CONTEXT & SITE

CS 1 Natural Systems & Features

Place stars next to the

guidelines you think

are most important.

CITYWIDE DESIGN GUIDELINE

Use natural systems and features of the site and its surroundings as a starting point for project design.

PROPOSED UNIVERSITY DISTRICT GUIDELINES

I. Plan for Light & Trees

A. Access to light. Arrange building massing and use upper level step backs to minimize impacts to solar access into ground floors, shared amenity spaces, and the public realm, especially on narrow rights-of-way such as University Way NE. Use two-story or mezzanine layouts for residential or live-work units at grade to increase daylight access.

B. Distance below grade. Minimize the distance that units are located below grade to provide direct access to light and air from above-grade windows for each unit.

C. Existing & New Trees. Site buildings and design building massing to preserve and incorporate existing mature trees, especially on slopes. Where removal is unavoidable, configure open space to accommodate large canopy replacement trees.

Please leave comments below!

CS 3 Architectural Context & Character



CITYWIDE DESIGN GUIDELINE

Contribute to the architectural character of the neighborhood.

PROPOSED UNIVERSITY DISTRICT GUIDELINES

I. University District Context & Architectural Vernacular

A. Foster the eclectic mix of architectural styles and forms on the block and throughout the neighborhood while maintaining articulated bases that are pedestrian-oriented in design.

B. Strive to complement and continue predominant styles or materials when the immediate context of a site is comprised of buildings or a collection of buildings with local significance or identifiable architectural styles or similar materials.

C. Articulate buildings to respond to historic platting patterns to create compatibility between contemporary architecture and existing development.

D. Respond to nearby predominant horizontal and vertical patterns and datum lines, and taking cues from the campus gothic style and design elements in older structures such as punched windows, texture-rich materials, and thoughtful detailing.

II. Adaptive Reuse & Preservation

A. Preserve positive qualities of existing development or rehabilitate existing structures or facades, especially those with exceptional character, local significance, or quality materials including brick.

B. Creatively repurpose materials, signage, and other physical pieces from existing development into new projects to create a connection with the neighborhood's past and contribute to a sense of place.

Please leave comments below!

CONTEXT & SITE

CS 2 Urban Pattern & Form

Place stars next to the

guidelines you think

are most important.

CITYWIDE DESIGN GUIDELINE

Strengthen the most desirable forms, characteristics, and patterns of the streets, block faces, and open spaces in the surrounding area.

PROPOSED UNIVERSITY DISTRICT GUIDELINES

II. Character Areas (See Map A)

A. Cowen Park: In the Cowen Park character area, forge a connection from park to University Ave NE by incorporating public seating, small plazas, a landscaping. Use lush landscaping to carry the experience of Cowen Park the north end of University Way NE.

B. 17th Avenue Boulevard & University Park: Reinforce the existing pat of generous front setbacks with occupiable space, with area for large sh trees and landscaping. Take cues from the design, scale, and character of toric buildings, including grand, elevated entries; the use of brick, mason wood; a high level architectural detailing; and the use of pitched and gab roofs.

C. Ravenna Springs. Projects in Ravenna Springs should reinforce the qu a "village" with smaller massing, pedestrian-priority design, individual un tries and ground-related housing, highly permeable blocks with walkway open spaces, and a high degree of landscaping and pedestrian amenities

D. University Village & 25th Ave NE. Projects in the University Village ar should prioritize active edges and direct pedestrian connections to 25th and the Burke Gilman Trail. Development along 25th Ave NE should creat active, engaging edge for pedestrians and create protected sidewalks by ing planter strips with lush landscaping.

E. The U District Core and "The Ave".

- Support an eclectic mix of businesses, architectural styles, and highest gree of pedestrian activity.
- Development on The Ave should respect historic platting patterns and trian-oriented design by breaking large development into multiple buil and design languages of 20-40' modules.
- Use upper level step backs to create a human-scaled street wall that r sponds to predominant datums and increases solar access.
- Provide opportunities for businesses to individualize storefronts and s capes through colors, materials, signage, seating, or other pedestrian ties.
- Support activity and passive surveillance from upper levels with balcor and terraces.

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II. Neighborhood Context (See Map A)

A. Contribution to Community Character. To enhance the eclectic character of the University District, integrate elements that allow for commercial tenants to provide variation and individual expression through mediums such as paint, awnings, materials, seating, art, and signage.

