

Calgary



# Centre City Plan Refresh

## **What We Heard Report**

Place-making Workshop 2019 June 26



# Centre City Plan Refresh

What We Heard Report: 2019 June 26  
Place-making Workshop

## About this what we heard report

This report summarizes the activities and results of engagement for the “Placemaking” Workshop on June 26, 2019 for the Centre City Plan Refresh project. It outlines the project, the purpose of the public engagement, the activities we did, and a summary of what we heard at the events. A full list of comments received through public engagement is included in this report.

## Project overview

In 2007, based on extensive citizen input, City Council adopted the Centre City Plan, a vision document that describes what the Centre City could look like in 30 years. The Centre City Plan is a coordinated strategy document that pulls together the vision for the Centre City along with strategies and actions relating to land use planning, economic, cultural, and social development, and governance. With the approval of the adoption of the Centre City Plan (CPC2007-049), it included a recommendation for regular monitoring and reporting. In January 2017 the Centre City Plan was identified as one of 28 Council policies to be amended. It's time to review and refresh the original Centre City Plan.

Calgary's Centre City is the area south of the Bow River (including Prince's Island Park) from 17th Avenue SW and 14th Street SW, to the Elbow River. It also includes Downtown, Eau Claire, West End, West Connaught, Connaught Centre, Victoria Crossing Centre, East Victoria Crossing, East Village, Chinatown and Stampede Park area. (A map is contained in the Centre City Plan, 2007.)

The purpose of this refresh project is to:

- affirm the current plan's vision and principles;
- reassess the big-picture direction for the Centre City;
- identify actions to realize the vision;
- update the information in the Plan to align with other city policies such as the [Municipal Development Plan](#) and [Centre City Guidebook](#); and
- eliminate overlap with other documents.

Engagement was approached with the understanding that the plan need not be re-written; rather it will be updated or, “refreshed”, to reflect the current thinking within the Centre City. An update to the Centre City Plan is an opportunity to refocus Calgary's energy and reinvigorate a commitment to success in the Centre City.



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## Background and Purpose

The workshop engagement approach was designed to review the proposed goals for Placemaking in Calgary's Centre City, related initiatives, and outcomes that were developed by the Centre City Plan (CCP) core project team through their analysis of all inputs compiled leading up to the workshop. Multiple inputs include:

- a review of the existing 2007 Centre City Plan to identify which information should remain in the Plan and be updated and which information should be removed;
- a review of related City of Calgary policy, guideline and strategy documents;
- input collected from various departments throughout the City;
- results of the Strategic Foresight process (This is a scenario-based methodology that immerses participants in a study of the future by asking them to create and explore multiple plausible alternatives for a domain or topic of interest.);
- stakeholder and public engagement that was compiled into a What We Heard Report;
- a review of the results from the Downtown Economic Summit that was held on 2017 March 2; and
- a review of best practice research.

## Target audiences

The targeted audience for this engagement was primarily internal stakeholders from the City of Calgary.

### Internal Stakeholders

A wide cross-section of internal & external stakeholders was invited to a focused workshop. The following stakeholders provided representatives:

#### The City of Calgary

- Community Planning
- Growth Strategies
- Urban Design
- Urban Strategy
- Calgary Neighborhoods
- Calgary Building Services
- Livable Streets
- Transit
- Transportation Development Services
- Green Line
- Parks
- Recreation
- Real Estate & Development Services
- Indigenous Relations Office
- Calgary Emergency Management Agency
- Calgary Fire Department
- Water Resources
- Ward 7 Office



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- Ward 8 Office
- Ward 11 Office

## External Agencies / Groups

- Calgary Downtown Association
- Calgary TELUS Convention Centre
- Calgary Economic Development
- Calgary Arts Development Authority
- Calgary Municipal Land Corporation
- Tourism Calgary
- Thin Air Labs
- 17 Avenue Retail & Entertainment District
- Chinatown Community Association
- Downtown West Community Association
- Eau Claire Community Association
- Urban Land Institute (Alberta chapter)
- University of Calgary

The following stakeholders were invited to the workshop but did not attend:

- Beltline Neighbourhoods Association
- East Village Neighbourhoods Association
- Calgary Police Service

## Engagement Overview

### What we asked

The workshop engagement approach was designed to review the proposed outcomes, goals, and related initiatives that were developed by the Centre City Plan core project team through their analysis of all inputs leading up to the workshop.

### Proposed Outcomes and Goals

The Outcomes placemaking is meant to achieve within the Centre City are:

- People want to live in the Centre City; and
- People love coming to Downtown Calgary.

The Goals to get to the desired Outcomes are:

- Increase residential development and supporting amenities in all areas of the Centre City;
- Improve the public realm experience in all neighbourhoods of the Centre City;
- Foster a distinctive sense of place and vibrancy in the Centre City through a network of destinations and connections.



