Plan that includes the following:

- 2.1 Investigate the role of the Civic Gateway as a transition zone between Bridgeland, the East Village, and the Civic District and the broader Centre City. Develop a vision for an iconic, welcoming, and memorable gateway that integrates the key urban design principles as set out by the East Village Master Plan.
- 2.2 Encourage that the Fourth and Fifth Avenue gateway buildings be appropriately scaled, iconic architectural gestures that honour the grandeur of crossing the Bow River for the thousands of commuters leaving and entering the Centre City every day.
- 2.3 Develop an illumination strategy to animate the pedestrian experience and the civic gateway at night. *[See Centre City Illumination Guidelines]*
- 2.4 Develop a land use strategy for undeveloped parcels to accommodate a diversity of use, and activate the waterfront with recreational, cultural, civic, residential, and/or commercial activity. Animate the public spaces between buildings and along the riverfront with amenities such as parks, bike racks, public washrooms, kiosks, public art, and street furniture.
- 2.5 Encourage new development to have continuous, permeable, active edges that wrap pedestrian routes at-grade. In specific cases, investigate the potential of activating building frontages at the bridge (fly-over) level to improve the streetscape condition at Fourth and Fifth Avenue.
- 2.6 Promote development under the flyovers to promote a dense and animated ground level with active edges. Honour the existing transportation infrastructure as an important thoroughfare, and integrate this infrastructure to enhance the gateway design.

- 2.7 Investigate the opportunity of programming the large under-utilized parcel north of Fourth Avenue with either residential use (with at-grade restaurants, cafes, and retail) or cultural use to add density and to animate Third Street S.E. *[See Third Street S.E. Zipper Strategy]*
- 2.8 Upon vacancy of the East Village Sales Centre, recommend that new development in this parcel reflect a gateway feature for thousands of commuters using the CTrain everyday.
- 2.9 Develop a streetscape enhancement plan for the Langevin bridge and Fifth Avenue flyover that builds on existing pagentry programming to make the pedestrian crossing of the Bow River an attractive, safe, and accessible experience day and night.
- 2.10 Consider improving the linkage of the historic Langevin Bridge to Fourth Street S.E. through a legible, multi-modal route that connects pedestrians to the East Village.
- 2.11 Investigate the potential of developing the underutilized edge north of the Fifth Avenue fly-over, and south of the Drop-In Centre with new development or public space. Mend the existing grade separation at the base of the fly-over to utilize its exposure to the sun.
- 2.12 Develop a strategy to support the natural surveillance of the area around the Drop-In Centre through an active, dense, and vibrant environment. Consider the public space around the Drop-In Centre as a special area which may require Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) interventions and the collaboration of social agencies, police services, and the public to create a safe and accessible environment for all.
- 2.13 Develop a plan to activate the underutilized space along the CTrain line. Promote views across the tracks and investigate strategies to improve the experience for pedestrians and transit users.
- 2.14 Locate safe and attractive pedestrian crossings along Riverfront Avenue to promote movement from the proposed building edges to the riverfront.

- 2.15 Develop regulations through a sunlight and shadow study to decrease the amount of shadow the gateway buildings produce during the day, while optimizing their access to sunlight. *[See Centre City Plan, East Village ARP]*

***N.B. To achieve some of these actions, policy and land-use may have to be revised.***

# 08

## Meandering Green

A meandering, public art walk connecting a variety of green destinations for pedestrians in the City.

Great cities offer a diversity of experiences, including multiple means of navigating and engaging spaces and places. The Meandering Green creates a connected, legible, alternative pedestrian-centered route through the Civic District, benefitting from sun-filled green pockets of spaces animated by public art. It creates a series of linked places to socialize, meet friends, and discover the city through a variety of site-specific destinations.



### CONNECTING TO WHAT WE HEARD

#### Citizen and Stakeholder Engagement, 2014

Many citizens and stakeholders identified the City of Calgary as having a unique connection to the natural environment. The mountains, hills, rivers, and climate are only few of natural characteristics which create a sense of place in this Western city.

Many Calgarians identified the demand for natural green space in the Civic District and that parks should be abundant with good connectivity throughout the entire Centre City. Citizens identified linkages to the riverfront, as well as the opportunity for green spaces to accommodate public amenities and public art to stimulate vibrancy.

#### imagineParks Public Engagement, 2012

The engagement results of the imagineParks study found that citizens highly value parks for recreational activities and that parks could be improved by providing basic amenities for comfort and safety. The study also found that Calgarians would like a wide diversity of park activities and features, such as parks as natural areas, parks as festival spaces, and parks that accommodate multi-purpose uses.

#### Centre City Plan, 2007

The Centre City Plan identifies the need to redevelop and provide new parks to meet recreational demands, provide amenity, foster social interaction, and create a sense of community in the Centre City. The Centre City Plan also states that the parks system should be a legible connected network that improves the livability and vitality of the Centre City.

#### Centre City Open Space Management Plan, 2005

The Open Space Management Plan identifies the opportunity for a Centre City made up of world class parks, plazas, cultural landscapes, gardens, natural areas, and roadway greens. The vision for open spaces is to create "great public destinations that are safe and secure, and that help shape the identity of the city and local neighbourhoods by adding to their beauty, creativity and livability".



## Meandering Green | Guiding Principles

### PRINCIPLE 1

A route that is animated with and connected by public art.



**Discovery Green, Houston, US** | Discovery Green is a 12 acre urban park located in downtown Houston which hosts a mix of public activities, including restaurants, water features, running trails, playgrounds, picnic space, event stages, and a skating rink. Public art animates and defines pedestrian linkages to other public destinations. This diverse collection of public art includes Monument au Fatome, Synchronicity of Color, Listening Vessels, and Mist Tree.

### PRINCIPLE 3

A route with a diversity of experiences and mix of uses.



**Madison Square Park, New York City, US** | Madison Square Park is located at the northern end of the Flatiron District and is surrounded by a mix of uses including offices, retail, and restaurants. It is a beautiful and popular park offering a diversity of experiences including gardens, playgrounds, entertainment, and public art. Maintained through private donors, the park features public art installations exhibited annually.

### PRINCIPLE 2

A legible route that links a series of site-specific destinations.



**Serpentine Gallery Pavilion, London, UK** | Every year since the 2000, the Serpentine Gallery has commissioned a temporary summer pavilion to be designed by an international leading architect. The Serpentine Pavilion has become an iconic destination for visitors, offering a unique site-specific experience connected to other public spaces in the city. In 2009, SANAA Architects designed the pavilion as a floating, reflective canopy amongst a forest of trees.

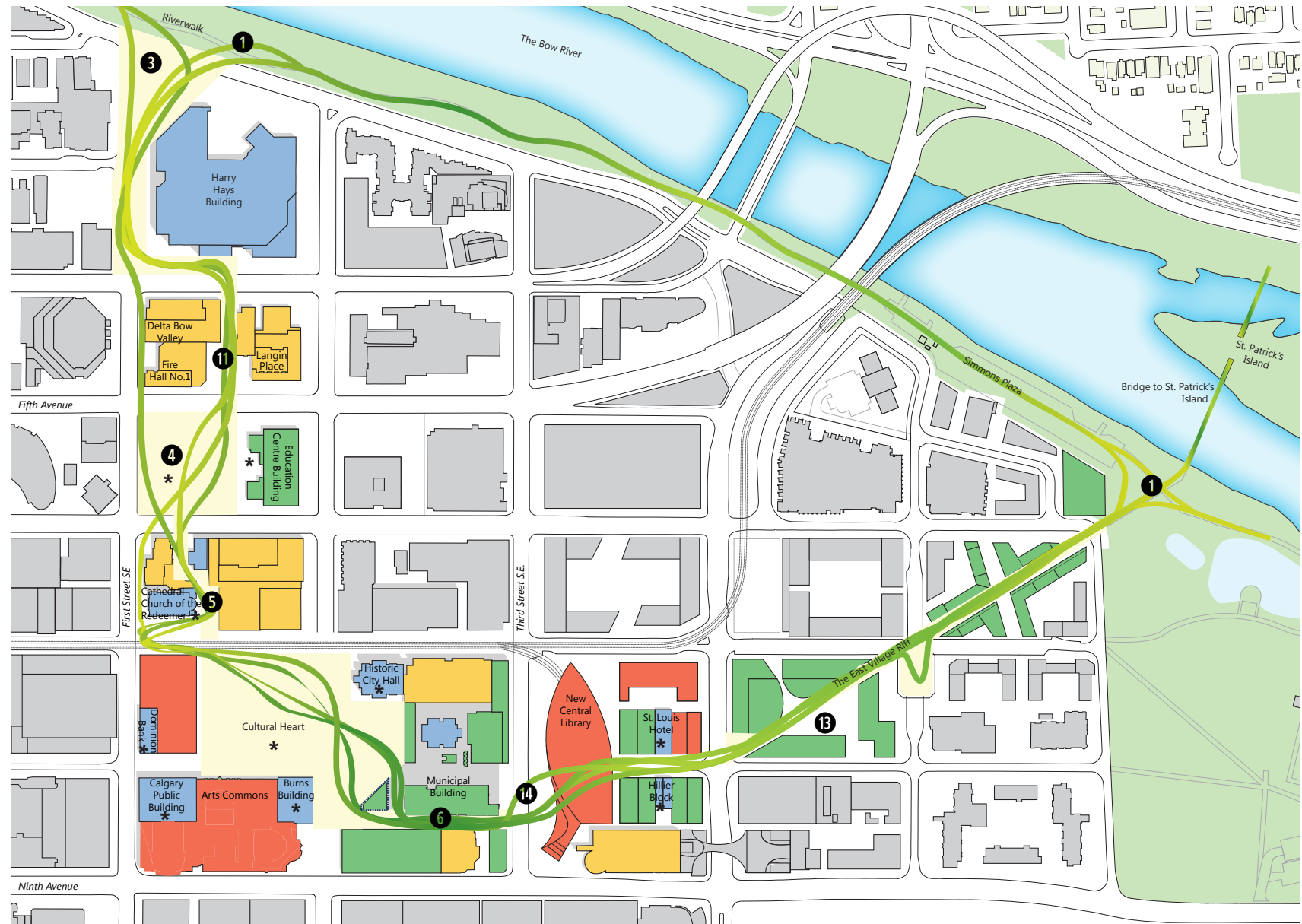
### PRINCIPLE 4

A route with multiple scales of places that are active during all four seasons, day and night.



**Paley Park, New York City, US** | Paley Park is a small urban park located right off the busy downtown streets of Midtown's cultural district. Surrounded by high-rises, the park offers a contemplative respite for people living the busy city life. Shade from the overhead canopies, moveable chairs, and white noise from the waterfall create a comfortable, welcoming atmosphere.

# Meandering Green | Public Realm Criteria



## Legend

- |  |  |   |   |  |
|--|--|---|---|--|
| <span style="color: blue;">■</span> Existing Civic/Institutional                                 | <span style="color: red;">■</span> Proposed Development        | <span style="color: green;">■</span> Meandering Green | <span style="color: blue;">■</span> Active Building Edges | <span style="color: red;">■</span> Access Routes |
| <span style="color: orange;">■</span> Existing Office, Commercial, Residential, Hotel, Mixed-Use | <span style="color: green;">■</span> Redevelopment Opportunity |   |   |  |
| * Approved Historical Resources  |  |   |   |  |

## Meandering Green | Public Realm Criteria

### CRITERION 1 Legibility

- ① Connect the Meandering Green as a legible, alternative, discoverable route connecting Riverwalk, the Cultural Heart, the New Central Library, the East Village Riff, and St. Patrick's Island.

### CRITERION 2 Active Edges

- ② Activate the edges of the adjacent buildings along the Meandering Green with retail, cultural, residential, or commercial use.

### CRITERION 3 Programming

- ③ Program the north end of First Street S.E. and Macleod Trail N. with a civic and/or cultural destination that integrates the riverfront and the open space north of the Harry Hays site.
- ④ Program the site of the Brotherhood of Mankind statues as a privately owned public space for cultural and/or recreational use.
- ⑤ Program Paget Park to be a contemplative public green space with good connectivity to the Cultural Heart plaza through improved open to the sky +15 elements.
- ⑥ Program the under-utilized outdoor space south of the Municipal Building with public art and amenity.

### CRITERION 4 Activity & Amenity

- ⑧ Animate the route with a concentration of public art illuminated day and night.
- ⑦ Connect the route with a variety of hard and soft landscaping and a diverse collection of green spaces that promote relaxation, contemplation, surprise, and inspiration.
- ⑧ Utilize the spaces that receive winter sunlight and the blockage of winds to accommodate occupation during all four seasons.
- ⑨ Activate the route with amenities that integrate with the natural environment, places of rest and engagement. Park amenities and facilities should be used to make recreational uses unique and interesting.