B. Zone Transitions. When a project abuts a zone with a significantly higher allowed height of at least two stories, provide upper level setbacks that create a sensitive transition to the less intensive zone.

C. Parks & Open Space. Development adjacent to open space and parks should contribute to activity by incorporating small public plazas and seating areas for groundfloor uses that face the park and activate the edges. Design projects to act as a backdrop, with subdued but refined building facades that help frame the open space, or incorporate artistic features that complement the function of the open space.

III. Gateways & Placemaking Corners

A. Gateways identified on Map A are significant "entry" points that express a sense of arrival to a distinct area with unique design concepts and the highest attention to design quality.

- quality.
- tures, public plazas, active uses, and art.

B. Placemaking corners identified on Map A are key landmarks and pedestrian activity areas within the U District Neighborhood.

- zas, seating, and public art.
- face treatments; art installments; seating; kiosks.

Express a sense of arrival to a distinct area with strong forms, prominent massing, and unique design concepts and the highest attention to design

Create gracious entries with wider sidewalks, significant landscaping fea-

. Design all of the adjacent corner-facing sites as a composition that frames the space, and should balance strong spatial edges with providing adequate space for movement and activity, including small pla-

Design prominent corners promote to emphasize pedestrian activity

and visual interest in the public realm through special paving and sur-

Please leave comments below!

PUBLIC LIFE

PL1 Connectivity

Place stars next to the

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are most important.

EXISTING CITYWIDE DESIGN GUIDELINE

PROPOSED UNIVERSITY DISTRICT GUIDELINES

I. Network of Community Open Spaces

A. Contribute to a robust network of public and private outdoor spaces throughout the neighborhood by physically connecting, expanding, and adding variety to the existing open space networks.

B. Include open space at grade that physically or visually engages the public realm and enhances the sense of community and activity. Options include plazas, public courtyards, play areas, gardens, and ground level patios.

C. Green Streets and Green Spines. On sites within the Green Spines (See Map B) and on Green Streets, include multiple types of public open spaces and private amenity spaces that address the public realm including: balconies and unit patios, pocket plazas, strategic setbacks at grade for seating areas and play areas, and upper level setbacks with terraces or patios.

D. Connections to the Burke-Gilman. For projects located adjacent to the Burke Gilman Trail, provide physical and visual connections for pedestrians and bicycles. Design the Trail-facing façade with active uses, including retail, shared amenity space, and unit stoops or patios.

Complement and contribute to the network of open spaces around the site and the connections among the surrounding area.

Please leave comments below!



II. Shared Alleys & Mid-Block Pedestrian Connections (see Map B)

Mid-Block Pedestrian Connections. Mid-block connections can extend a fine-grained pedestrian environment into the interior of the block.

Shared Alleys. Shared, activated alleys are a defining feature of the University District.

A. Reinforce existing movement patterns and introduce connections that weave a pedestrian-priority network throughout the neighborhood with mid-block pedestrian connections and shared alleys.

Map B.

B. Design adjacent facades as a second "front" with active uses.

- fensible space, such as operational wall-sized doors.
- work, interesting materials, lighting, or architectural features.

C. Create usable, safe, people-friendly spaces.

- and mid-block connections.
- visual terminus.
- seating, and bike racks.
- **D. Create a unified identity** & incorporate wayfinding
- cent pavers and treatments.

. Include interior or exterior east-west pedestrian walkways from the street to alley, especially for projects located within the middle-third of long blocks in areas designated on

Locate active-ground level uses along shared alleys and mid-block connections, including secondary entrances for businesses and individual unit entries separated by grade or setbacks for residential uses. Include elements that enhance the permeability and create de-

Avoid long blank walls. Where unavoidable due to service uses, treat blank walls with art-

• Include upper-level balconies or terraces so that occupied spaces overlook shared alleys

Strive for clear sightlines. Where mid-block connections do not cross the right of way or do not align across an alley or street, provide a focal point and wayfinding features at the

Incorporate secondary spaces for impromptu gatherings, play opportunities, outdoor

Install wayfinding elements to highlight entrances to alleys and midblock crossings including special architectural treatments, creative signage, ground treatments, lighting, and façade design. Strive for continuity of design features throughout the neighborhood.