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Engagement focused on the following components:

Topic	Engagement Questions	How input is used	Level of Engagement
<b>Outcomes</b>	<i>Review each of the two outcomes. Should this outcome be a priority for the next 10 to 20 years? What new opportunities have arisen over the last 10 years that can be capitalized on?</i>	The Centre City Plan Refresh will identify goals, initiatives and priorities to be considered during the preparation of the refreshed Centre City Plan. The project team will review stakeholder input alongside relevant departments from across The City as well as external agencies. Stakeholder ideas will be reviewed, considered and included where possible. Where major themes cannot be addressed, the project team will advise why they could not be implemented.	<b>Consult:</b> We will consult with stakeholders to obtain feedback and ensure their input is considered and incorporated to the maximum extent possible. We undertake to advise how consultation impacted the decisions and outcomes.
<b>Goals</b>	Participants reviewed each goal, discussed their viability and the best ways to achieve them.		
<b>Area-specific reviews</b>	Participants reviewed maps and discussed how solutions could be implemented spatially.		
<b>Short-Term Actions</b>	Facilitated discussion with all participants at once, discussing what actions could be done in the short term given The City's increasingly limited budget.		

## Event Summary

Engagement took place on June 26, 2019 in the City Building Design Lab at the University of Calgary's School of Architecture, Planning and Landscape (616 Macleod Trail SE). A total of 46 attendees participated in the engagement.

The workshop asked participants to accept the meeting invite to ensure appropriate participation numbers. People who accepted the meeting invite were assigned a table. Table assignments considered department representation with the aim of getting a diverse mix of perspectives at each table. Approximately 8 people were seated at each of the six tables.

Table facilitators guided the discussions and recorded comments made by attendees. The workshop began with a presentation providing a brief history on the Centre City Plan, the purpose of the workshop, an overview of the briefing analysis and the context of these internal discussions with the project's current direction.

This workshop format worked well as attendees were generally engaged during the activities and were provided our "Placemaking Brief" analysis document ahead of time for review in preparation for the day's activities.



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## What We Heard

### Activity 1

Activity one was a table discussion regarding the proposed two outcomes relating to placemaking in the Centre City. These were:

- People want to live in Centre City; and
- People love coming to Downtown Calgary.

For each proposed outcome, the facilitator lead participants through a five-minute discussion around the following questions:

- Is this the outcome that we want to see in 10 to 20 years? Should this outcome be a priority for the next 10 to 20 years?
- Is this a realistic outcome?
- Could the outcome be reworded?
- Please explain. Why do you feel that way?

The following table is a summary of themes that emerged from the feedback. The summary is in order of rank, meaning that the first theme was the most frequently cited and the last theme was the least cited.

### Outcome 1: People want to live in the Centre City.

Theme	Description
<b>More Common</b>	
Need more amenities and services to make the area more livable.	<i>Density hasn't been driving services; Schools and more small commercial opportunities needed; Variety of amenities (parks, mixed uses); Shared amenities in buildings don't perform as well as public amenities; Need for live, work, and play; Live and thrive; Are people really living downtown, or is it just a place to stay?</i>
Growth by attracting a diverse range of new residents.	<i>Empty nesters want to come back to vibrancy; Young people and couples before marriage; Families need a diversity of housing options and prices; How does Centre City compete with surrounding neighbourhoods?</i>
<b>Less Common</b>	
Activate dead locations and times of day	<i>Disperse business activities and hours, 17 Avenue is so congested and there are dead zones elsewhere; Concentrate activities; How do we spread busy-ness – prioritize areas and link them to investment.</i>
Better public realm	<i>High-quality public realm has to permeate to Downtown; Opportunities to soften the landscape.</i>
Address mobility challenges	<i>Parking is an issue; Overcoming car-driven culture; Everything is walkable.</i>
Other	<i>Consider rephrasing outcomes to address the PLACE rather than the PEOPLE; Share stories – successes and positive outcomes.</i>



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## Outcome 2: People love coming to Downtown Calgary

Theme	Description
<b>More Common</b>	
Connectivity	<i>Bringing more people downtown is at odds with having more people living downtown; Downtown should be primarily for the people who want to live there – regional draw second; Need alternative transportation options so people can come and visit in a sustainable way; Better bus parking for tourists; Free transit nights; Better marketing of free parking evenings and weekends.</i>
Create unique experiences and moments	<i>Communicate to public what’s happening downtown; Experience-based marketing; Calgarians want to get out and do things; Build on diversity of population with variety of experiences; Promote arts/culture; Identify short-term actions and pilot.</i>
<b>Less Common</b>	
Safety and challenges	<i>Perceptions of safety vs. reality; Make space safe and clean systemically over prioritizing one-day events; Activate recreation spaces; Run with market economics vs. against it.</i>
Designate specific districts	<i>Prioritize key developments at key locations; create hubs/districts based on arts/culture/design, etc.; Activate/promote key areas.</i>
Other	<i>Outcome 2 is realistic over next 10-20 years but deeply connected to Outcome 1. More clarity needed on what we’re trying to achieve.</i>





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## Activity 2

The second activity related to the following question:

**To achieve these outcomes for the Centre City, we have prepared the following list of suggested goals based on several inputs gained through the process.**

The suggested goals are:

1. Increase residential development and supporting amenities in all areas of the Centre City;
2. Improve the public realm experience in all neighbourhoods of the Centre City; and
3. Foster a distinctive sense of place and vibrancy in the Centre City through a network of destinations and connections.

The table facilitator lead participants through discussions on the viability of each goal and the best way to achieve each goal. Ten minutes was allotted for each goal for a total of 30 minutes.

