



## EDMONTON DESIGN COMMITTEE MINUTES

**Location: (Hybrid) Edmonton Tower, 03-340 / Google Meet**

**Tuesday, May 21, 2024**

### **MEMBERS:**

J. Mills, Chair  
N. LaMontagne, Vice-Chair  
C. Dorward  
D. Brown  
E. Dunn  
G. Freer  
J. Monfries  
K. Dieterman  
K. Oxley  
M. Tindall  
N. Pryce  
R. Subramanian

### **PRESENT:**

J. Mills, Chair  
N. LaMontagne, Vice-Chair  
C. Dorward  
D. Brown  
E. Dunn  
G. Freer  
J. Monfries  
K. Dieterman  
K. Oxley  
  
N. Pryce  
R. Subramanian

### **ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:**

A. Rowan, Urban Planning and Economy Department, EDC Administration  
W. Sims, Urban Designer, Urban Planning and Economy Department

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## **A. CALL TO ORDER AND RELATED BUSINESS**

### **A.1. CALL TO ORDER**

J. Mills called the meeting to order at 4:02p.m.

### **A.2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

MOTION: J. Mills

Motion to adopt the May 21, 2024 Agenda

SECONDED: N. Pryce

The motion passed unanimously.

### **A.3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES - May 7, 2024 REGULAR MEETING**

MOTION: J. Mills

Motion to adopt the May 7, 2024 Minutes

SECONDED: G. Freer

### **A.4 REQUESTS TO SPEAK**

The following speakers registered to speak to Item E.1:

- David Turnbull (Edmonton Arts Council Society)
- Heather Inglis (Strathcona Performing Arts Association)
- John Husdon (Shadow Theatre)
- Tood Crawshaw (Edmonton Jazz Society)
- Corrine Olson (Strathcona Farmers Market)
- Jake Tkaczyk

## **B. PROJECT SYNOPSES (Closed to the Public)**

MOTION: J. Mills

That Edmonton Design Committee meet in private pursuant to Section 24 (advice from officials) of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act for the discussion of item B.1

SECONDED: N. Pryce

The motion passed unanimously.

Edmonton Design Committee met in private at 4:07p.m.

**C. INFORMAL PRESENTATIONS (Closed to the Public)**

**C.1 Walker Fire Hall (City Project)**

Eugene Dennings- City of Edmonton

**FORMAL PRESENTATIONS (Open to the Public)**

MOTION: J. Mills

That the Edmonton Design Committee meet in public.

SECONDED: D. Brown

The motion passed unanimously.

The Edmonton Design Committee met in public at 5:26p.m

MOTION: J. Mills

That the following registered speakers are heard by the Edmonton Design Committee, regarding Item E.1:

David Turnbull, Heather Inglis, John Hudson, Todd Crawshaw, Corrine Olson and Jake Tkaczyk

SECONDED: N. Pryce

The motion passed unanimously.

**E.1 Old Strathcona Public Realm Strategy (City Project)**

Carley Holt- City of Edmonton

Motion of Support: K. Dieterman

Seconded: N. LaMontagne

The Committee notes that a project of this scale and importance could have benefited greatly from an informal review, prior to the formal submission. While the Committee supports the Old Strathcona Public Realm Strategy, in the interest of ensuring a high standard of urban design recommends the Applicant:

- Provide greater context as to why the proposed plan is important in context to the City of Edmonton, and the connection to the wider City policy. Better describe

and illustrate how the plan is in alignment with specific policy priorities (i.e. Edmonton City Plan, Climate Resiliency, Breathe, Connections and Exchanges, Cultural Infrastructure Plan, Accessibility Policy, etc.) and how its implementation will improve the quality of life for Strathcona residents, visitors, and the City at large.