Highlight entries to mid-block pathways and shared alleys with additional lighting or ac-

Incorporate pedestrian amenities including street furniture, art installations, creative paving, paint patterns or lighting throughout shared alleys and mid-block connections.

Please leave comments below!



Map B Public Realm Activation & Open Space Network





Map B Public Realm Activation & Open Space Network



PUBLIC LIFE

PL3 Street-Level Interaction

Place stars next to the

guidelines you think

are most important.

EXISTING CITYWIDE DESIGN GUIDELINE

Encourage human interaction and activity at the street-level with clear connections to building entries and edges.

PROPOSED UNIVERSITY DISTRICT GUIDELINES

I. Entries

A. Design prominent, generous entries with vertical emphasis and a tural interest at a variety of scales. Use high-quality materials and d create a welcoming experience.

B. Create a hierarchy of entries that is easily distinguishable. Main should be identifiable from far away and up close.

C. Avoid grade separations at retail entries. Step floor plates along sites to avoid below-grade entries for commercial and residential us

D. Courtyard entries should be physically and visually accessible for street. Units facing the courtyard should have a porch, stoop, or deal ated with the dwelling unit to support community interaction. Any for gates should be set back from the sidewalk to incorporate a semi-point sitional space.

II. Ground-level Residential

A. Articulate individual dwelling units and provide usable stoops tios for street-facing residential units. Include architectural detail indicates a residential use, such as contrasting trim, special mater knockers, awnings, and appropriately scaled materials. Provide op ties for personalization.

B. Use rowhouse-style units at the base of larger residential structure transition to a pedestrian scale.

C. Provide adequate defensible space as a transition from the side residential uses for visual connection and passive surveillance of the realm. Raise units slightly above grade or provide an adequate set buffers of low walls, planters, and layered landscaping; avoid tall for patios below grade.

D. Where direct-unit entries are not desirable, include a generou entry with defensible and occupiable shared space or forecourt to a a "front porch" for residents. Provide ample space for bicycles, furniplanters.

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III. Mixed-Use Corridors & Commercial Frontages (See Map B)

A. Design projects on mixed-use corridors to contribute to a welcoming and lively pedestrian-oriented streetscape with a high degree of fine-grained detail and ground-level activity that engages the outdoor public realm.

B. Maintain a well-defined street wall on mixed-use corridors to create an urban feel. Incorporate strategic setbacks at corners and entries for seating, usable open space, and landscaping.

C. Provide frequent entrances, expressed breaks, and visual interest at regular intervals of 20-40 feet to create a human-scaled experience and accommodate the presence or appearance of small storefronts.

D. Residential entries to upper floor residential uses should not dominate the street frontage over commercial uses.

E. Minimize the size and presence of residential lobbies and other non-activating uses to maintain the viability of mixed-use corridors.

F. Avoid courtyard entries along mixed-use corridors, unless used in conjunction with street-facing individual unit entries a design that does not diminish the street wall.

G. Strive for a porous, engaging edge for all commercial uses at street-level. Include operable windows at all levels of the building and especially at the streetscape to maximize permeability and activate the streetscape. Design street-level facades to allow uses to spill out, and provide areas for outdoor seating.

H. Design live/work units for commercial uses by providing a direct path to the entry from the sidewalk, transitional areas that can be used as outdoor seating, awnings, and pavement treatments. Use recessed entries and non-permanent solutions for privacy for residential uses,

such as movable planters.

Please leave comments below!

PUBLIC LIFE

PL4 Active Transportation

Place stars next to the

guidelines you think are most important.

EXISTING CITYWIDE DESIGN GUIDELINE

Incorporate design features that facilitate active forms of transportation such as walking, bicycling, and use of transit

PROPOSED UNIVERSITY DISTRICT GUIDELINES

I. Bicycle Circulation & Parking

A. Design bicycle parking for maximum efficiency and security, usi covered and double decker bike storage when possible.

B. Incorporate flexible areas for bike-share storage, so that these not end up on the sidewalk.

C. Locate bicycle parking and bicycle racks in convenient location for residents and temporary users with easy access and minimal gra changes. Provide direct routes from bicycle lanes to bicycle parking garages or bicycle racks, and provide signage that directs bicyclists these facilities. When located inside, minimize the number of door to travel through, and consider using sliding or automatic doors.