For each goal, participants were first asked the following questions:

- Is this a realistic goal? Is it viable? Why or Why not?
- What are the best ways that this goal could be implemented? What would it take? Who would need to be involved?

Participants were then asked to develop their thoughts further and identify the best ways in which to achieve each goal. This discussion was guided by the following questions:

- What would it take?
- Who would need to be involved?
- How could it be done?

The following tables summarize the themes that emerged from the feedback regarding each goal. The summary is in order of rank, meaning that the first theme was the most frequently cited and the last theme was the least cited.

### Goal 1: Increase residential development and supporting amenities in all areas of the Centre City.

Theme	Description
<b>More Common</b>	
Locate residential growth near existing amenities and opportunities	<i>New buildings can incorporate amenities; Will existing neighbourhoods lose identity?; Areas with lots of supporting residential – need critical mass to push things at different times, build off where existing amenities are; Understand where nodes and activity clusters are and prioritize; Centre City is amenity rich; Empty land along CPR tracks; Dead areas around City Hall; Combine public use with residential; Propose tax holiday to incentivize residential development.</i>
Downtown’s diverse neighbourhoods must work for diverse residents	<i>Supporting amenities need to include schools and multi-functional learning environments; Need to accommodate older gens as well, something like Genesis Centre; No housing stock for families but lots that could support seniors; Focus on young families in Beltline; Ice sheets for kids’ sports.</i>
New businesses and amenities are needed	<i>Open space; Access to large parks; Elevated patios and green spaces; Diversity in retail and mix of uses; Grocery stores in Downtown, look at</i>

to support the residential growth	<i>options to have Costco or Superstore in high-rise podium; Smaller grocery stores; Need partnerships.</i>
<b>Less Common</b>	
Downtown living is safe, convenient and attractive	<i>Change the perception that DT is just for work or is unsafe; Need more public amenities like rec centres and better maintenance; Stigma of rental units; Mobility safety to and from river and other DT amenities; "Calm" travel experience rather than navigating pedestrian-unfriendly areas</i>
Find innovative ways to fill vacant space	<i>Office to residential conversion; Dead zone between 7/8 Ave and Eau Claire, does that mean changing tax structure and incentives?; Japan – flexibility of use.</i>
Other	<i>Viable and realistic; Generally supported.</i>

## Goal 2: Improve the public realm experience in all neighbourhoods of the Centre City.

Theme	Description
<b>More common</b>	
Liveliness / art / character	<i>The Centre City needs more activation throughout its public realm – activation which should be shaped by the unique flavour of the area’s character. Every place can’t be Stephen Avenue or 17 Avenue, but is unique. Activation doesn’t have to be permanent, it can be temporary, artistic, and unexpected. Calgarians should be able to take part in activating spaces themselves with either easy access to space or movable furniture.</i>
Funding / partnerships	<i>While the easiest thing to do would be to throw money at the public realm, we will need to find partners to help carry the cost. Many public realm improvements or challenges are dependent on the development land they sit on. We need external champions to push specific ideas, we need to push for comprehensive visions, and we need to enable citizens and community groups to activate spaces themselves.</i>
Transportation	<i>Lots of roads are over-built, including most of our major E-W avenues through Downtown. Traffic calming measures, road diets, conversions of one-ways to two-ways are all good ideas, as is making better use of the road right-of-way for more furniture and pedestrian amenities. A major N-S route along 1 or 2 Street SW could connect the entire Centre City. Transit hub near intersection of two routes.</i>
<b>Less Common</b>	
Greening the Centre City	<i>Get rid of concrete jungle; Require grass / green space to mitigate heat in the summer like Brookfield Place; Make Calgary truly a recreation city; connections to the river are crucial; Green is not always functional so stop trying to force them and instead cluster along 13 Avenue.</i>
Tech / info / marketing	<i>Open WiFi connection throughout the Centre City; Create database of rooftop patios / gardens / green spaces / places where people gather and make it publicly accessible; Connect people to places as people are not aware of events or spaces; Engage the residents of DT.</i>



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## Goal 3: Foster a distinctive sense of place and vibrancy in the Centre City through a network of destinations and connections.

Theme	Description
<b>More Common</b>	
Districts / branding / uniqueness	<i>Name and brand destinations so they're successful. Create unique places and generate a sense of place and identity – especially in Downtown West. Consider renaming to "Mewata". Each neighbourhood should have its own identity and relevant amenities.</i>
Mobility networks	<i>Need to bridge areas of vibrancy, expand the free fare zone one stop in every direction, and make nearby cultural destinations easy to find. Have a connectivity plan through DT that consistently applies streetscape strategies. Pull people out of the Plus15s.</i>
Pocket parks / activation	<i>Map sunny areas of DT and figure out how they could be used better. Winnipeg has outdoor festivals that puts ice sculptures in the north-facing plazas. Learn how to bring more fun into the environment, make better use of laneways.</i>
<b>Less Common</b>	
Pedestrian-friendly public realm	<i>Ban cars and bikes on Stephen Avenue; Create a north-south Stephen Avenue; Cater to pedestrians and make roads skinnier; Improve connectivity within the area.</i>
Other	<i>Be very intentional about capital projects; Focus energy on more feasible projects and set them up for success; Increase amenities proportionately to density; Cut red tape about liquor and events.</i>

## Activity 3

The third activity consisted of geographically based discussions. Staff laid out different maps of the Centre City and facilitated discussions with the participants based on the following areas:

- Connections and destinations;
- Eau Claire and Chinatown;
- Beltline and East Village;
- Downtown West; and
- Downtown Commercial Core.