- Recommend illustrating how equitable access (to public spaces, institutions, and businesses) is provided through the plan for people using all modes of transit and all ranges of mobility.
- Consider providing additional detail on how the District Park and Plaza will be programmed, i.e. what type of elements and activities will it contain, how it functions as part of an area park system, and how those elements improve the district (environmentally, experientially, economically). This will help to demonstrate whether a District Park is the most appropriate use of the space.
- Consider the District Park as a linear park that includes Complete Street redevelopment of Gateway Boulevard and a Greenway (Action 2), incorporating spill-out opportunities for future Mixed Market Development, the Yardbird Suite, and future potential development southward along the east edge (102 Street) of the space southward (incorporating public parking); the potential reduction and enhancement of existing surface parking (e.g., increased pedestrian walks, tree planting, etc); and the potential upgrading and incorporation for End of Rail Park and adjacent parks, such as Strathcona Park.
- Consider adding a commercial opportunity within or adjacent to the park and/or plaza to promote activity and activation through all seasons.
- Whyte Avenue is already a Great Street. Clarify what physical qualities (e.g., form, structure, aspects of comfort, ins and outs, compactness, etc), essences, and characteristics make Whyte Avenue unique, and why they need to be considered in future planning and design development.
- Consider a pedestrian scramble between Gateway Boulevard and 102 Avenue, to enhance the development of an urban plaza (Action 3) and provide improved connectivity to Station Park and businesses south along 102 Avenue and Gateway Boulevard.
- The implementation section requires greater structure and explanation around transition processes that are monitored to understand the impacts the change makes to the fragile economic system of Old Strathcona district, including pilot trials to understand potential impacts to residents and local businesses.
- Consider including an explanation as to how the strategy addresses climate resiliency and winter city design, justifying the strategic moves that are being made.

R. Subramanian left the meeting at 9:17pm.

**For the Motion:** C. Dorward, J. Monfries, K. Oxley, N. LaMontagne, K. Dieterman, N. Pryce, J. Mills

**Against the Motion:** D. Brown, G. Freer, E. Dunn

**CARRIED**

## **F. OTHER BUSINESS**

### **F.1. 2024/25 Work Plan Update**

- J. Mills informed the Committee that the June 4 meeting will not be held in-person, as there are four formal projects being reviewed on that date. Administration will schedule an in-person meeting for strategic planning (regarding the Principles of Urban Design) on June 18, or via a Special Meeting, based on availability of Committee members and volume of submissions.
- J. Mills informed the Committee that the Councillor Luncheon has been scheduled for June 14, 2024.

### **F.2 2024/25 Elections**

#### **Election for Chair**

N. LaMontagne nominated J. Mills for Chair

No other nominations were made.

MOTION: N. Pryce

To elect J. Mills as Chair of the Edmonton Design Committee for the 2024-24 term.

For the Motion: C. Dorward, D. Brown, E. Dunn, G. Freer, J. Monfries, K. Oxley, K. Dieterman, N. LaMontagne.

ABSTAIN: J. Mills

**CARRIED**

#### **Elections for Vice-Chairs**

N. Pryce nominated N. LaMontagne for Vice-Chair

J. Mills nominated C. Dorward for Vice-Chair

No other nominations were made.

MOTION: That N. LaMontagne is elected as a Vice-Chair of the Edmonton Design Committee for the 2024-25 term.

For the Motion: C. Dorward, D. Brown, E. Dunn, G. Freer, J. Monfries, K. Oxley, N. Pryce, J. Mills

ABSTAIN: N. LaMontagne

**CARRIED**

MOTION: That C. Dorward is elected as a Vice-Chair of the Edmonton Design Committee for the 2024-25 term.

For the Motion: D. Brown, E. Dunn, G. Freer, J. Monfries, K. Oxley, K. Dieterman, N. LaMontagne, N. Pryce, J. Mills

ABSTAIN: C. Dorward

**CARRIED**

**G. UPCOMING APPLICATIONS, CONFLICTS AND REGRETS (Tuesday June 18, 2024)**

|  |                            |        |
|--|----------------------------|--------|
| 10838-114 Street Apartment Building (DP) | Ed Gooch- EFG Architecture | Formal |
| Oliver Plaza (DP)                        | Armando Hernandez- Dualita | Formal |
| Ritchie Hub (DP)                         | Croy Johnson- Beljan       | Formal |
| Roundhouse Park (DP)                     | Jill Robertson- Dialog     | Formal |

Conflicts : J. Mills (Roundhouse Park)

Regrets: M. Tindall

**H. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 9:41p.m.

**I. NEXT MEETING**

**Tuesday, June 4, 2024 at 4:00p.m. Hybrid Meeting.**