### CRITERION 5 Access & Linkages

- ⑩ Connect the Meandering Green with safe and attractive pedestrian crossings, including the potential to promote public art through crosswalk design.
- ⑪ Connect the underutilized laneway between the Delta Hotel and Langin Place with a potential green corridor that connects to the Family of Man Park.
- ⑫ Connect the Cultural Heart to the New Central Library with an exterior, alternative, green route south of the Municipal Building.
- ⑬ East Village Riff is designed to comply with East Village Master Plan.

### CRITERION 6 Historical Resources

- ⑭ Animate the route with existing public art in the Civic District as a source of historical character and identity.

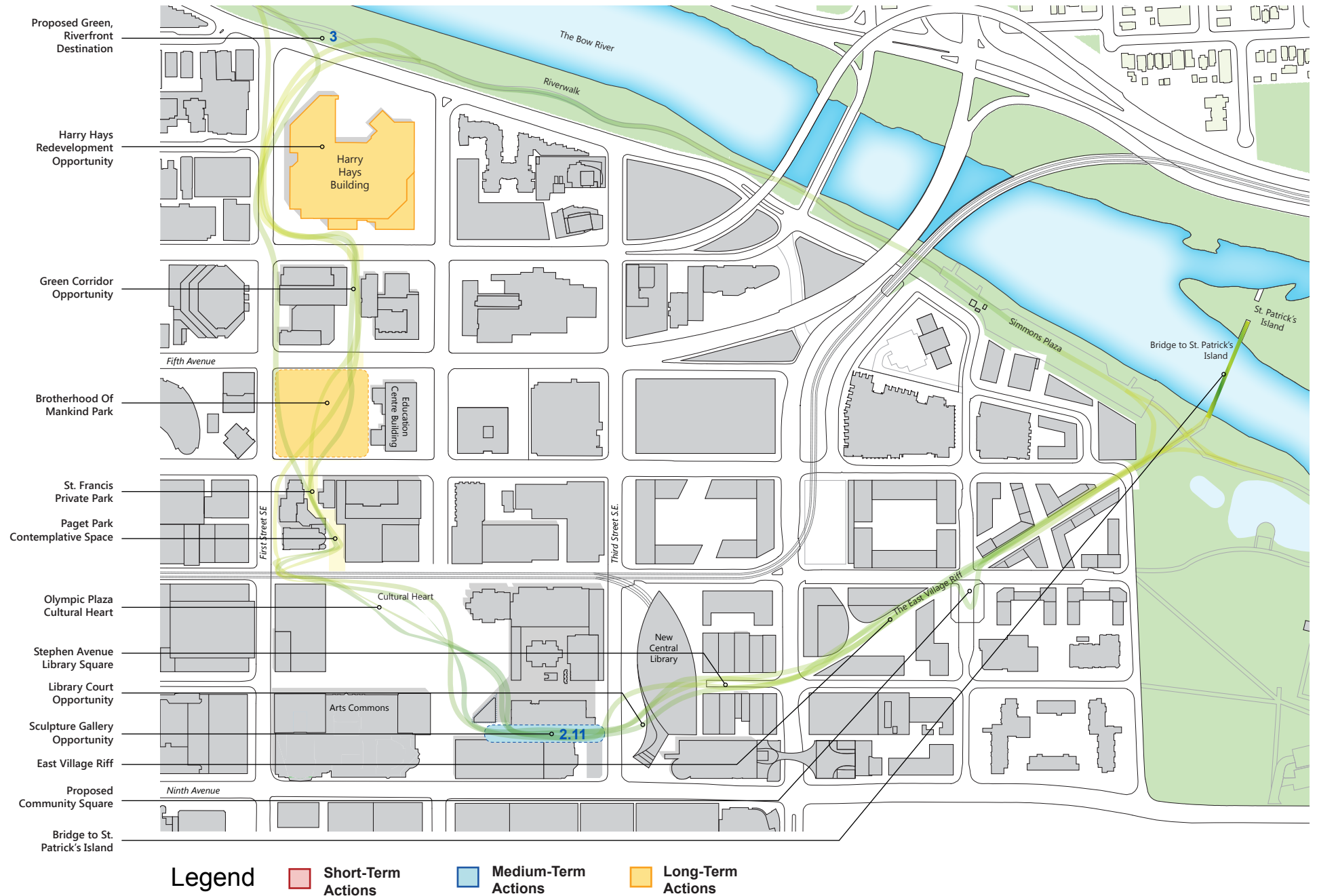


**Keyaki Hiroba Plaza, Saitama, JP** | Allées of Zelkova trees create legible pedestrian routes through a multifunctional plaza.



**Citygarden, St. Louis, US** | An urban park that is animated by fountains, sculptures, and reflecting pools and illuminated at night with colourful lights.

# Meandering Green | Actions



## Meandering Green | Actions

### Short-Term Actions

- 1 Undertake a lighting strategy for the Civic District as a first step towards a Centre City Lighting Plan.

### Medium-Term Actions

- 2 Develop a Master Plan for a meandering green that connects the Civic District to a legible network of parks and open spaces that includes the following:

- 2.1 A public engagement strategy to investigate the need for parks and open spaces in the Civic District, as well as the various opportunities for recreational programming. *[See Open Space Management Plan]*
- 2.2 Investigate the potential of linking the Bow River Pathway, the Cultural Heart, the East Village Riff, and St. Patrick's Island with a diversity of green spaces that promote relaxation, contemplation, surprise, recreation, and inspiration.
- 2.3 Locate public art in strategic locations along the meandering green. Allow public art to act as way-finding tool that links routes and destinations with landmarks and animation. Allow a concentration of existing and proposed public art to inform the identity of the Meandering Green. *[See Appendix D: Diagram D.5]*
- 2.4 An illumination strategy that heightens the experience of the landscape and its climatic conditions along the route during all four seasons, day and night. Integrate this illumination strategy with existing and new public art opportunities where possible. *[See Centre City Illumination Guidelines]*
- 2.5 Investigate the opportunity for a bonus scheme to allow and to promote the public use of outdoor private spaces. Develop partnerships with developers and stakeholders to sponsor continuity along the meandering green, as well as contribute to the outcome of a prosperous, vibrant public realm. *[See Appendix D: Diagram D.6]*
- 2.6 Develop and animate green spaces by activating their edges with permeable facades that accommodate retail, cultural, residential, or commercial use.
- 2.7 Design green spaces to receive winter sunlight and investigate policies to protect year-round access to the sun. Shelter spaces from the prevailing winds,

and take advantage of Chinook winds to animate microclimates. The spaces should be designed for wind protection, while taking advantage of the existing site conditions to encourage occupation during all four seasons. *[See Appendix D: Diagram D.7]*

- 2.8 A street furniture strategy along the Meandering Green that integrates the built and natural landscape with amenities, places of rest and engagement.
- 2.9 Design a consistent paving strategy that improves the streets and sidewalks with an appropriate quality of materials. Investigate the opportunity for heated sidewalks and snowmelt systems for four season occupation.
- 2.10 Investigate attractive, colorful, pedestrian crossings that promote public art through crosswalk design. Investigate the opportunity for mid-block crossings to maintain the legibility, access, and continuity of the Meandering Green.
- 2.11 Redevelop the underutilized, inactive space along the southern edge of the Municipal Building. Acknowledge the opportunity for this space to act as an exterior alternative route to the New Central Library, and propose a potential sculpture gallery or contemplative public park with access to the Municipal Building.
- 3 Redevelop the open space north of the Harry Hays Site as an active, green, public destination with good connectivity to the riverfront. *[See Ceremonial Boulevard, First Street S.E. Green Mall Strategy]*

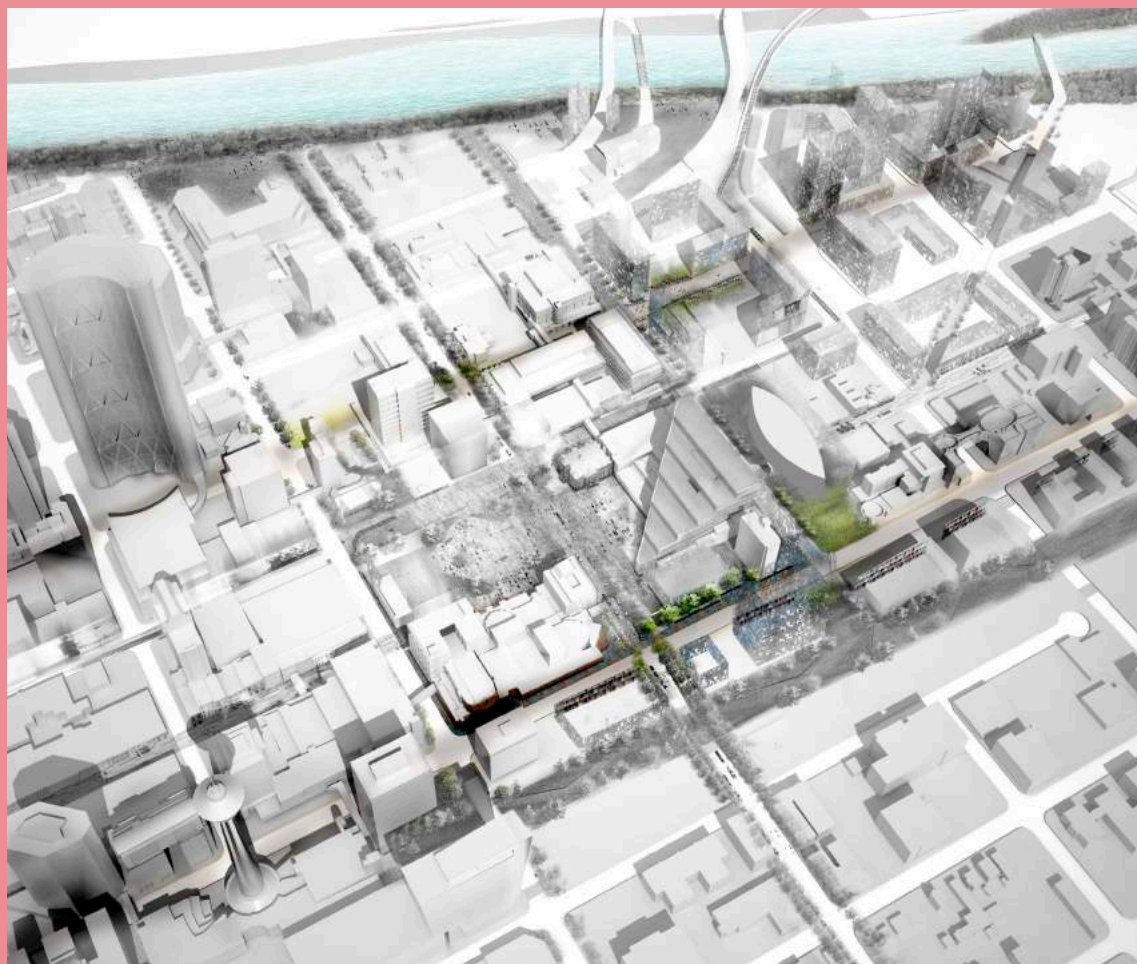
***N.B. To achieve some of these actions, policy and land-use may have to be revised.***

# 09

## Sixth and Ninth Avenue Parades

Major thoroughfares offering a source of pageantry in the city, defined by tall buildings with a vibrant, wide pedestrian realm.

As major thoroughfares in the Centre City, the Sixth and Ninth Avenue City Parades are home to the largest and tallest structures in the City, and by extension the greatest population densities in downtown. Building on this opportunity, the Sixth and Ninth Avenue Parades celebrate the scale of the skyline and the associated pageantry of event signage and lighting, while at the same time nurturing a human-scaled pedestrian realm that is generous and adaptive. The Sixth and Ninth Avenue Parades celebrate everyday urban actions and frame major parade events and spectacles.



### CONNECTING TO WHAT WE HEARD

#### Citizen and Stakeholder Engagement, 2014

Citizens and stakeholders found that Sixth and Ninth Avenues could be a more welcoming and pedestrian friendly streetscape with active edges. The Stampede route was identified as an iconic, civic event which creates a sense of place from pedestrians "taking over" the street.

#### Centre City Urban Design Guidelines Draft, 2015

The Centre City Urban Design Guidelines identify Sixth and Ninth Avenue as "Commercial Streets" which should integrate a range of land uses with a variety of transit and transportation options. The guidelines also identify some aspects which make a successful "Commercial Street" such as improved street trees, wide sidewalks, street furniture, and pedestrian lighting.

#### Centre City Plan, 2007

The Centre City Plan identifies Sixth Avenue as a "Commercial Street" which is a major traffic connector with flexible transportation alternatives. A mix of land uses including high-density development is encouraged along Sixth Avenue and the streetscape should provide a comfortable, animated, and safe pedestrian realm.

Ninth Avenue is identified as a "Boulevard" which is also a major traffic connector and a gateway streetscape for civic uses, including a dynamic, high quality public realm with a mix of land uses. The Centre City Plan also encourages, where technically feasible, to study the conversion of one-way streets to two-way streets in order to stimulate commercial and pedestrian activity.