For each area, the facilitator lead participants through a 12-minute discussion around the following questions:

- Given the goals we have just discussed, what is critical or a priority action to achieve these goals?
- What needs more attention?
- Where is a prime opportunity for partnership or collaborations that could result in the highest public value?
- What are the low-cost things that could be done?

The following table is a summary of themes that emerged from the feedback. The summary is in order of rank, meaning that the first theme was the most frequently cited and the last theme was the least cited.

### Area 1: Connections and Destinations

Theme	Description
<b>More Common</b>	
Great streets and connections	<i>Transit hubs and inter-modal connections. Better connections north-south to the river. Extend Stephen Ave west. Dedicated transit lanes &amp; bike lanes. Ped comfort for 1 St, 2 St, 8 St, 17 Ave.</i>
Ease of navigation and exploration	<i>Big, bold, branded wayfinding. Identify places, attractions, and destinations. Have map routes that are most interesting. Find out how people orient themselves downtown. Put interesting things between interesting areas. 1 ST Station should have a better sense of arrival into DT core.</i>
Distinct places and districts with character	<i>Beautification of Stephen Ave. Make quality spaces over diluting people to many areas. Around Arts Commons and along 9 Avenue. Along Elbow riverfront to 17 Ave. Make surface area public amenity. Eau Claire / Princes Island already distinct and could be made better with market destination. 1 ST connection has most concentration of heritage buildings and interesting pedestrian realm.</i>
<b>Less Common</b>	
Marketing, communication and branding	<i>More communication to Calgarians. Market destinations and events, i.e. a day to promote all roof-top patios or second-hand stores. Branding doesn't have to revolve around built form.</i>
More residential development	<i>8 ST SW could use more residential. Vacant parking lots around 9 Avenue should be residential. More residential around Olympic Plaza.</i>

## Area 2: Eau Claire and Chinatown

Theme	Description
<b>More Common</b>	
Development and built form	<i>Eau Claire and Chinatown need to be destinations. Needs more commercial activity and restaurants. Incentivize to get rid of empty parking lots. Add more residents and affordable housing. Need more interesting buildings. Finish what we started.</i>
Activation of public space	<i>Flexibility for placemaking along 2 Avenue and station. Market streets. Convert surface parking to active uses and patios on weekends. 3 Ave to be authentic Chinese street (hot pot, pool, mah-jong). Temp activation on vacant Eau Claire lots – Christmas market, urban agriculture. Close for night markets. Zip line from Rotary Park to Sien Lok.</i>
Connect the Centre City north to the river	<i>Build off river's edge and pull people further into Downtown all the way to Stephen Avenue. Shared streets. Importance of wayfinding. 2 Avenue should connect E-W. River floats and activities that connect.</i>
<b>Less Common</b>	
Green Line opportunity	<i>Can 2 Ave be rethought with Green Line tunnel? Connectivity hub at 5 St and 2 Av. Connect Green Line to Eau Claire market site.</i>
Ease of exploration	<i>Importance of wayfinding and signage directing people to different experiences. Make it possible to drive around and discover. Brand the area.</i>
Other	<i>Change Eau Claire community boundary to 4 Ave from 5-8 Street. Connect Riverfront Ave to the west through market. Levy for non-infrastructure needs. Rename James Short Park.</i>

## Area 3: Beltline and East Village

Theme	Description
<b>More Common</b>	
Great streets and missing links	<i>Reinvigorate 14 Street and connect west across. Connect east across Macleod. Activate 10 Avenue better. 1 Street SW and 11 Street SW are great, build on that. Cycle tracks should be made permanent and beautiful. Lane walk behind 16/17 Ave. Consider utility of 1-way avenues. Maintain quiet sections away from lively urban atmosphere.</i>
Green & open space	<i>Park space and dog runs west of Macleod Trail. Continue 13 Ave Greenway. Cidex Hat site shows challenges of vertical sprawl. Public open space in east Beltline.</i>
<b>Less Common</b>	
Big ideas	<i>Close down 17 Avenue to vehicles one day per week. Rotating Sunday street shutdowns. Close CP rail. Saddledome becomes water park.</i>
Sense of community	<i>Standardize best practices throughout area, not just at specific pockets. Expand BUMP to more neighbourhoods. Preserve low-cost spaces near 1 ST and 12 Ave. Preserve low-cost community groups.</i>

Development	<i>Affordable grocery stores in East Beltline. Better interface with CPR tracks. Do we need more retail and development? Is Stampede entertainment or community first?</i>
Safety	<i>15 Avenue between 8 and 9 Street – alley and park with better lighting. Safe connection from residential to downtown.</i>