D. Plan for and delineate areas near entries and facilities where bi clists are likely to mount or dismount to minimize pedestrian conflic

II. Connections and Facilities for Transit

A. Support pedestrian traffic and connections to the light-rail sta and other high-volume transit stops by incorporating signage and finding features, wider sidewalks, and recessed entries to support level of pedestrian activity.

B. Integrate waiting areas for transit and rideshare into the buildi sign, rather than adjacent to the street. Include shelters, large canc lean bars, and benches.

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DESIGN CONCEPT

DC1 Project uses & Ac-

tivities

EXISTING CITYWIDE DESIGN GUIDELINE

Optimize the arrangement of uses and activities on site.

Place stars next to the guidelines you think are most important.

PROPOSED UNIVERSITY DISTRICT GUIDELINES

I. Activating uses

A. Maximize active uses along street frontages and minimize the amount of frontage dedicated to vehicle access, lobbies, and offices. Provide a high frequency of entries, including direct unit entries with patios, stoops, and porches.

B. Group live-work and commercial uses at street level rather than dividing between lobbies and other ground-floor uses.

II. Visual and Safety Impacts

A. Locate service entries and trash receptacles within the building, and away from gathering spaces along shared alleys and mid-block connections, and entrances.

B. Use high quality materials and finishes for service screening and garage doors with artful and architectural detailing that reinforces the design concept and contributes to the visual interest at street level.

C. Wrap above grade parking in active uses to minimize visual impacts and loss of street activity. Additionally, design above-grade parking with a high level of architectural detailing, rotating displays, community artwork, or usable open space.

III. Shared Space

A. Provide curbless access drives designed as shared space for pedestrians, cyclists, and vehicles to move slowly and safely.

B. Design the layout of the shared space and surrounding uses intentionally to function as shared community space. Include landscaping, pedestrian amenities, lighting, and paving treatments that clearly delineate entries,

gathering areas.

Please leave comments below!

DESIGN CONCEPT

DC2 Architectural Concept

Place stars next to the

guidelines you think are most important.

EXISTING CITYWIDE DESIGN GUIDELINE

Develop an architectural concept that will result in a unified and functional design that fits well on the site and within its surroundings.

PROPOSED UNIVERSITY DISTRICT GUIDELINES

I. Massing

A. Optimal building massing and form expresses an authentic and thoug ful response to the scale and context of the immediate streetscape, and is not merely a reflection of the allowable building envelope. Avoid block massing on large buildings, opting for sculptural and functional forms.

B. Reduce the bulk and scale of large buildings. A large building should able to be read as a series of discrete forms to reduce visual dominance, ate interest, and help users understand how the building is occupied. Brea up larger development into multiple buildings and smaller masses with pa throughs and pathways. Alternatively, give the impression of multiple, sn scale buildings by incorporating different façade treatments at intervals complement the context by articulating the building at regular intervals.

C. Employ purposeful modulation that improves unit layout and contribution positively to the overall composition and building proportion.

D. Design strong bases that create a "grounded" form in conjunction with taller elements to transition to a human-scale at the street.

E. Use upper level step-backs to maintain a human scale along the street and respond to historic datums, which prevents taller buildings from appe ing oppressive or dominant.

F. Ensure that building massing does not dominate the public realm by leaving setbacks from the sidewalk open to the sky. Where overhangs ar used to create usable open space at grade, provide an adequate ceiling height—generally at least two stories—and lighting to create a welcomir space.

G. Locate vertical stair and elevator cores to minimize height impacts to the street and adjacent buildings. Stair cores visible to the street should designed as a prominent feature with a high degree of transparency. Whe vertical cores are visible to internal courtyards, design them to be integra into the façade composition.

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II. Architectural Concept & Facade Composition

A. Embrace modern design through distinctive, elegant forms that demonstrate a context-sensitive approach to massing and façade design. This approach is preferred over the use of colored cladding to increase visual interest.

B. Design all street-facing facades as "fronts", with entries, massing, and architectural treatments that engage the public realm, to ensure each frontage responds to the adjacent streetscape character. This is especially important for corner sites or projects with entries facing the side lot lines.