#### Calgary Downtown Retail District Strategy, 2009

The Downtown Retail Strategy identifies Ninth Avenue as a major gateway and as the first intersection consumers encounter when travelling from the south into the downtown. As such, Ninth Avenue provides a unique opportunity to be revitalized as an active pedestrian street. The vacant surface lots, the underpasses, and the vehicular-oriented character of the street are some of the opportunities to be addressed through public realm improvements.



## Sixth and Ninth Avenue Parades | Guiding Principles

### PRINCIPLE 1

Avenues with tall, consistent, street walls.



**Bay Street, Toronto, CA** | The centre of Toronto's financial district, Bay Street is home to major banks, institutions, retail, and condominiums, including some of Toronto's tallest skyscrapers. The consistent street walls, high density, active frontages, and wide sidewalks support the hustle and bustle of this busy street.

### PRINCIPLE 2

Avenues with a mix of at-grade pedestrian use.



**Collins Street, Melbourne, AU** | Collins Street is Melbourne's premier street, defined by its historical Victorian era buildings, aggregation of retail, and large scale financial buildings. The sidewalks are activated with a mix of uses, including the Athenaeum and Regent theatre, restaurants, hotels, and popular high-end shops and boutiques.

### PRINCIPLE 3

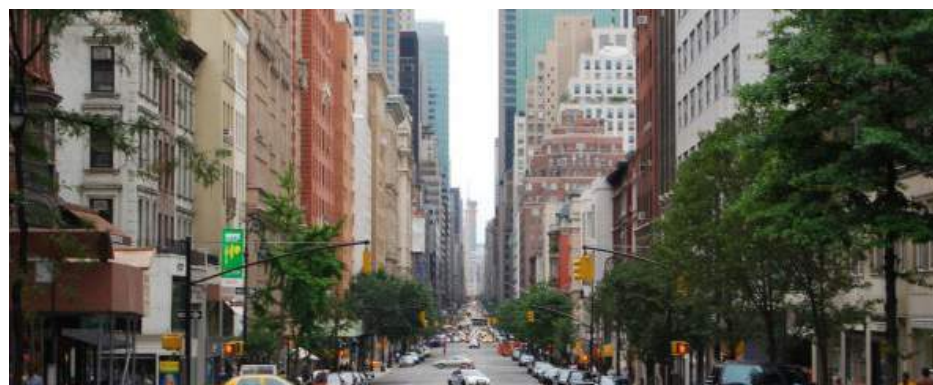
Avenues as active, East-West multi-modal thoroughfares.



**Michigan Avenue, Chicago, US** | This bustling street is not only a major thoroughfare, but also hosts many of Chicago's tallest buildings, and connects popular destinations such as Millennium Park, the Art Institute of Chicago, and the Magnificent Mile. The Magnificent Mile (North Michigan Avenue) is programmed at-grade with a mix of pedestrian uses such as department stores, restaurants, museums, hotels, office, residential, and commercial buildings.

### PRINCIPLE 4

Avenues which promote a diverse, high density urban lifestyle.



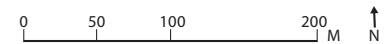
**Madison Avenue, New York City, US** | Historically the heart of New York City's advertising industry, Madison Avenue is an iconic downtown street which connects to Madison Square. Madison Avenue is a major thoroughfare carrying traffic one way northbound, and includes a density of office, retail, residential buildings with a consistently lined streetwall and active frontage.

## Sixth and Ninth Avenue Parades | Public Realm Criteria



### Legend

- |   |   |   |  |  |  |  |  |
|---|---|---|--|--|--|--|--|
| <span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 15px; background-color: #4F81BD; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Existing Civic/Institutional | <span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 15px; background-color: #E67E22; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Proposed Development | <span style="display: inline-block; width: 10px; height: 10px; background-color: #F1C40F; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Existing Office, Commercial, Residential, Hotel, Mixed-Use | <span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 15px; background-color: #2ECC71; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Redevelopment Opportunity | <span style="display: inline-block; width: 10px; height: 10px; background-color: #F1C40F; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></span> * Approved Historical Resources | <span style="display: inline-block; width: 10px; height: 10px; background-color: #F1C40F; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Legible Edges | <span style="display: inline-block; width: 10px; height: 10px; background-color: #F1C40F; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Active Building Edges | <span style="display: inline-block; width: 10px; height: 10px; background-color: #F1C40F; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Access Routes |
|---|---|---|--|--|--|--|--|



## Sixth and Ninth Avenue Parades | Public Realm Criteria

### CRITERION 1 Legibility

- ① Create multi-modal thoroughfares along Sixth and Ninth Avenues with legible, wide sidewalks.
- ② Align building edges along Sixth and Ninth Avenue to create a legible, consistent, high street wall. Scale down the height of future buildings that are further east, so that building are appropriately scaled to the East Village.

### CRITERION 2 Active Edges

- ③ Promote active building edges along Sixth and Ninth Avenues with a mix of at-grade uses.

### CRITERION 3 Programming

- ④ Infill and program the under-utilized surface lots located along Ninth Avenue with urban-scaled, street wall buildings that accommodate a high density of mixed uses.

### CRITERION 4 Activity & Amenity

- ⑤ Create a streetscape along Sixth and Ninth Avenues with appropriately scaled street furniture, pedestrian amenities, illumination, event signage, and way-finding.
- ⑥ Accommodate event-specific transformations such as the Stampede Parade and other large gatherings along Sixth and Ninth Avenues.

### CRITERION 5 Access & Linkages

- ⑦ Celebrate the intersections along Sixth and Ninth Avenues with strong pedestrian linkages and active building corners.

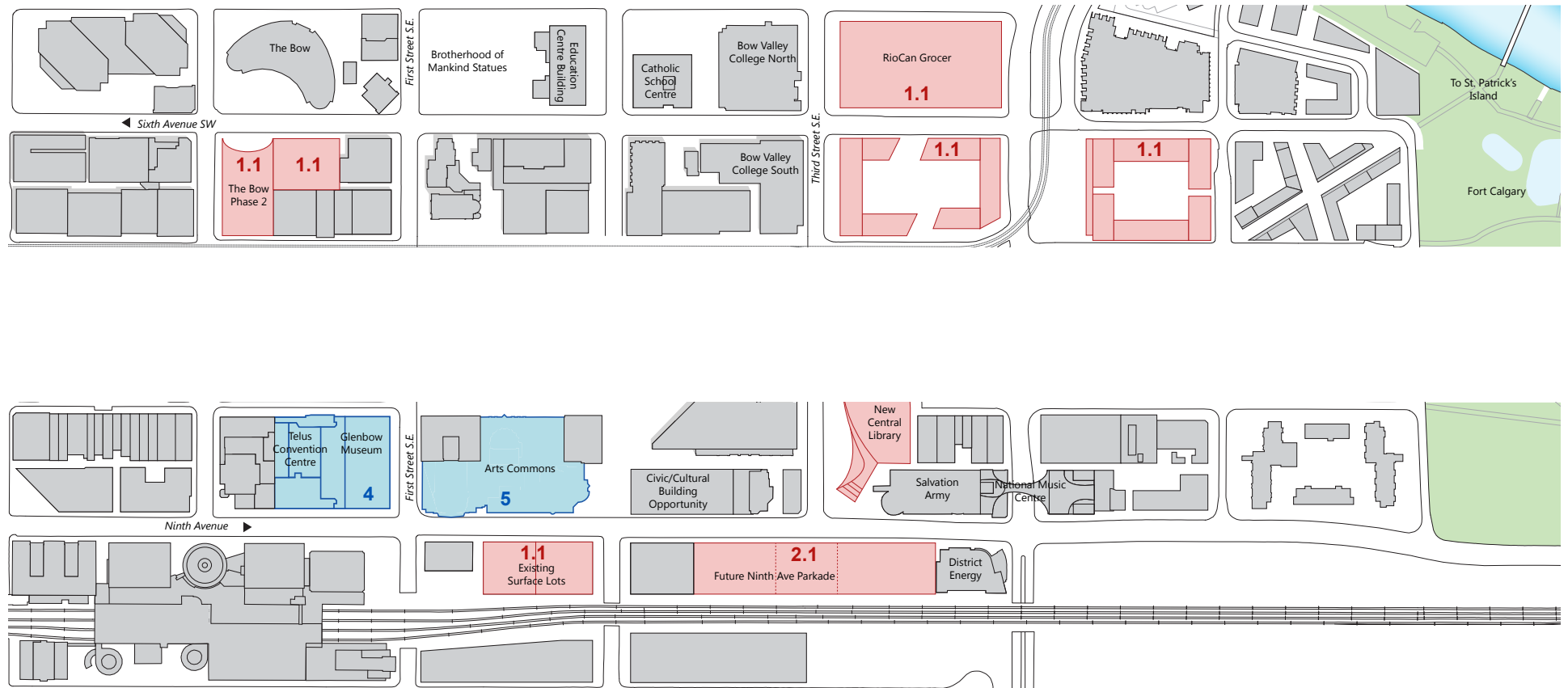
### CRITERION 6 Historical Resources

- ⑧ Celebrate the historical resources along Sixth and Ninth Avenues, including, but not limited to, Fire Hall No. 1 and the Calgary Tower, to honour their presence as landmarks.



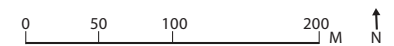
**Macy's Parade, New York City, US** | Busy streets are closed to traffic and transformed into performances, musical acts, and most notably, the exhibition of giant, colorful, floating balloons that are framed by Manhattan's high street walls

## Sixth and Ninth Avenue Parades | Actions



### Legend

- Short-Term Actions
- Medium-Term Actions
- Long-Term Actions



## Sixth and Ninth Avenue Parades | Actions

### Short-Term Actions

- 1 Develop a Sixth Avenue Master Plan and a Ninth Avenue Master Plan to promote a legible, active pedestrian realm with a density of mixed-uses along major thoroughfares that includes the following:
  - 1.1 Infill and program the vacant and underutilized lots along Sixth and Ninth Avenue, especially the vacant surface lots south of Ninth Avenue, with a mix of at-grade pedestrian uses.
  - 1.2 A strategy to align any future development along Sixth and Ninth Avenues with a consistent building setback with high street walls.
  - 1.3 Support the conservation of historical resources along Sixth and Ninth Avenue, including, but not limited to, Fire Hall No. 1 and the Calgary Tower to honour their presence as landmarks.
  - 1.4 Scale down the height of the buildings along Sixth and Ninth Avenue, east of Third Street S.E., so that the buildings are appropriately scaled to the East Village. *[See East Village Master Plan, Third S.E. Street Zipper Strategy]*
  - 1.5 Encourage pedestrian-oriented, active edges along Sixth and Ninth Avenue with wide, generous sidewalks which accommodate a high capacity of pedestrian traffic as well as transit patrons waiting for BRT buses.
  - 1.6 Locate appropriately scaled street furniture, attractive pedestrian crossings, greenery, wayfinding, urban-scaled event signage, and cohesive illumination that integrates the high street wall condition, and animates the avenues with pageantry.
  - 1.7 A strategy to accommodate event-specific transformations for street parades, events, and the everyday. Investigate integrated event signage, street furniture, parade seating, amenities, or festival booths as a source of pageantry to the avenues.
- 2 Develop the vacant parcels south of Ninth Avenue, at Third Street S.E. with the mixed use Eastside (Ninth Avenue) Parkade. *[See Third Street S.E. Zipper Strategy]*

- 2.1 Develop the parkade to be appropriately scaled to the Civic District and East Village, with a mix of at-grade pedestrian uses.
- 3 Undertake a lighting strategy for the Civic District as a first step towards a Centre City Lighting Plan.

### Medium-Term Actions

- 4 Encourage the renovation of the Glenbow Museum to provide an active, permeable edge that will attract visitors along Ninth Avenue, and animate the intersection at First Street S.E. *[See Stephen Avenue Extension Strategy]*
- 5 Encourage the renovation of Arts Commons to provide an active, permeable edge along Ninth Avenue. Celebrate the intersection at Macleod Trail N for people entering the Centre City, and activate the south facade to complement future development along the southern-located surface lots. *[See Cultural Heart Strategy]*
- 6 Study the feasibility of accommodating cyclists on either of these thoroughfares to promote attractive linkages to the surrounding communities and to stimulate pedestrian activity. *[See First Street S.E. Green Mall Strategy, Centre City Plan, Centre City Cycle Track Network Study, Centre City Mobility Plan, and Calgary Transportation Plan]*

### Long-Term Actions

- 7 Support the conservation of historical resources along Sixth and Ninth Avenue, including, but not limited to, the former Fire Hall No. 1 and Calgary Tower to honour their presence as landmarks. *[See Calgary Heritage Strategy]*
- 8 Ensure adequate space for transit users at transit stops.