## Area 4: Downtown West

Theme	Description
<b>More Common</b>	
Development and public realm	<i>Opportunity to focus on Kerby Station, 11 Street, and area outside Contemporary Calgary. 8 Street is desolate, mostly vacant, feels like wasteland. Needs serious public realm work. Feels unsafe. Lacks amenities. Hostile 14 Street at Millennium Park. Reduce speeds along 9 Avenue and 6 Avenue to separate local need from arterial. More people-oriented commercial.</i>
Isolation and connection	<i>8 Street great way to connect from Beltline to Centennial Gardens. 10 Street at Louise Bridge is wonky and isolates DT West. Park/river system is not easily accessible. Focus on assets to focus money on pedestrian connections. Push back 4 Ave and widen river pathway. Better sidewalks and streets. Underpass on 11 Street.</i>
Amenities	<i>Create cluster with surf wave and dog park. Important to have public outdoor spaces. No grocery or retail. Millennium Park does not have good access. Return Mewata Stadium to fields for sports. Need kid spaces, pop-up activities. Use Millennium Park as concert venue during X-Games.</i>
<b>Less Common</b>	
Boundary & identity	<i>Consider boundary adjustment out to 8 Street. Community is all vertical sprawl, no character.</i>

## Area 5: Downtown Commercial Core

Theme	Description
<b>More Common</b>	
Attracting residents and amenities	<i>Build amenities and areas that cater to young families. Keep people in DT after 5 pm with food and market spaces. Dedicated green spaces for sports and schools. Encourage residential development to attract more residential development. Remove parking requirements for new developments. More connected culture, services and daily uses. Land use that does not give away FAR. Density bonusing that supports affordable housing. Inclusionary housing and universal design.</i>
Placemaking and public realm	<i>Plaza areas that are programmable sParks. Rethink how we use and regulate public space. Allow simple wins from community-driven events. Be flexible in activations and uses. Activate CTrain stations. Activate Plus15 roof-top areas. Temporary art and pop-ups. Cheap activation of spaces. CPR deck-top park planning.</i>
<b>Less Common</b>	



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Reuse of space	<i>More community spaces in DT Core – can they be multi-use? Incentivize vacant office space re-use. City-led pilot programs. Incubators, affordable housing. Shift from corporate to residential uses. Remove political/procedural barriers. Leverage creative class.</i>
Safety, perception and marketing	<i>User-generated info for perception hot-spots. Market / provide info on special places within downtown. Wayfinding to lead people there. Market downtown and defuse the perception of danger.</i>
Transit and connectivity	<i>CPR underpasses are unexpected gems connecting us to history. School bus hub to get kids to school in the surrounding neighbourhoods.</i>



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## Activity 4

As a final workshop activity, the room facilitator engaged all the workshop participants and table facilitators in a conversation centering around the following question:

***From your perspective, what can be done in the short or immediate term with limited budget that would have a big impact in the Centre City? Why?***

The following list summarizes the themes from the discussion that emerged from Activity #4.

Activity 4
Comments
One-way conversions to two-way
Avenue lane closures on weekends
Map routes by step counts
Consider closing Plus15s
Dog-walking routes
More movable furniture
Deregulate patios
Push pop-up use exemptions
Festival scales
Simple, cheerful wayfinding
Map desirable places
Downtown Core CA
Give BIAs more control over use of spaces
Map perceived unsafe areas
"What's happening" app with QR codes
Explore better amenity bonuses and hold applicants accountable
Tax stalled projects
Recognize the role of identity and narrative in shaping experiences
Be more intentional about design and consider operational costs
"Do not harm" and follow through





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## Next Steps

With this report, the Centre City Plan Refresh team will:

- Review the input;
- Identify issues for further discussion with internal stakeholders;
- Review all workshop results together to find connections;
- Identify policy impacts; and
- Use the information to inform the draft refresh of the Centre City Plan.

Administration aims to rescope the Centre City Plan Refresh project considering work happening at The City that may have impacts such as the Downtown Strategy. Dependant on the results of the project rescope, the Project Team currently aims to:

- Draft the Plan, including actions;
- Circulate the plan internally;
- Share the Plan with the public for feedback;
- Finalize the Plan;
- Present the Plan to relevant authorities; and
- Respond to any follow up motions.

The input collected from this workshop will be used in addition to the findings from the initial public engagement.



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## Appendix A: Verbatim Attendee Feedback

Verbatim comments presented here include all the feedback collected from the workshop. Comments have not been edited for spelling or grammar. Any personal information such as names or contact information have been removed.