C. Strive for consistency and cohesion in the street wall and skyline while balancing the need for punctuation and a variety of complementary architectural styles on a block.

D. Reinforce the massing and design concept with materials and color. Changes in color and material should generally be accompanied by a change in plane or design language.

E. Use high-quality, durable, and fine-grained materials at the base to reinforce a strong base massing and differentiate it from the upper levels.

F. Create a finely-grained mix of buildings and architectural styles, taking cues from established patterns such as frequent entries, the use of brick and other highly-articulated materials.

G. Employ a judicial application of bold or high-contrast colors and moments of whimsy to contribute to the eclectic character of the University District without overwhelming the streetscape.

H. Roof lines or the top of the structure should provide architectural interest that is clearly distinguishable from the façade walls.

I. Avoid large panels with minimal detailing. Break down large, boxy forms by 1) using quality materials that provide relief and interest through shadow lines, depth of fenestration, texture, and detailing, and 2) delineating a base, middle, and top with architectural detailing and massing.

J. Intentionally detail joints, reveals, and fasteners to articulate and reinforce the design concept.

K. Incorporate depth into building facades, especially those with minimal modulation and boxy massing. Integrate façade depth and shadow casting detail, including projecting elements, setbacks and expression of window reveals, to give visual richness and interest. Recessed windows of 6-8" are preferred to protrusions applied to the exterior.

SECTION CONTINUED ON NEXT BOARD

Please leave comments below!

DESIGN CONCEPT

DC2 Architectural Concept

Place stars next to the

guidelines you think are most important.

EXISTING CITYWIDE DESIGN GUIDELINE

Develop an architectural concept that will result in a unified and functional design that fits well on the site and within its surroundings.

PROPOSED UNIVERSITY DISTRICT GUIDELINES

CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS BOARD

L. Windows & Fenestration.

- . Fenestration patterns should appear intentional and balanced, an a well-proportioned solid-to-void ratio.
- . Limit the number of different window types for each design languation used to achieve a cohesive composition.
- . Vertically oriented windows are preferred for residential uses.
- Include operable windows and doors, preferably those that tilt and

III. Pedestrian-Scaled Streetscape Design

A. Design facades to a human-scaled rhythm and proportion throu archical arrangement of elements by: avoiding monotonous repetitie same unit; establishing vertical and horizontal lines and modules wit such as party walls, exposed downpipes, setbacks, cornices, balconie line, and door head. Provide enough variation to avoid monotonous

B. Provide points of visual interest and architectural features, ever feet such as windows, lighting fixtures, planters, art, or decorative pi along street-facing building facades. Layer articulation and detailing ety of scales to express a high degree of quality and visual interest.

IV. Service & Mechanical Elements

A. Intentionally design venting for commercial uses and other scree mechanical equipment on the roof or affixed to the building into the design concept. Green roofs are highly encouraged.

B. Integrate building service elements, such as drainage pipes, grill screens, ventilation louvres and garage entry doors into the overall design, and use these features as opportunities to provide artful or applications.

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DESIGN CONCEPT

DC3 Open Space Concept

Place stars next to the guidelines you think are most important.

EXISTING CITYWIDE DESIGN GUIDELINE

Integrate open space design with the design of the building so that each complements the other.

PROPOSED UNIVERSITY DISTRICT GUIDELINES

Please leave I. Open Space Organization & Site Layout comments below!

A. Organize and design development around on-site open space, considering the location, design, and function of the space. **B. Arrange open spaces to break up large sites** and foster permeability. **C. Extend entry courtyards or forecourts** all the way through a project site to become a pedestrian pathway and break up building mass. **D. Consolidate open space areas** into shared spaces for rowhouse and townhouse developments instead of only small individual spaces for each unit. II. Residential Open Space **A. Provide direct access to usable open space for units**, either as balconies, patios, or terraces. Incorporate balconies with usable space—either recessed or extruding--instead of Juliet balconies. **B. Provide shared play areas for children** with direct sightlines to units. **C. Consolidate open space** on site to accommodate larger occupiable spaces and large trees. **D. Design courtyards to incorporate layered planting** and trees that provide privacy to units surrounding the courtyard as well as users. E. Provide a variety of outdoor private amenity space, instead of only locating private amenity space on rooftops, including balconies and terraces at the sec-III. Street-Level Open Space A. Open spaces at street-level should be designed to be welcoming and open to the public. Minimize the use of barriers adjacent to the street. Semi-public spaces such as forecourts should engage the street and act as a "front porch" for residents. Locate any fences or gates set back from the street to create a semi-public transitional space. **B.** Open space design and location should support community interaction

ond or third floor.

within a development as well as the larger University District community.