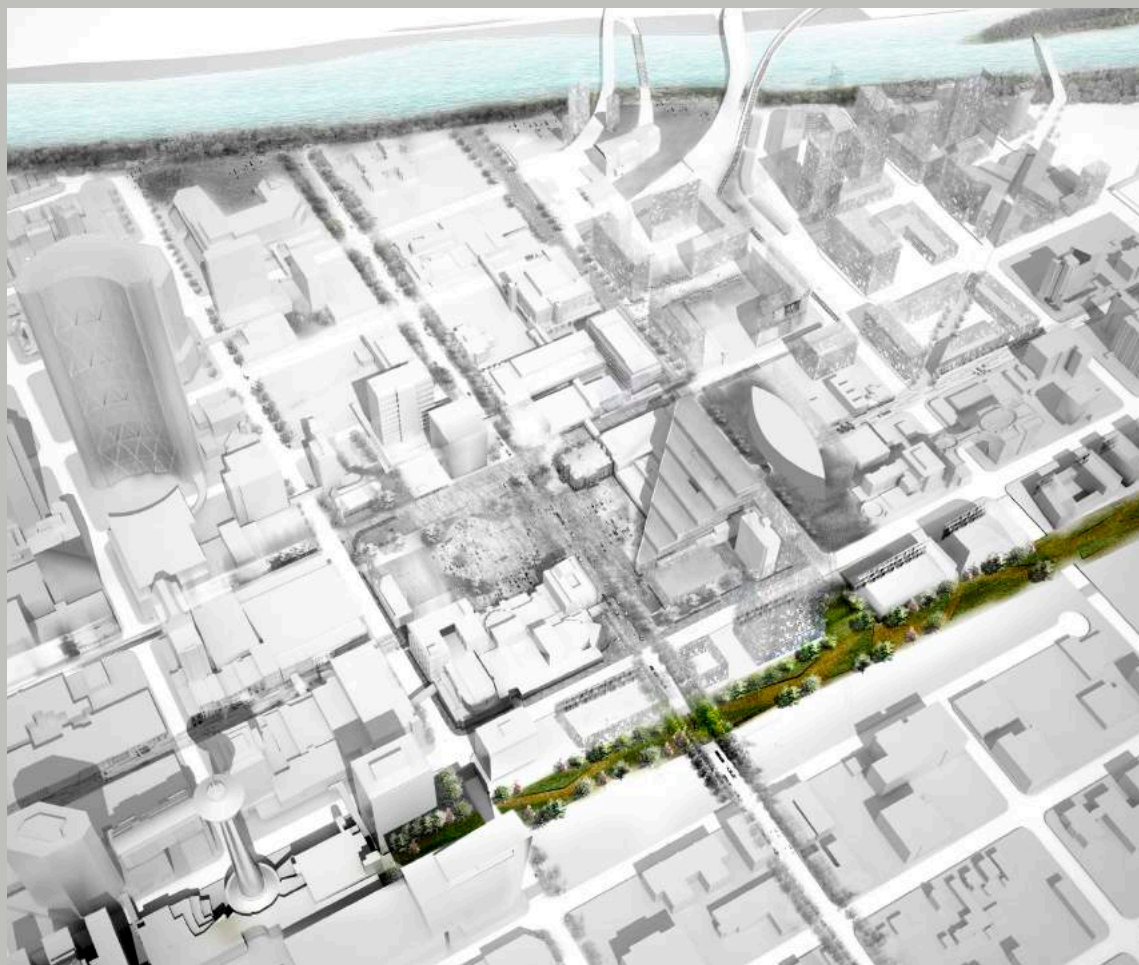
***N.B. To achieve some of these actions, policy and land-use may have to be revised.***

# 10

## Urban Suture

The gradual reclamation of an historical cultural landscape into a public experience that reconnects and reinvigorates the Centre City.

The history of Calgary is intrinsically bound with the legacy of the Canadian Pacific Railway (CPR). From the genesis of Calgary's grid, to the construction of the train station at Ninth Avenue and Centre Street as its first civic heart, through history as an edge condition that inherently defined the urban development of downtown, the CPR has and will continue to contribute to the identity of Calgary. Urban Suture is a progressive, incremental strategy to reinvigorate the CP Rail towards its original capacity as a social condenser; a conduit for people and not just commodities. Four interrelated implementation strategies structure the suturing of the CPR, facilitating the public realm connection north and south.



### CONNECTING TO WHAT WE HEARD

#### Citizen and Stakeholder Engagement, 2014

Citizens and stakeholders identified the CPR corridor as a barrier to the Centre City and a unique public realm improvement opportunity. The short term improvements included the enhancement of the underpasses and encouraging development on the abundant, vacant surface lots. Other suggestions were long term, such as the relocation of the railway and the redevelopment of the site into an urban green corridor. In general, citizens and stakeholders see the CPR corridor as the special opportunity for a cohesive, big idea connecting the core of the city.

#### Canadian Pacific Railway Corridor Study, 2011

As part of an ongoing study, the City of Calgary has performed visioning sessions, workshops, and land use studies on the CPR Corridor. The documents identify some of the existing technical conditions as well as the opportunity for the corridor to support a variety of land uses, public spaces, and innovative built form. The CPR Corridor has also been identified as a potential site for various movement systems to facilitate people, rather than goods and materials.

#### Centre City Plan, 2007

The Centre City Plan identifies the CPR Corridor as a special area that could contribute an open space/public realm that enhances the vitality of the Centre City. The Centre City Plan states the potential for the corridor to have a mix of uses which integrate the north and south sides of the tracks with exciting linkages, destinations, and landmark built forms.

#### Downtown Underpass Urban Design Guidelines, 2010

The Underpass Guidelines identify the short to mid-range goals for connectivity across the CPR Corridor. The guidelines address common issues and best practices with focus on improvement in the following categories; safety, connectivity, accessibility, context, vitality, greenery and beauty. The underpasses are gateways for thousands leaving and entering the Centre City every day, and as such, should reflect the memorable, welcoming destinations they connect.



## Urban Suture | Guiding Principles

### PRINCIPLE 1

A corridor that honours the memory and history of the Railway.



**High Line, New York City, US** | The High Line is a former elevated rail line that when under the threat of demolition, was lobbied by 'Friends of the High Line' to be preserved for public use. In 2004 a design competition was held to re-imagine this historical piece of infrastructure. Today, the High Line is a vibrant urban park that embraces its industrial past. The High Line is a hugely successful destination that welcomed more than 4.4 million visitors in 2012 alone.

### PRINCIPLE 3

A corridor that revitalizes views, sunlight, and the connection to the natural environment.



**Cheonggyecheon, Seoul, KR** | The 8.4 kilometer redevelopment of the Cheonggyecheon, was previously a large concrete overpass carrying a major highway for vehicular traffic. Located in the heart of Seoul's downtown, the space was transformed into a natural landscape connected to greenery, views, water, and sunlight. The project helped join the north-south disconnection of the city with cultural, recreational, and economic activities.

### PRINCIPLE 2

A corridor with public art, festivities, recreation and culture.



**Olympic Sculpture Park, Seattle, US** | Located on what was previously an industrial brownfield site, Olympic Sculpture Park is a public space that reconnects the urban core to Seattle's waterfront. The highly contentious site was previously divided by train tracks and a major arterial roadway. Through this revitalization, the site was transformed into a very successful and welcoming recreational and cultural space, with public art and amenities embedded into its surrounding landscape.

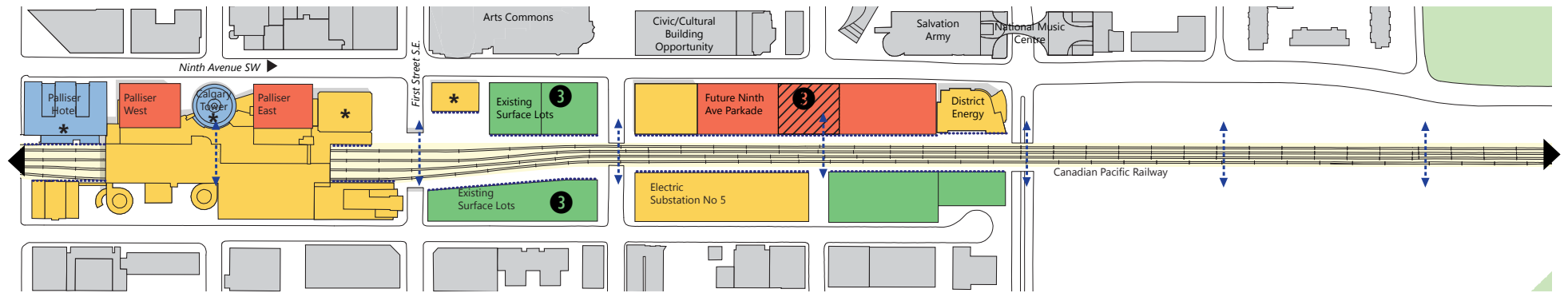
### PRINCIPLE 4

A corridor with public realm linkages that animate the pedestrian experience.



**Gran Via de Llevant, Barcelona, ES** | This project is a 2.2 kilometer renovation of public space aimed at transforming the Gran Via into a pedestrian friendly urban public space. The design implemented a multi-storey solution wherein traffic was placed below a green valley providing acoustic protection, while walkways connect both sides of the street with an urban park that includes greenery, fountains, seating, and art.

## Urban Suture | Public Realm Criteria



### Legend

- |  |                           |                    |                       |               |
|--|---------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|---------------|
| Existing Civic/Institutional                               | Proposed Development      | Legible Connection | Active Building Edges | Access Routes |
| Existing Office, Commercial, Residential, Hotel, Mixed-Use | Redevelopment Opportunity |                    |                       |               |
| Approved Historical Resources                              |                           |                    |                       |               |

## Urban Suture | Public Realm Criteria

### CRITERION 1 Legibility

- ① Create a unique and legible, all encompassing vision along the length of the CPR Corridor for active public use and the potential to create spaces of connection.

### CRITERION 2 Active Edges

- ② Promote that the underutilized lots along Ninth and Tenth Avenue be developed with active edges, as well as the future ability to accommodate public space along the corridor.

### CRITERION 3 Programming

- ③ Program the underutilized lots along Ninth and Tenth Avenue with a mix of uses including office, commercial, residential, cultural, and recreational use.

### CRITERION 4 Activity & Amenity

- ④ Protect access to sunlight along the corridor to conserve the future opportunity for sunny, four season public space.
- ⑤ Celebrate the gateway experience of the underpasses through public realm improvements and by locating public art to animate the gateways.

### CRITERION 5 Access & Linkages

- ⑥ Anticipate the potential north-south linkage of streets across the CPR at-grade, by preserving the rights-of-way and limiting building above intersections.

### CRITERION 6 Historical Resources

- ⑦ Honour the value of the CPR's history by studying the opportunity to conserve specific railway components into the future, and for the possibility of the CPR corridor to once again play a role in the movement of people.

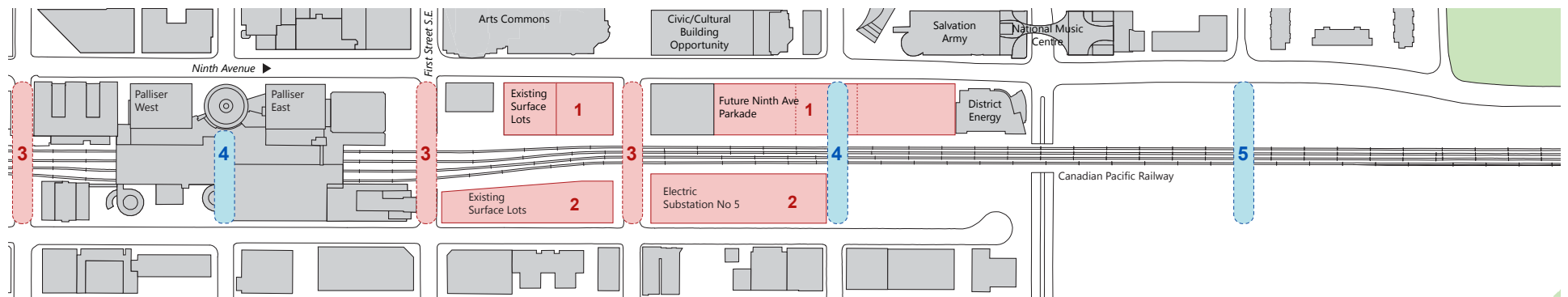


**First Street S.W. Underpass Enhancement, Calgary, CA** | A high volume corridor that celebrates the historical underpass gateway by animating the railway crossing with illumination and art.



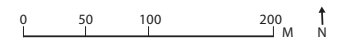
**Hudson Yards, New York City, US** | Five office towers, retail, restaurants, residences, a hotel, a school, and a cultural space provide a new mix of amenities and public destinations to this former rail yard.