### Activity 1

Outcome #1	People want to live in the Centre City
<b>Response</b>	
Need for more amenities and services	
Need more intent for what a neighbourhood needs, particularly groceries	
Are people currently living downtown, or is it just a place to stay?	
Density hasn't been driving services, especially in West DT	
Shared amenities in buildings don't perform as well as public amenities	
Need for live, work and play - live and thrive	
Agree - balance of people that work and live downtown - see downtown as a livable place	
Identification of amenities for those outside downtown	
Need vibrancy at night - how do you make people feel aware of amenities	
Success - East Village basketball park	
People want to move here. How do we get people downtown that can't afford it? Lots of people want to raise their children in the centre city but not available to them – schools, parks, etc.	
Comfort vs. conflict. If living in the centre city need all the comforts – groceries, recreation, etc.	
Variety of amenities (parks, mixed uses)	
8 St. has come alive with services needed to support	
More small commercial opportunities are needed	
Schools and more commercial amenities needed	
Empty nesters want to come back to vibrancy - young people & couples before marriage	
Families - diversity of housing options / prices	
Find catalyst to shift focus i.e. office to residential conversion	
Make it work for all ages	
Need to hit a critical mass of people - how do we get there?	
Safety for those with children	
Housing choice for families	
Yes but affordability important, how does CC compete with surrounding neighbourhoods?	
Need a variety of housing and cost	
Centre City is best example of imagine Calgary goals in moving people into the centre city	
Businesses closing with office hours	
Want to avoid dead zones - dispersing business activities/hours - e.g. 17 Ave can be congested and crowded, would be good to have other options downtown	
How do we spread "busy areas" prioritize areas to achieve these goals over large amount of space?	
Priorities may follow investment ex: East Village / Beltline now	
Concentrate activities	
High quality public realm has to permeate to downtown	
what makes a good public place	
Opportunities to softscape the hardscape	
Parking is an issue	
Overcoming car-driven culture	
Everything is walkable	
Worth pursuing	
Consider rephrasing these two outcomes to: 1. CC is a great place for people to live; and 2. Downtown Calgary is a great place for people to come!	



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Share stories - successes and positive outcomes

Outcome #2	People love coming to Downtown Calgary
<b>Response</b>	
Experience-based marketing - engaging people to want the experience of living downtown	
Opportunity for winter events - talk a lot about summer warm weather opportunities - optimizing connection using warm pathways (+15) to enhance experience in winter city.	
Communication to general public about what's happening downtown - need event programming/marketing outside of the core	
Calgarians want to get out and do things, have something with teaching element (attract moms with kids)	
Varied interests and reasons to come - not just large events	
Too (large) event focused in DT	
Need for a multi-nodal downtown	
Needs to have a variety of experiences - many community groups - build on diversity of population	
Outcome should include daytime/nighttime consideration	
Contemporary Calgary will be a game changer	
Promote arts/culture	
Some areas like downtown west, need more activity on the street – things to do outside of the 9-5. More recreation opportunities.	
What are the short term actions we can take? Eg., weekends, can we close two lanes on busy streets to add pedestrian space?	
Activation/promotion of key areas	
Creation of hubs/districts (arts/culture/design etc)	
Prioritize key developments to capitalize on key locations	
First the downtown should be for the people who want to live there, and secondly, it's a regional draw.	
Coming and visiting in a sustainable way	
Need for alternative transportation options and better active modes / accessibility options	
Better bus parking for tourists	
Overall lack of connectivity between neighbourhoods	
Toronto - free transit nights	
New projects (BMO expansion) - connectivity	
Difficult to transit within the different communities of Centre City	
Wanting to 'bring' people into the downtown, means that there will be more car traffic. Which is a detriment to living in the downtown. Those two goals are in conflict.	
Improve connections for families	
Fre parking on Saturdays (already exists but not well-known)	
Perception of safety - illumination guidelines	
Small details matter in parks to "achieve" any space (i.e. Barb Scott looks great but is really just big art and wind-swept grass)	
Activating recreation spaces	
Run with market economics vs against it	
Making space safe and clean over prioritizing one-day events to draw people (media scares people on this subject i.e. safe injection site)	
Statement is making assumption people love coming downtown rather than making the statement that we will make it a place for people to love	
Yes, within next 10-20 years	
Clarify what we are trying to achieve	
Outcome 1 and 2 are connected and drive each other	



# Centre City Plan Refresh

What We Heard Report: 2019 June 26  
Place-making Workshop

## Activity 2

Goal #1	Increase residential development and supporting amenities in all areas of the Centre City.
<b>Response</b>	
New buildings along 17 Avenue incorporate amenities e.g. Canadian Tire on 17th	
By incorporating new development, will 17 Ave lose its identity? Incorporation and evolution doesn't mean losing identity, can contribute to positive change	
Has lots of supporting residential	
Create a critical mass to push things at different times - build off where existing amenities are	
Plus15 - strength and weakness	
All cities have a decrease in the need for commercial services. So residential is necessary to fill spaces and bring people into the downtown.	
Depends on where opportunities exist.	
Maybe not in areas where there is light industrial eg., around village ice cream.	
Map and understand where the nodes and clusters are of activity. Everything for all may dilute efforts.	
Yes, but where it it concentrated?	
Why is Beltline so successful - why are other areas not successful?	
Yes realistic because CC is already amenity-rich compared to other areas of the city	
More mixed uses (office/residential/retail/entertainment)	
Parking lots around 9 Ave (5th - Gulf Canada Square) can be redeveloped	
Empty land along CPR lines - useable?	
Ex of Spring Creek in Canmore - right on rail line. Don't shut down options like building along the rail line.	
Dead areas around City Hall are opportunities for residential development and a diversity of housing options.	
Need to have focus areas which might be better suited to development - West End - large areas on Macleod Trail / Erlton - Book end residential on either end of office/commercial	
Combining public use with residential use	
Support additional areas to accommodate rental residential	
10-year property tax holiday for developments that provide residential development	
Open space - access to large parks	
Diversity - elevated patios and green spaces - in retail and mix of uses	
Interaction with retail spaces immediately from the pedestrian environment	
Grocery stores in downtown - options to have a Costco/Superstore downtown in the base of a highrise like Vancouver	
Find the gaps in amenities	
Need partnerships	
Smaller grocery stores (instead of massive regional or mom-and-pop convenience stores)	
Supporting amenities - schools - multi-functional learning environments are needed e.g. CBE East Village Learning Centre	
Need to accommodate for older gens as well - something like Genesis Centre	
Amenities focused on aging in place & health - also need to focus on children and providing child-focused amenities	
No housing stock for families, lots of housing that could support seniors - also unaffordable for families in larger condos	
Focus on young families in Beltline	
Demographics - who is the audience that we would like to appeal to the most? How do we focus strategies to certain areas i.e. create amenity for user group in mind - difficult to market to 18-70	
Need more/better access to schools	
Ice sheets for childrens sports programming (avoid travelling to suburbs)	
Japan - flexibility of use	