DESIGN CONCEPT

DC4 Exterior Elements & Finishes

EXISTING CITYWIDE DESIGN GUIDELINE

Use appropriate and high quality elements and finishes for the building and its open spaces.

are most important.

I. Durable, High-Quality Materials

A. Use materials that aesthetically represent durability and perma Avoid thin materials that do not age well in Seattle's climate, includi that deform or "oil can", weather quickly, or require paint as their fin materials in locations that have a durability that is appropriate for a application, especially at grade.

B. Brick is a preferred material, especially for the first 30-40' from g

C. Limit the use of large panels or materials that require few joints mal detailing. Use materials that provide purposeful surfaces, reinfo design concept and building proportions, and allow intentional detail joints, reveals, and fasteners.

D. Utilize emerging technology and innovative materials that inspi ventive forms, applications, and design concepts.

E. Consider the life cycle impacts of materials, and choose those th renewable, responsibly sourced, and have minimal impacts to humar environmental health

II. Hardscaping & Landscaping

A. Incorporate artistic, whimsical, and unique elements into hardso terials to define spaces and contribute to placemaking., including me wayfinding elements, reused materials, and lighting.

B. Use hardscape materials with fine-grained texture. Avoid large s with minimal texture, especially in areas with pedestrian traffic.

C. Incorporate pavers and ground treatments to delineate uses, inc building entries and seating areas within the public right of way.

D. Integrate purposeful green walls into the construction and design building and landscape to avoid appearing "tacked on" as an afterth To maximize the potential for success, provide irrigation and choose tions with appropriate growth conditions.

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ADDITIONAL GUIDANCE: TALL BUILDINGS

A1 Additional Guidance for Tall Buildings

Tall buildings require additional design guidance since they are highly visible and impact the public visual realm with inherently larger façade surfaces, bulk and scale shifts. Tall Buildings carry a higher level of civic responsibility and obligation.

Place stars next to the uidelines you think are most important.

PROPOSED UNIVERSITY DISTRICT GUIDELINES

I. Designing Tall Buildings

A. Respond to Context (CS2.B & CS2.D) Integrate and transition to surrounding fabric of differing heights; relate to lower, predominant datums (vertical and horizontal patterns), the street t wall and parcel patterns.

B. Tower Placement, Spacing & Orientation (CS2.D): Optimize the tower placement in relation to adjacent structures; minimize shadow impacts on neighbors and public realm; maximize tower spacing, to afford light and air to the streets and public spaces, and with balanced privacy, light and views for existing, proposed and future occupants.

C. Tower Form (DC2.A): Avoid long slabs and big, unitary boxy forms, which cast big shadows and lack scale and visual interest. Consider curved, angled, shifting and creative non-rectilinear forms.

D. Intermediate Scales (DC2.B); To mediate the extra height/scale, add legible, multi-story intermediate scale elements: floor groupings, gaskets, off-sets, projections, sky terraces, layering, or other transitions to the middle of towers.

E. Shape & Design All Sides (DC2.B): Because towers are visible from many viewpoints/ distances, intentionally shape the form and design all sides (even party walls), responding to differing site patterns and context relationships.

F. Adjusted Base Scale (DC2.B) To mediate the form's height, employ an extra tall ground floor and/or a legible base scale to adequately transition to the ground.

G. Ground Floor Uses (PL3.B); Include identifiable primary entrances -scaled to the tower - and multiple entries. Employ genuinely activating uses or grade-related residences to activate all streets.

H.Facade Depth & Articulation (DC2.B) : Because of larger facade areas, employ plane changes, depth, shadow and texture to provide human scale and interest, especially in the base/lower 100 ft. Compose fenestration and material dimensions to be legible and rich from long distances.

I. Quality & 6th Elevations (DC4.A): Employ quality materials and detailing, and intentionally design all soffits, balconies and other surfaces seen from below, including lighting, vents, etc.

Please leave comments below!