## Urban Suture | Actions



### Legend

- Short-Term Actions
- Medium-Term Actions
- Long-Term Actions



## Urban Suture | Actions

### Short-Term Actions

- 1 Create a Master Plan for Ninth Avenue to develop the vacant surface lots and to promote active edges. *[See Sixth and Ninth Avenue Parades Strategy]*
- 2 Create a Master Plan for Tenth Avenue to develop the vacant surface lots and to promote active edges.
  - 2.1 Review the development impacts to access to sunlight along the CPR corridor for a potential future elevated parkway or public space, by limiting the building heights along Tenth Avenue.
  - 2.2 Explore opportunities for improvements to the Enmax Electrical Substation No. 5 that allow the site to animate the public realm.
- 3 Renovate the underpasses and improve the pedestrian experience to celebrate them as gateways into the Centre City. Renovations may include improvements to the streetscape, public art, and improved lighting conditions as identified in the Underpass Urban Design Guidelines. *[See Centre City Underpass Urban Design Guidelines]*
- 4 Undertake a lighting strategy for the Civic District as a first step towards a Centre City Lighting Plan.

### Medium-Term Actions

- 5 Study the feasibility of locating new underpasses and/or at-grade crossings along the CPR Corridor to improve connectivity, accessibility, and vibrancy in the Centre City.
- 6 Develop a Statement of Significance and the Character Defining Elements for the CPR Corridor.

### Long-Term Actions

- 7 Develop a Master Plan for the CPR Corridor as a legible route that promotes the use of public space to move people rather than commodities. Recognize the existence of the CPR Corridor as an urban anomaly and in doing so, create the opportunity for an all-encompassing vision with a big idea, rather than a series of small ideas that includes the following:
  - 7.1 Engage the public to make this an ongoing, community driven, collaborative effort at

placemaking. Use long-term thinking and a decision making process that reinforces the collective vision of all Calgarians. *[See CPR Corridor Study]*

- 7.2 Develop a Statement of Significance and the Character Defining Elements for the CPR Corridor.
- 7.3 Host an ideas competition for the CPR Corridor to begin the development of a long-term, phased plan for implementing the vision of the Corridor as a public space. *[See the Centre City Plan, the Centre City Parks & Public Realm Enhancement Plan, and the CPR Corridor Study]*
- 7.4 Investigate the existing and changing conditions upon potential relocation of the rail. Study the potential to accommodate a multi-modal transportation corridor connected to an elevated +30 parkway above, and serviced by buildings along Ninth and Tenth Avenues.

***N.B. To achieve some of these actions, policy and land-use may have to be revised.***

## Civic District Public Realm | Strategies & Actions



### Public Realm Strategies & Actions

In order to guide the evolution in the public realm over time within the Civic District, ten Public Realm Strategies are presented in the document. Each of these Ten Strategies are connected to existing documents and policies and have been tailored in response to specific stakeholder comments. Each is described through a set of specific Principles, Public Realm Criteria, and Actions to be prioritized and implemented as opportunities arise through public and private development initiatives. The Ten Public Realm Strategies detailed in the Civic District PRS are:

- 01 Cultural Heart:** A legible, transformative, and animated space that unites Olympic Plaza and the Municipal Plaza as the Cultural Heart of the Centre City.
- 02 Stephen Avenue Extension:** A pedestrian and cyclist-focused walk from the Mewata Armoury to Fort Calgary.
- 03 Ceremonial Boulevard:** Connecting the Elbow River, Stampede Grounds, CP Rail lines, Olympic Plaza and the Bow River.
- 04 Third Street S.E. Zipper:** An active, pedestrian-scaled street that supports connections to its diverse collection of destinations.
- 05 First Street S.E. Green Mall:** An engaging, safe, and attractive mobility street that links pedestrians and cyclists to the River pathways through a vibrant public space.
- 06 Digital Corridor:** A rich visual and auditory experience for the thousands of Calgarians who use Seventh Avenue each day.
- 07 Civic Gateway:** An iconic, welcoming, memorable Gateway connecting the Centre City to the rest of the City.
- 08 Meandering Green:** A connected, meandering, green, public art walk for pedestrians in the city.
- 09 Sixth and Ninth Avenue Parades:** Major thoroughfares and a source of pageantry in the city, defined by tall buildings and a vibrant, generous pedestrian realm.
- 10 Urban Suture:** The gradual reclamation of an historical landscape into a public experience that reconnects and reinvigorates the Centre City.

## **Appendix | Contents**

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## Appendix A | What We Already Know

### Council Priorities Review

The 2015-2018 Action Plan is a strategic direction supported by City Council and City staff to provide great outcomes for the City of Calgary. The Civic District PRS is a strategic plan that guides the redevelopment and enhancement of the public realm through the lens of the Council Priorities. The following summaries are the areas of alignment between Council Priorities and the Civic District PRS.



In alignment with Council Priorities, the Civic District Public Realm Strategy aims to foster:

#### A city of inspiring neighbourhoods (N8, N9)

- ▶ Create great public spaces and guide public realm improvements
- ▶ Foster opportunity for well used public spaces and places for citizen connections and urban vitality
- ▶ Create a safe, mixed, and just neighbourhood with the opportunity to participate in civic life
- ▶ Protect and enhance heritage values

#### A prosperous city (N7)

- ▶ Attract local and international talent, investment, and innovation
- ▶ Foster place-making, diversity, and growth
- ▶ Collaborate with businesses, community partners, civic partners, and business revitalization zones
- ▶ Cultivate the city's talent, diversity and energy
- ▶ Promote creative living and create opportunities for youth

#### A city that moves (N6)

- ▶ Connect places that allow people and goods to move well and safely throughout the city
- ▶ Support convenient, affordable, accessible, and efficient transportation choices
- ▶ Support active transportation infrastructure including cycling and pedestrian networks

#### A well-run city (N1)

- ▶ Reflect open, responsive, accountable and transparent governing
- ▶ Collaborate and engage citizens
- ▶ Assist in managing the City's investment into public assets, and optimize and prioritize limited resources to balance growth
- ▶ Collaborate with investments from private investors and aid in aligning budgets

#### A healthy and green city (N9)

- ▶ Support the optimization of the existing parks network to ensure Calgarians have access to nature and healthy and active lifestyles.
- ▶ Provide accessible and affordable recreation, that encourages active daily living
- ▶ Support a broad range of innovative and clean energy technologies

## Appendix A | What We Already Know

### Existing Policy and Document Review

The Civic District PRS is aligned with and was developed through the findings of numerous City of Calgary policies, documents, and engagements (*For full list, see Appendix B*). The *Centre City Plan* is the primary document governing development in this area. The Civic District PRS is the first document to promote and outline the specific character of the public realm within the Civic District. Some of the documents and policies referenced are listed below.

#### Municipal Development Plan (MDP), 2009

- The MDP is a 60 year plan that supports urban design policies to enhance the public realm and promote pedestrian use through the coherent and collaborative design of streets, building interfaces and public spaces

#### Calgary Transportation Plan (CTP), 2009

- As a companion to the MDP, the CTP supports the facilitation and movement of goods, services, and people to create walkable environments, with a mix of land use, and foster distinctive, attractive communities with a strong sense of place

#### Centre City Plan (CCP), 2007

- The CCP is the governing plan for the Civic District PRS, and aims to make a high quality public realm where residents feel connected to their neighbourhoods in a Livable, Caring, and Thriving Centre City

#### Centre City Mobility Plan (CCMP), 2010

- The objective of this plan is to provide a balanced and coordinated long-term plan that provides for pedestrians, cyclists, transit customers, goods movement, and vehicles in the Centre City.

#### Centre City Urban Design Guidelines (Centre City UDG), 2015

- The Centre City UDG are a companion to the CCP and facilitate best-practice urban design solutions for the physical components of the private and public realm as they relate to the common good of the city
- In alignment with the Civic District PRS, the CC UDG aim to create a Centre City with Great Streets, Memorable Places, and Quality Buildings

#### RouteAhead, 2013

- RouteAhead is a 30 year plan that works in alignment with the CTP to connect a strong public transit system that contributes to a vibrant city and integrates public transit with civic life

#### 2020 Sustainability Direction, 2013

- The 2020 Sustainability Direction is 10 year strategic guide to achieve a more sustainable Calgary
- The document supports a sustainable vision through targets for a more prosperous economy, sustainable environment, and sustainable corporation, with community well-being, financial capacity, smart growth, and mobility choice

#### Olympic Plaza Cultural District Manifesto, 2007

- The Olympic Plaza Cultural District Manifesto is a call to 're-enchant' the Olympic Plaza Cultural District and reinvent the ways in which Calgarians live in the Centre City.

#### East Village Area Redevelopment Plan, 2010

- The East Village Area Redevelopment Plan is a statutory document that sets comprehensive land use policies and other planning policies for this rapidly evolving part of Calgary.

### Existing Centre City Citizens' Needs Review

A comprehensive analysis of policies, documents, and previous public engagements related to the Centre City revealed some of the important input shared by citizens prior to the development of the Civic District PRS. A 'Hierarchy of Needs' was developed to summarize the general themes of a great Centre City, as defined by citizens.



#### In summary of these findings:

- Citizens need to know that the Centre City is clean and safe before they will live, work and play there
- Citizens value beautiful and welcoming public spaces and are attracted by programming and special events in those spaces
- Citizens want the Centre City to be connected inside and out - easy to get to, move around in, and leave
- Citizens value and want to make the most of what already exists
- Citizens want quality architecture, unique districts and public art to make the spaces unique and memorable

## Appendix A | What We Already Know

### Funding Needs in the Public Realm

The public realm plays a major role in the transformation and growth of any city. Calgary has the highest income per capita, highest population growth, and highest concentration of head offices per capita of all major Canadian cities. Currently over 3,500 businesses and 140,000 people work in the Centre City, accounting for the City's highest concentration of workers and tax revenue. The Centre City is a hub for activity and living, but in the past ten years has suffered from a lack of funding in public realm improvements.

In the past ten years approximately \$10 billion of private investment has gone into the Centre City while in the same time period, approximately \$100 million of city investment has gone into Centre City public realm improvements; only one percent of the initial private sector investment. Transformation and rapid growth has revealed that in order to maintain our public spaces we must align public and private development to accommodate this increased density and growth. A shift in mentality has revealed that the Centre City is not only a place to work, but a place to live and play. Calgarians are creating a Centre City active beyond its corporate hours that is walkable, vibrant, and diverse, so much so, that Calgary was the only Canadian city to be ranked in the New York Times, 52 Places to Go in 2014, as an "oil boom town get(ing) its cultural legs."

### Triple Bottom Line, the Public Realm Can Create Benefits...

#### Economically

- Attract new citizens, visitors, and tourists while retaining the existing
- Attract new businesses creating more jobs
- Increase property value, investment in property, and revenue for the City in property tax
- Increase the quality and interest of living downtown, consequently encouraging smart growth and reducing urban sprawl

#### Environmentally

- Reduce GHG's, while increasing air and water quality through sustainable and environmental public realm design
- Improve the safety and comfort of spaces, as well their inclusivity especially among youth

#### Socially

- Improve the physical and mental health of citizens through walkable and pedestrian friendly planning
- Foster diversity, culture, gatherings, and the exchange of ideas between people
- Improve the image and identity of the city

### Funding Needs in the Civic District

The Civic District is in a state of transformation. This transformation is being driven by several major developments which are underway or planned including the redevelopment of the **East Village**, **National Music Centre**, and **New Central Library**. New changes and future development will reinforce the Civic District as the cultural epicenter of Calgary, and require that the public realm in this unique area be developed to promote such role.

Many spaces in the Civic District are over 30 years old and are becoming deteriorated, out-dated, or cluttered. Spaces are unfriendly to pedestrians, lacking in connectivity, and in need of lifecycle improvements. A forecasted population of 1.4 million by 2020 and 11,000 new residents in the East Village generates further urgency on improving these public spaces.

In addition to perpetuating the \$1.1 billion in revenue created by tourism in the city annually, the Civic District should be a premier destination for visitors, and represent Calgary to be a beautiful and welcoming city. As such, the time for putting a plan in place to coordinate the efforts and investment by City of Calgary business units, organizations, private developers, and citizens toward public realm enhancements is now.

### The Civic District...

Has one of the city's highest concentration of **major cultural destinations** including

- **Olympic Plaza**, last year held over 40 events and festivals
- **Historic City Hall and the Municipal Complex**, offices to over 2000 city employees
- **Glenbow Museum**, hosts over 1,000,000 artifacts and 28,000 works of art
- **Centre for the Performing Arts**, the largest performing arts centre in Canada
- **Telus Convention Centre**, hosts over 700 events a year
- **Calgary Tower**, built in 1968 is one of Calgary's most recognized landmarks
- **Main Calgary Public Library**, holds over 1,800,000 books
- **Over 15 venues and theatres**, including Vertigo and Lunchbox Theatres

Is the gateway into the **East Village** which

- as of 2014 has attracted over \$2.2 billion of investment
- expected to be complete in 2027, will bring over 11,000 new residents to the Centre City
- **is home to the National Music Centre**, expected to be complete in 2015
- **is home to the New Central Library**, expected to be complete in 2018

Has over 430,000 square feet of **open park** and **plaza** space, and approximately 3 million square feet of **office space** drawing part of the 140,000 Calgarians working downtown.