# Centre City Plan Refresh

What We Heard Report: 2019 June 26  
Place-making Workshop

Dead zone between 7th/8th Ave and Eau Claire, does that mean changing tax structure and incentives?
Office to residential conversion
About changing the perception that DT is unsafe - comes down to public amenities like rec centres - also maintenance and upkeep
Change in perception - DT is not just for work - stigma of rentals
Make it easier to live central but still see rest of the city on weekends (i.e. Car2Go membership)
Mobility safety to and from Riverwalk and other CC distinct amenities
"Calm" travel experience instead of navigating pedestrian-unfriendly areas
Viable and realistic
Generally supported.

Goal #2	Improve the public realm experience in all neighbourhoods of the Centre City
<b>Response</b>	
Lots of roads are overbuilt - 7 Ave & 9 Ave sketchy roads - road diet	
More people focused & less auto-focused - two-way roads	
Focus on areas where there is opportunity - ROW	
Increase street furniture	
Making greater connections/pathways to connect different areas and characters	
7 Ave experience between City Hall and Telus is terrible as a pedestrian	
15 + 14 Ave traffic calming pilots could be expanded to other areas	
1st thru Core	
2nd Ave and Barclay are "meh" but orange highlighted roads are better choices for pedestrian improvement	
Transit suggests a hub to intersect with Max and Green Line stations	
Open WiFi connection throughout Centre City? City is divided by WiFi providers (Telus/Shaw)	
Create database of rooftop patios/gardens/green spaces / places where people gather	
Connect people to places - people are not aware of events or spaces	
Engage the residents of DT	
Demographic stats (immigrants/age) - leverage data to make decisions - is DT home or just a landing spot?	
More activation along sidewalks	
Create character in different districts	
Art to keep you engaged	
Public or private spaces that are activated by businesses	
Context - diversity of street scapes - maybe don't need to replicate 17th Ave or Stephen Ave everywhere - what would make this happen?	
Foster character of each area, ex: East Village programming - character of hustle and bustle events all the time, 17th Ave for restaurants	
More programming for arts and culture	
Brookfield Place - can't get a table in the plaza - putting tables and chairs in parks and plazas to promote use	
Can only exist in specific spaces - self-activating spaces ex. Olympic Plaza	
Ensure increased articulation through the urban design review	
Are we achieving or maintaining the high level of public realm that exists in the Beltline through regulation?	
Temporary activation of places - unexpected programming	
Activation of empty ground floor units / Plus15s - identify appropriate spaces in DT for pop-up events/programming	



# Centre City Plan Refresh

What We Heard Report: 2019 June 26  
Place-making Workshop

Accessible-based projects / affordable-based projects
Make transit stations actual places to be desired
Invest more into Centre City public realm
Need funding
Lots of 'public facing' land, bonus plazas, that we have no control over. Makes it difficult to improve the experience of the 'public' realm in some areas.
Yes, but many public realm improvements are dependent of pending developments
How do we empower people to use the public realm?
Partnerships that we can pursue
Support existing events that use public spaces
Making things easier to use spaces - timeline of process for approval
Library card to book spaces - good example
Can we investigate more flexible use of our density bonusing system.
Need to pay attention to pedestrian networks and the general pedestrian environment. If the environments look like they're in disrepair, that's an issue.
Incentivize uses that are key to the area
Just maintain existing sidewalks, no need to focus on impressive walkways
Temporary pilots
External champions to push specific ideas
Getting rid of concrete jungle - starting in areas that have no green space, enabling new development and redevelopment to create new green space.
Requiring grass/green space to mitigate heat in the summer, ex: Brookfield Place too hot in middle of the day
Rec city
Connections to river are crucial
Green not always functional so stop trying to force them as such - cluster them to maximize impact - complete 13 Ave Greenway
Possible, but where do we start?