Has over **26 approved historical resources**, 12 of which are protected, and over 20 of the city's major pieces of **public art & sculpture**, some of which are over 100 years old.

## Appendix A | What We Already Know

### Comprehensive Policies

Land Use Bylaw 1P2007 & LUB Part 10  
Municipal Development Plan  
Calgary Transportation Plan  
Guide to the Municipal Development Plan and the Calgary Transportation Plan  
Centre City Mobility Plan  
Centre City Plan  
Centre City Urban Design Guidelines  
Interim Complete Streets Guide

### Transportation

Route Ahead – A Strategic Plan for Transit in Calgary  
Transit Friendly Design Guide  
Pedestrian Policy and Needs Report  
The Bicycling Policy and Needs Report  
Cycling Strategy  
Bicycle Parking Handbook: A Developers Guide  
Traffic Calming Policy and Program  
Downtown LRT Feasibility Study  
Downtown Underpass Urban Design Guidelines  
A Parking Policy Framework for Calgary  
+15 Policy

### Open Space and Parks

Centre City Parks and Public Realm Enhancements Plan  
Centre City Open Space Management Plan  
Calgary...a City of Trees: Parks Urban Forest Strategic Plan  
ImagineParks Public Engagement Results  
Sustainable Development Guidelines for Trees, Shrubs, and Groundcovers

### Culture, Heritage, and Public Art

Calgary Heritage Strategy  
Calgary Cultural Landscape Strategic Plan  
Public Art Policy  
Public Art Strategic Direction  
Reclaiming Calgary's Cultural Identity: Arts Spaces Strategy and Capital Plan  
Public Sculpture Opportunities for Downtown and Central Calgary

### Sustainability and Water

2020 Sustainability Direction  
ImagineCalgary Plan for Long Range Urban Sustainability Plan  
Low Impact Development and Stormwater Management

### Area Planning

East Village Redevelopment Plan  
Canadian Pacific Railway Corridor Study  
Canadian Pacific Railway Corridor Plan  
Canadian Pacific Railway Corridor Plan Visioning Workshop Results  
Beltline Area Redevelopment Plan  
Seventh Avenue LRT Reconstruction and Pedestrian Environment Upgrades  
Midtown Calgary Plan  
Calgary Cultural District-A Framework for the Future  
Olympic Plaza Cultural District Strategy  
National Music Centre Urban Design Review Panel  
Chinatown Area Redevelopment Plan  
City of Calgary New Central Library Public Engagement

### Engagement Initiatives

Plan it Calgary  
ImagineCalgary  
Forecasting Toolbox

### Additional

Calgary Downtown Retail District Strategy  
The Centre City Illumination Guidelines  
Centre City Wayfinding Objectives and Recommendations  
Design Guidelines for Bridges and Structures  
Calgary Access Design Standards  
Design for Birds  
Faith Community Engagement Results

## Appendix B | What We Heard

### Building Broad-Based Support

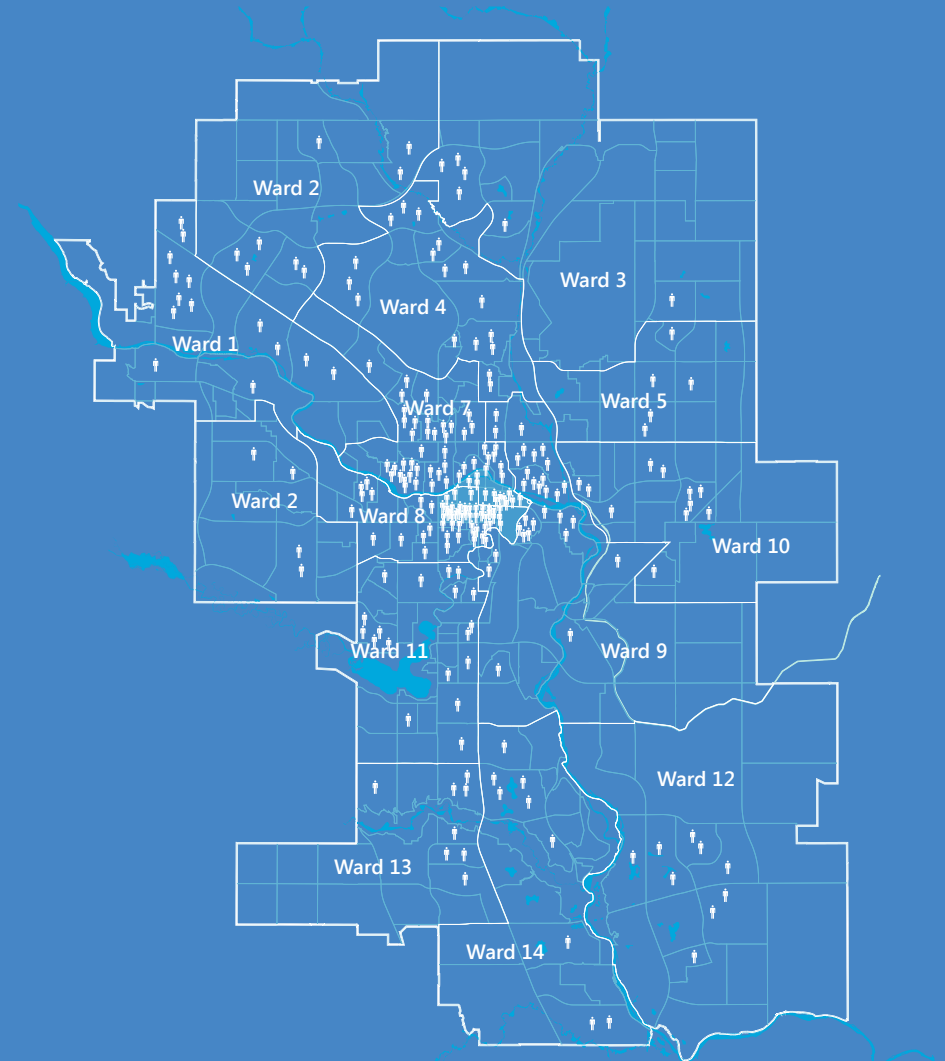
The term 'Civic' originates from the Latin 'Civitas' which refers to a body of citizens united by shared responsibility, common purpose, and a sense of community. By this definition the Civic District PRS must have the collective broad-based support of citizens and stakeholders, and reflect their desires for the future of the Civic District.

As part of a comprehensive engagement process, Calgarians were asked in-person and online to share their input towards the vision of the Civic District. The sessions were advertised through hand out flyers, mailed invites, web sites, City of Calgary News Blog, social media, and promotion from involved organizations. The in-person engagement consisted of dialogue with project team members at open houses held at five different locations: **the Centre for the Performing Arts, Bankers Hall/CORE Shopping Centre +15, Calgary Public Library, Bow Valley College, and the Municipal Building Atrium**. These locations were selected to consider the broad range of interests that might be represented by patrons of different facilities in the Civic District. The online component consisted of a digital survey which allowed citizens to provide the same input if they were unable to attend one of five events.



### Engaging with Citizens

As part of the engagement process, citizens were asked to provide feedback towards shaping a vision for the Civic District, and to comment on what is working well and what could be improved in this area. The comments were reviewed by the project team to develop a direction for the Civic District PRS that reflected the vision of Calgarians. The map below shows the general geographical distribution of citizens engaged to date.



#### Public Engagement Results

Map of Calgary showing the general residence location of the Public Engagement Participants. (Over 1500 comments were received from more than 350 Calgarians)

## Appendix B | What We Heard

### Engaging with Stakeholders

A broad spectrum of stakeholders active in the Civic District, including business organizations, community groups & social organizations, cultural institutions, and City of Calgary business units were also engaged. Stakeholders were consulted through one-on-one meetings with the project team, in addition to group workshops held throughout the development of the Civic District PRS. The collaborative effort between private and public entities is reflected in the Civic District PRS through high level visioning, but also at the specific Public Realm Criteria and Actions level in the Ten Public Realm Strategies.

#### Business Organizations

Aspen Properties  
Calgary Arts Development  
Calgary Chamber of Commerce  
Calgary Downtown Association  
Calgary Economic Development  
Calgary Hotel Association  
Calgary Municipal Land Corporation  
Remington Development  
Rocky Mountain Plaza  
The Teatro Group  
Tourism Calgary  
Transformation Calgary  
Victoria Park BRZ  
Yale Properties

#### Cultural Institutions

Bow Valley College  
Calgary Public Library  
Calgary Tower  
Arts Commons  
Glenbow Museum  
National Music Centre  
Telus Convention Centre

#### City of Calgary

Animal & Bylaw Services  
Calgary Police Service  
City Manager's Office , Office of Sustainability  
City-Wide Policy & Integration  
Community & Neighbourhood Services  
Community Services & Protective Services  
Corporate Properties & Buildings  
Customer Service & Communications  
Local Area Planning & Implementation  
Parks  
Recreation  
Roads  
Calgary Transit  
Transportation Planning  
Water Resources



### What Calgarians Want Improved in the Civic District

The Civic District PRS must support citizens desires for a Civic District that is a gathering place for people, a centre of civic pride, and a destination for all. When surveyed, Calgarians provided nearly 1,000 unique comments on ways to improve the Civic District. A review of the responses revealed the following general themes.

#### Improved Safety and Comfort.

- Citizens felt that additional measures are required to improve their comfort and confidence to engage in the space and to enhance their sense of personal safety. Suggested improvements include additional pedestrian lighting, more programming and events to draw people to the space, provide additional social services to support vulnerable citizens, and increase police/security presence.

#### Improve Olympic Plaza and the Municipal Plaza to be safe, animated, gathering spaces with a variety of public amenities.

- Citizens felt the plazas could be improved with additional amenities, such as ice skating rentals, engaging public art, water features, coffee shops, and sunlit patios. Additional amenities would give more reasons to visit this area of downtown, aside from those times when the plazas are programmed with events.

#### Improved Public Realm and Pedestrian Experience.

- Citizens felt that many of the pedestrian routes in the area are uninviting and lacking interest. In order to encourage Calgarians and visitors to spend more time engaging in the area and visiting its many cultural institutions, the pedestrian experience needs to be improved. Suggested improvements include creating beautiful walkways with more greenery and trees, improving night-time lighting (eg. pedestrian lighting, architectural lighting), providing engaging public art, increasing the availability of street furniture, and adding wayfinding signage to better direct visitors to the area's many cultural institutions. Citizens also felt that the cultural institutions (eg. Municipal Complex, Glenbow Museum, Convention Centre, and the Centre for the Performing Arts) should play a role in improving the quality of public spaces by modifying their blank facades and creating visual interest at street-level, such as engaging lighting and art and providing frontage that is visually permeable.

#### Improved Pedestrian Connections.

- Citizens felt that surrounding communities are not well-connected to the Civic District and identified many barriers to pedestrian movement. Citizens expressed an expectation for stronger pedestrian connections between East Village and the Downtown Core, particularly along Stephen Avenue and around the Municipal Building Complex. Respondents also felt there should be improved connections between the Civic District and the Bow River pathway system, RiverWalk and communities north of the Bow River, as well as improving the CPR underpass connections that connect to the Beltline.

## Appendix B | What We Heard

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### Citizens on what can be improved in the Civic District

1. Olympic Plaza should be a vibrant, safe, and animated space. It should be a memorable and beautiful focal point for citizens and visitors alike. It should be transformative with activities and amenity, while accommodating the small or large gathering.
2. The Civic District should be designed with the pedestrian experience in mind. There were many comments that the Civic District is uninviting, vehicular oriented, and lacking in the activities of human life. The Civic District should have beautiful walkways, quality architecture, great connections, animated streets, access to sunshine, active edges, and programmed events. Facades (especially the Glenbow and the Centre for the Performing Arts) should be activated, historical resources repurposed, wayfinding legible, and lighting improved at night for the pedestrian experience.
3. The Civic District needs a public realm that establishes a strong sense of place with 24 hour animation. The Civic District should be the place for art, culture, and recreation. It should foster community and host an exciting mix of destinations including parks, museums, restaurants, retail, amenity and places for public gatherings.
4. Stephen Avenue is a successful public space that should be extended across the entire Centre City. Stephen Avenue should continue to act as a vibrant animated space and needed is a strong connection through the Municipal Building to the New Central Library, East Village, and St. Patricks island.
5. The Civic District needs area-wide improvements at street level. The Civic District needs more greenery and trees, better lighting, improved park space, wider sidewalks, public porch space, public art, street furniture, and amenity. The Civic District should be a better all-round physical environment that is safe and animated. The area should integrate new and existing infrastructure with themes of sustainability and vibrancy.
6. The Civic District should have connectivity and accessibility through various modes of transportation. Pedestrians should be the top priority when it comes to connecting mobility routes. cyclists need improved routes for safety and connectivity. Public transit also needs improved connectivity to the entire city. Vehicles need better parking options, however not at the expense of the pedestrian.

### Citizens on what is working well in the Civic District

1. Olympic Plaza as a place for citizens. Citizens enjoy the location, its events, its connectivity, and the gathering of people. However, the vast majority of people that liked Olympic Plaza also commented that it could be improved.
2. Citizens look forward to the East Village development. Citizens see huge potential in the East Village, its walkability and the animation it will bring to the Civic District.
3. The Civic District is a great area to experience culture. The Centre for the Performing Arts, Glenbow Museum, Historic City Hall, Convention Centre, Calgary Tower, Central Library, and Bow Valley College are important institutions in our city.
4. Stephen Avenue is a great pedestrian mall. Citizens love the animation the street brings to the city, and many people made comments about extending the pedestrian mall into East Village.
5. New developments such as the New Central Library, the National Music Centre, and the Riverwalk were seen as great additions to the downtown.
6. Transit in and out of the Civic District was noted as working well. Many citizens thought that the mobility and accessibility into and out of the Civic District was good, but could be even better through the introduction of a more inviting pedestrian realm, cycle lanes, and improved public transit.

### Citizens Priorities for a Vibrant Centre City

1. Clean and Safe
2. Beautiful Green Spaces, Welcoming Public Places with Amenities, Programming and Great Events
3. Multi-Modal Transportation, Connectivity, Easy Access
4. Meaningful Art, Great Design, Unique Districts, Preservation/Reuse of Public Buildings

## Appendix C | Funding and Implementation Frameworks

### Funding Strategy Framework

Projects will be funded through a variety of mechanisms depending on development activity, Council priorities and funding availability. There are three streams that projects may take; development driven synergies, City initiated priority investment and partnerships between developments and The City.

#### Development Application Synergies

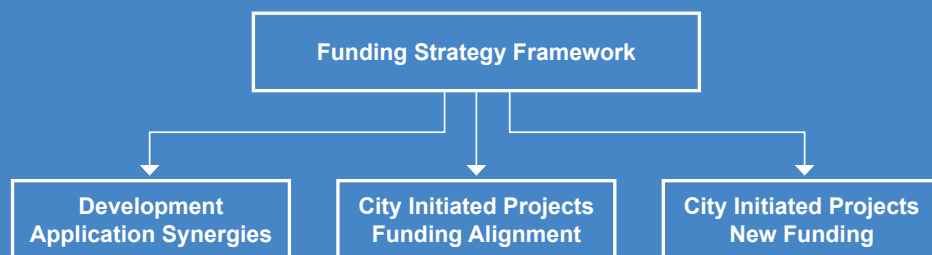
For development application driven enhancements the Corporate Planning Applications Group (CPAG) would use the document to provide direction on the aspirations and work with the applicant to implement the vision on their site and adjacent public space. During this process The City may negotiate a funding partnership with the developer to achieve a better return on investment and a more enhanced outcome. In this model the funding for The City's portion would likely come from approved program budgets, capital budgets, and community enhancement funds.

#### City Initiated Projects - Funding Alignment

For City initiated priority projects, administration would look at synergies between various department approved budgets and coordinate the alignment of that funding with the scoping and development of projects similar to the approach used currently in project development for the implementation of the Centre City Plan. In addition, these projects engage and partner with private property owners adjacent to the locations, leveraging investment, enhancing the return on investment by each party, attracting future investment and increasing the tax base for The City.

#### City Initiated Projects - New Funding

If projects are such that existing budgets can not support a project, administration would build a business case for a project, develop a funding strategy including considerations for Community Revitalization Levies, grants, levies, revenue generation and new budget assignments through reports to Council in the current or future business cycles.



### Implementation Strategy Framework

Strategies / projects have been prioritized in the document in the order they appear in the document. With the identification of a strategy, or actions being a priority, these projects would be developed under The City's Project Management Framework from chartering, through engagement design and construction. The implementation approach is under the umbrella of the corridor framework for implementing the Centre City Plan Vision that is being used by Centre City Implementation to identify current and future enhancement projects.

#### Development Application Synergies

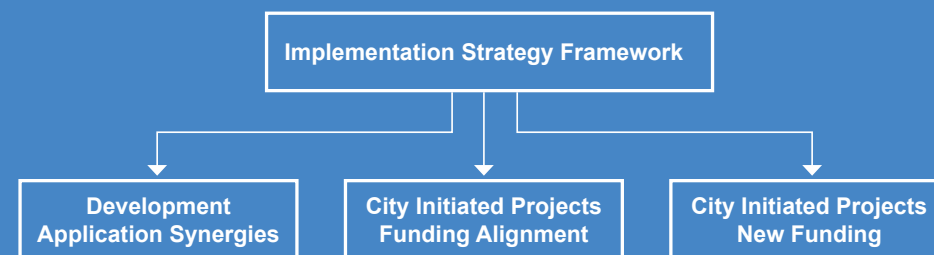
For development application driven enhancements administration would work with the CPAG group to identify development proposals that are within the designated areas and provide assistance in determining what additional enhancements are desired for the site to respond to the aspirations in the document. These discussions would form part of the responses given to applicants on their development application.

#### City Initiated Projects

For City initiated priority projects, administration would look at synergies between various department project lists and collaborate with the business units to align their work to coincide with the development of the larger project and create corporate projects instead of department projects.

#### Partnerships

For partnerships between City initiated projects and development projects administration would work with the Corporate Planning Application Group to identify where private sector investment is occurring and align City projects with the timing of the private sector development projects. The Third Street Master Plan (Third Street S.E. Zipper) and implementation being undertaken by the Calgary Municipal Land Corporation (CMLC) is a project in the document that was developed in this way, where administration identified there were a number of applications for development along the corridor including the New Central Library, the new Calgary Parking Authority parking garage at 9th Avenue and a number of others. In order to coordinate the public realm improvements of these various projects and to have a consistent treatment along the corridor, discussion were initiated by staff with CMLC to review the value of a master plan for the street. These discussions resulting in CMLC undertaking a master plan for the 3rd Street Zipper ( strategy 4 in the document) as well as agreeing to construct the entire project, resulting in a consistent treatment from 9th Avenue SW to the Bow River. The outcome of this approach will be a better return on investment and the creation of a sense of place to support all the projects along the corridor.



## Appendix D | Planning Analysis: Plaza Capacity Comparison

Diagram D.1 Scale of Events

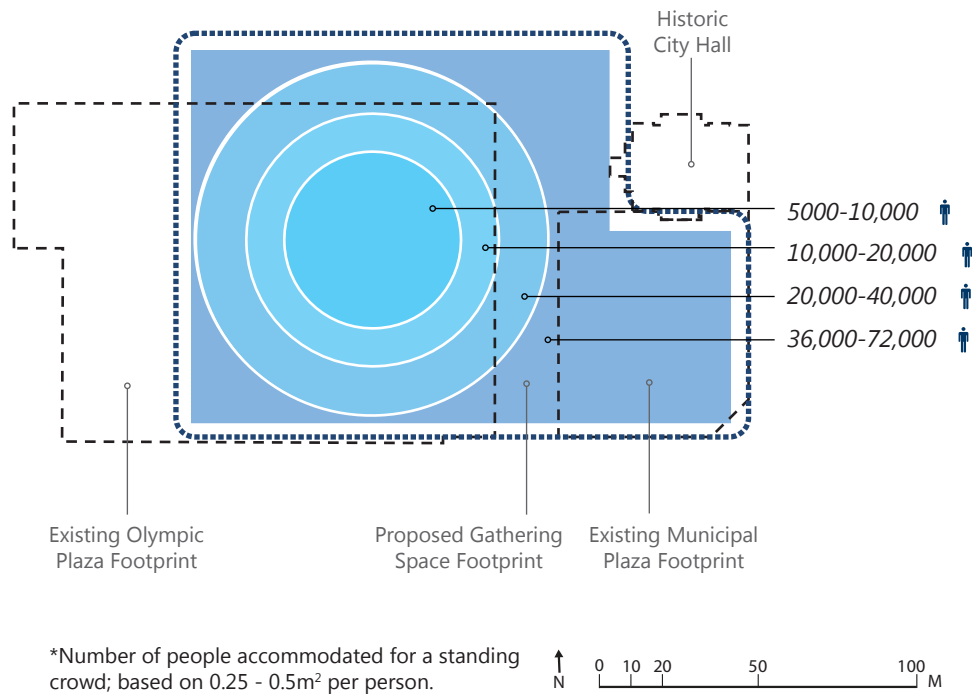
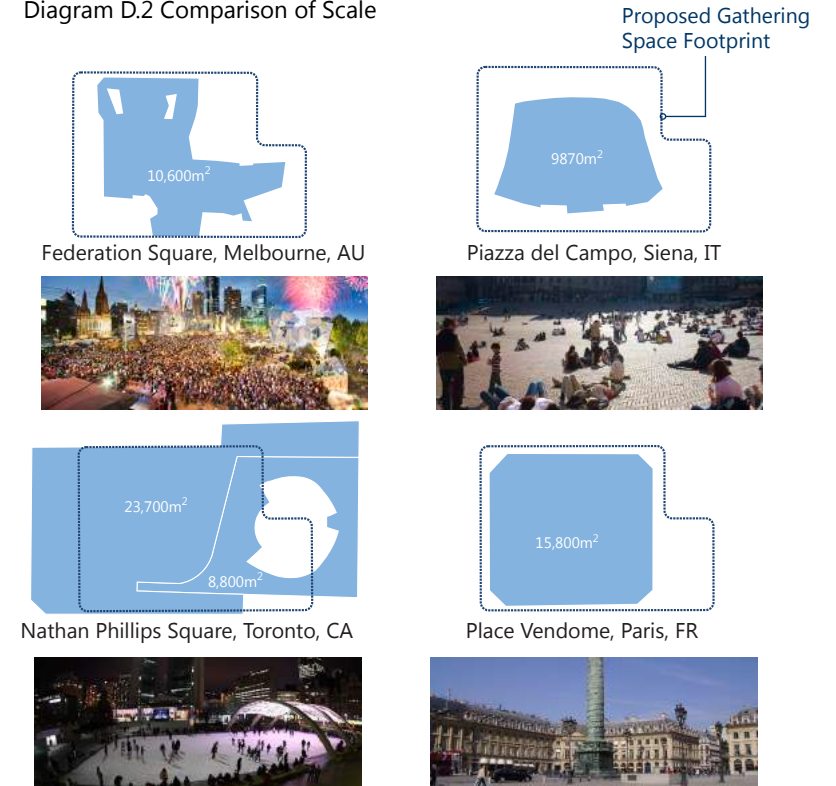
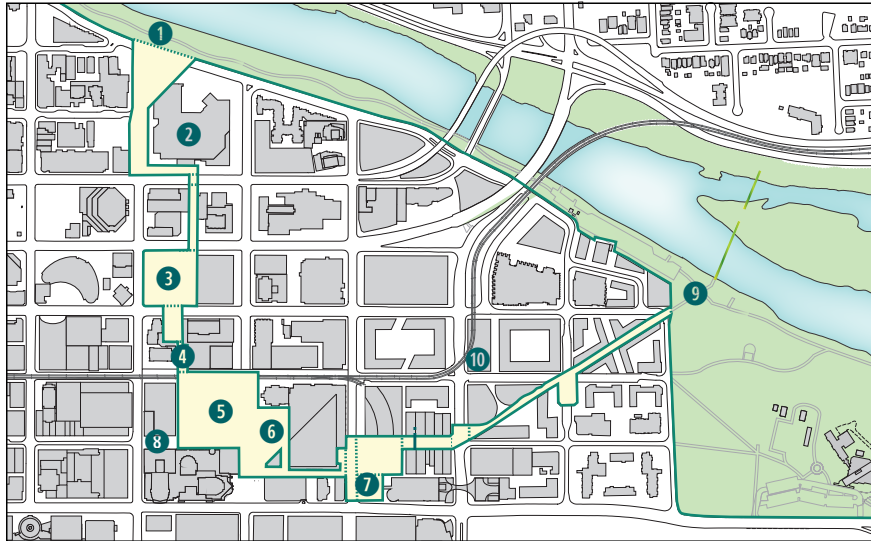


Diagram D.2 Comparison of Scale



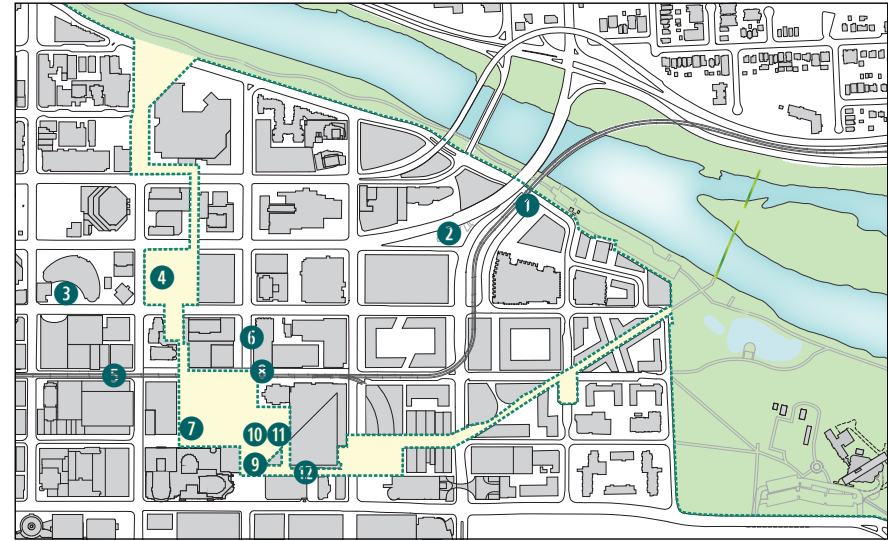
## Appendix E | Planning Analysis: Additional Diagrams

Diagram E.4 Existing Destinations



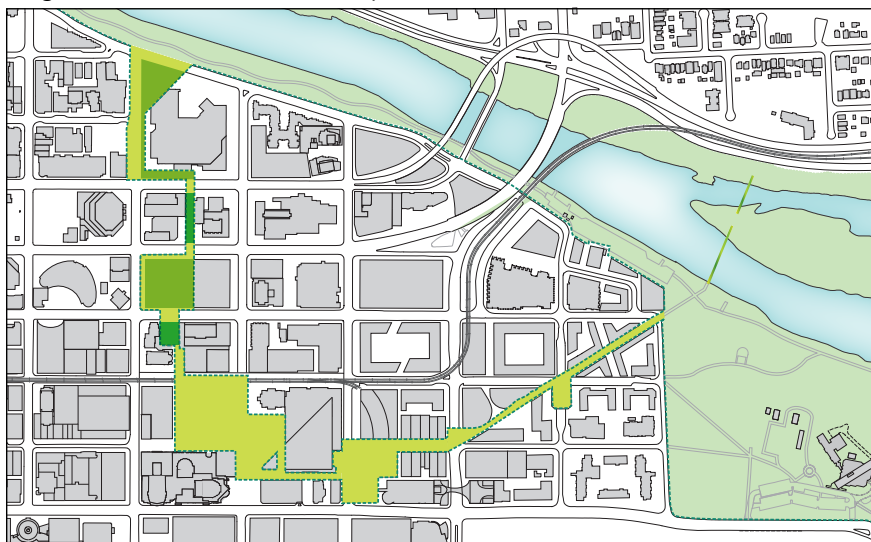
- |                               |                              |                               |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1 Riverwalk                   | 5 Olympic Plaza              | 9 St. Patrick's Island Bridge |
| 2 Harry Hays Building         | 6 Municipal Plaza            | 10 C-Square                   |
| 3 Brotherhood of Mankind Park | 7 Third Street S.E. Parkette |                               |
| 4 Paget Park                  | 8 Stephen Avenue             |                               |

Diagram E.5 Existing Public Art Resources



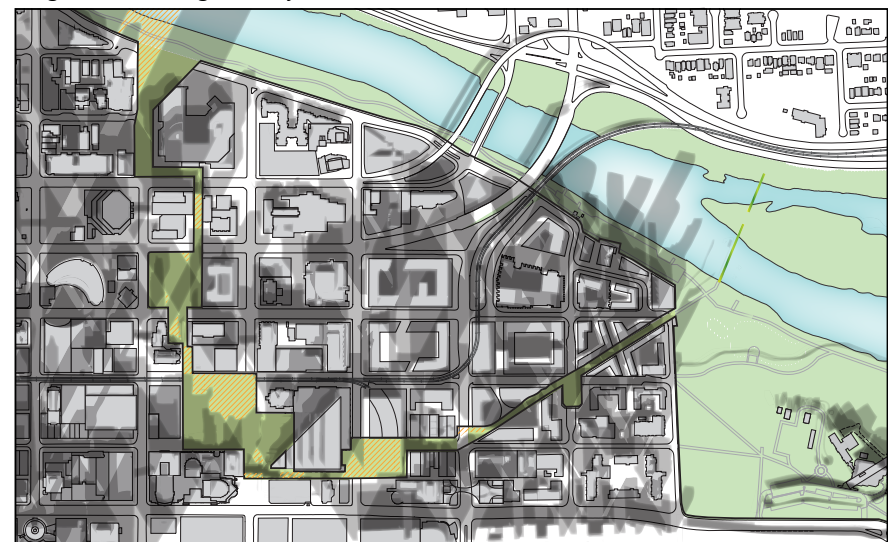
- |                                 |                            |                           |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1 Thesamewaybetter/reader, 2013 | 5 Transitstory, 2012       | 9 Balancing Act, 1989     |
| 2 Promenade, 2012               | 6 The Library Book, 1989   | 10 Family of Horses, 1989 |
| 3 Wonderland, 2013              | 7 Women are Persons!, 1999 | 11 Lion, 1916             |
| 4 Brotherhood of Mankind, 1967  | 8 Luminous Crossings, 2013 | 12 Natural Engineer, 1987 |

Diagram E.6 Public and Private Properties



- |              |                                 |               |
|--------------|---------------------------------|---------------|
| Public Space | Private; Semi-Public Occupation | Private Space |
|--------------|---------------------------------|---------------|

Diagram E.7 Sunlight Analysis



The shadow study is from the existing buildings during the winter solstice on December 21st at 10:00, 12:00, 14:00.

Sunlight Exposure

## Appendix F | Photo References

### Cultural Heart

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2. "Saturday in the Park" by Kevin Burkett is licensed under CC BY-SA 2.0, 2010
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5. "Madison Square Park" by karlnorling is licensed under CC BY 2.0, 2013
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## Appendix F | Photo References

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## Appendix G | Glossary of Terms

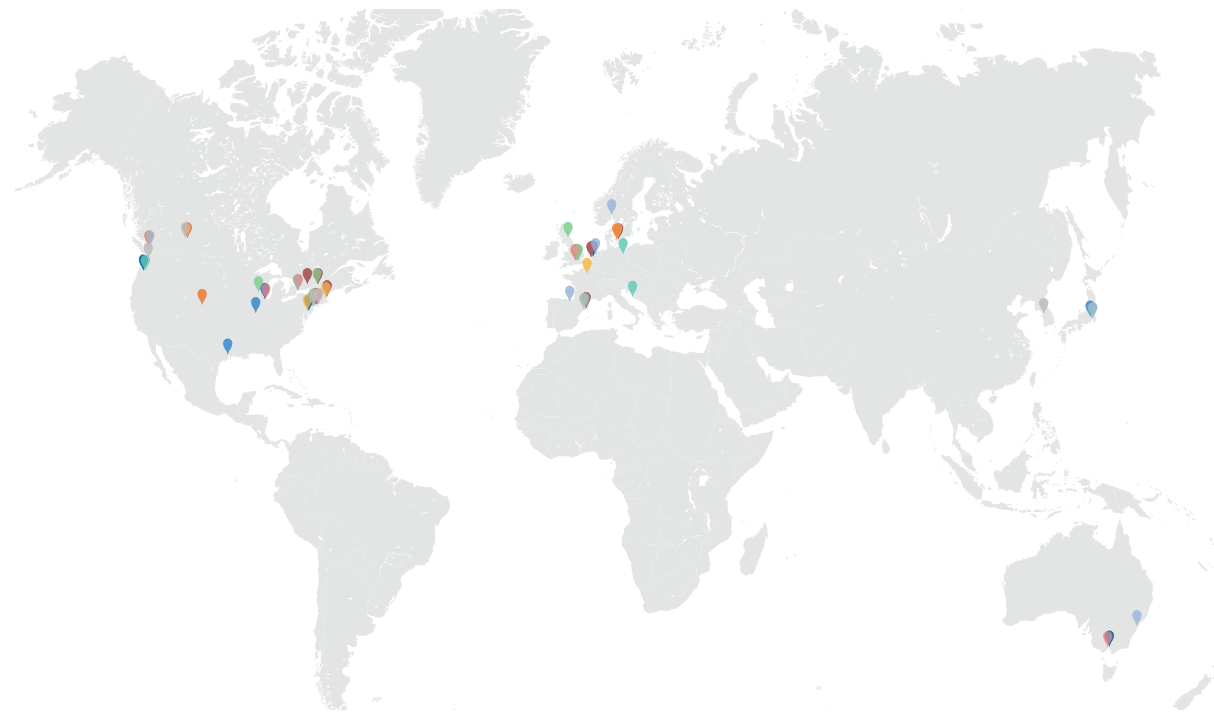
### How to Read the Strategies

Each of the Ten Strategies is described by their **Guiding Principles**, **Public Realm Criteria**, and **Actions**.

#### DESCRIPTION ONE

##### Guiding Principles

Four unique guiding principles establish the role of each Strategy within the public realm network, as well as define its sense of place. The Principles borrow from over sixty precedents from around the world to illustrate and support these intentions. The map locates the Strategy precedents.



- |                             |                           |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| 01 Cultural Heart           | 06 Digital Corridor       |
| 02 Stephen Avenue Extension | 07 Civic Gateway          |
| 03 Ceremonial Boulevard     | 08 Meandering Green       |
| 04 Third St Zipper          | 09 Sixth and Ninth Parade |
| 05 First Street S.E. Green  | 10 Urban Suture           |

## Appendix G | Glossary of Terms

### DESCRIPTION TWO

#### Public Realm Criteria

Public Realm Criteria outline the specific planning and urban design elements recommended as part of each Strategy. Public Realm Criteria consists of, and reinforce the following categories.

#### CRITERION 1

##### Legibility

The degree to which users are able to perceive the layout and function of a space, and identify it as a place.

#### CRITERION 2

##### Active Edges

Street frontages that are permeable between inside and outside, and are programmed for activity.

#### CRITERION 3

##### Programming

The act of assigning the functional use and/or operational requirements that a given space must be designed to accommodate.

#### CRITERION 4

##### Activity & Amenity

**Activity:** The quality of the public realm that supports sustained animation through a steady stream of events occurring throughout the day and year.

**Amenity:** An element of public or private space, or a service that may increase the usability, activity, or marketability of a place.

#### CRITERION 5

##### Access & Linkages

**Access:** The means by which one approaches, circulates within, or exits out of a space. Accessibility is the degree to which the public or private realm is available to the public.

**Linkages:** The systems that connect places and built form; Linkages allow for the movement of people and goods within the urban fabric.

#### CRITERION 6

##### Historical Resources

A building or place that has aesthetic, historic, scientific, cultural, social, or spiritual importance for past, present, or future generations. For more specific information, visit [calgary.ca/heritage](http://calgary.ca/heritage).

### DESCRIPTION THREE

#### Actions

The Actions are the means by which each Strategy can be implemented and achieved. The Actions are categorized by their implementation over time, defined below.

**Short-Term Actions:** Short-Term Actions include 'quick-wins' for the public realm, immediate improvements which precede a longer term of implementation, as well as the pre-planning of larger future investments. In general, Short-Term Actions may range from 0-5 years.

**Medium-Term Actions:** Medium-Term Actions may include Short-Term Actions which are progressing towards a new phase of development. Medium-Term Actions may also include items which cannot be immediately implemented until a future opportunity presents itself. In general, Medium-Term Actions may range from 1-10 years.

**Long-Term Actions:** Long-Term Actions are those which include future projects, public realm maintenance, achieving future targets, long range planning, and future opportunities. In general, a Long-Term Action may range to 10+ years.

## Appendix H | Acknowledgements

The preparation of the Civic District Public Realm Strategy required the contributions of many business units at The City of Calgary, as well as many external stakeholders including institutions, community groups, developers, businesses, and citizens. In particular, the following are recognized for their significant involvement during the public participation and document formulation phases of the process:

### City of Calgary Business Units

- Animal & Bylaw Services
- Calgary Police Service
- City Manager's Office , Office of Sustainability
- City-Wide Policy & Integration
- Community & Neighbourhood Services
- Community Services & Protective Services
- Corporate Properties & Buildings
- Customer Service & Communications
- Local Area Planning & Implementation
- Parks
- Recreation
- Roads
- Transit
- Transportation Planning
- Water Resources

### Cultural Institutions:

- Bow Valley College
- Calgary Public Library
- Calgary Tower
- Arts Commons
- Glenbow Museum
- National Music Centre
- Telus Convention Centre

### Community Groups and Social Organizations

- Beltline Community Association
- East Village Neighbourhood Association
- Salvation Army
- The Mustard Seed
- YWCA

### Business Organizations:

- Aspen Properties
- Calgary Arts Development
- Calgary Chamber of Commerce
- Calgary Downtown Association
- Calgary Economic Development
- Calgary Hotel Association
- Calgary Municipal Land Corporation
- Remington Development
- Rocky Mountain Plaza
- The Teatro Group
- Tourism Calgary
- Transformation Calgary
- Victoria Park BRZ
- Yale Properties

## Appendix H | Acknowledgements

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