<b>Goal #3</b>	<b>Foster a distinctive sense of place and vibrancy in the Centre City through a network of destinations and connections</b>
<b>Response</b>	
Name and brand destinations (ex Downtown West) - seems they are more successful (ex. East Village, 17 Avenue)	
Create unique places - Chinatown through culture - success through connection to river	
'sense of place' is a good starting point. Eg. Flag poles in Chinatown. No sense of place in downtown west.	
Naming to create places (i.e. "Mewata West" instead of Downtown West)	
Important for distinct neighbourhoods to have their own identity	
Could we create new walkable destinations? University to help activate space by downtown campus? Be part of downtown west capitalize/be part of the draw to area	
Each neighbourhood should make its own set of amenities	
Downtown west – Shaw Millenium park is booked every weekend. So many people being interjected into the area, but no sense of place, to keep people coming back outside the event.	
Downtown West needs some placemaking, but everywhere else in the centre city has strong character. Let's not prioritize Eau Claire – already great. Prioritize investment in Downtown West.	
Bring back the old street names (primary, numbered streets shown as secondary)	
Yes, is there a prioritization of street typology	
Consistent streetscape plan strategy for all DT - connectivity plan (parks/open space + retail + plazas + corridors)	



# Centre City Plan Refresh

What We Heard Report: 2019 June 26  
Place-making Workshop

Scale and distance of amenities especially for those that walk
Transit can support mobility options - free fare zones / times / shuttles to connect areas (especially in winter) - tie shuttles to programming
Pull people out of Plus15s - shut down Plus 15 system
Better connectivity between cultural institutions
Bridge areas of vibrancy
Free fare zone one more stop outside Centre City to draw from neighbouring communities
Connecting location of arts & culture destinations with transit stops (i.e. make clear how to get there)
2 metre setback through the laneway so that people can use it to walk through.
Map sunny areas in Downtown - analyze use of those spaces - how could they be used/planned better?
Example - Winnipeg has outdoor festivals that bring in lots of arts and culture - use north-facing plazas for ice sculptures
Winter activity - need to find a way to activate spaces
Bring more fun into the environment
11 street in downtown west not a lot of storefront. Why can't you activate all sides of a building.
Challenged: do we need an active street everywhere? The tension between active and not active, can be interesting too.
Cater to pedestrians and make roads skinnier
Ban cars and bikes on Stephen Ave
Connectivity within the area
N-S Stephen Avenue
Who are key stakeholders that we can engage with and catalyze connections/character
Focus energy on more feasible projects - set them up for success
Be very intentional about capital projects
Increase in amenities proportionate to increase in population density
Liquor laws restrict nighttime vibrancy
Lots of rules and regulations for organizing events

## Activity 3

Area #1	Connections and Destinations
<b>Response</b>	
More communication to Calgarians about what is being offered - market destinations and events	
A day to promote all roof-top patios / a day to promote second-hand stores	
Overarching partnerships to cross-promote events - would one group overtake others? Would it become too political?	
City public service announcements - use that time to promote events / transit app instead of how to water a lawn	
Link communities together (intergenerational)	
Branding - doesn't have to revolve around built form - East Village is a marketing machine, lots of hype, has space away from cars	
Easing permitting for pop-up events in parking lots are easier	
Market the destinations/events	
Add more swim access to the rivers	
Wayfinding (for using transit/walking) - shops and plazas - identifying places/attractions/destinations downtown and across the city - branding of wayfinding	
Having the number of steps to place (fitbit users) - 10,000 step routes that send users near attractions / stores / busy areas - Google Maps takes most efficient route but maybe not safest or most interesting	
Have people draw mental maps, figure out how they orient themselves downtown. Use that to develop under-served areas	



# Centre City Plan Refresh

What We Heard Report: 2019 June 26  
Place-making Workshop

Put/promote interesting things between areas (ex between 17 Ave and Eau Claire or Contemporary Calgary and Olympic Plaza)
Wayfinding - where do I go / where do I find cool stuff?
Not enough of "you'll find out what to do when you get there" - are there enough interesting things happening downtown - how do we provide quality information about specific areas (ex arts/historic Calgary)
How do I know I've gotten to where I want to be?
1 St Station should be the "I got there" place - it's in the middle of everything but people feel uncomfortable at this station
What's missing? How do Calgarians feel at home vs comfortable downtown?
Pop-up events
Built form can help - need to overcome previous design of "come downtown and leave" to find and foster quality spaces
Start creating sense / legibility in the downtown
When we bring large amounts of people in for festivals / events, how do we draw them to other places in Downtown?
Create visual architecture for wayfinding (ex. Stephen Ave not far from armoury / Shaw Millenium Park but difficult to find if you don't know where to look)
Big, bold, branded wayfinding
Place-making - beautification of Stephen Ave Place (Scotia Place), emphasis on streetscape
Consumption of alcohol on Stephen Ave during Stampede
What are the destinations?
What characterizes areas of downtown?
Energize streets and create places on streets people want to hang out in (ex. Sien Lok Park feels like an after thought, doesn't have useable feel)
Making quality spaces over diluting to have many areas
Around Arts Commons - 9 Avenue lots of potential - landscaping at 9 Ave & 1 Street SE plaza - develop parking lots on 9 Ave
Great public realm existing on riverfront / 17 Ave all the way to Fort Calgary
Stampede area is valuable land bank for future growth - be prudent on where we place investment that drives investment / growth in our city over next 50 years
Make surface area public amenity
Eau Claire Market - rejuvenate the market, create a destination accessible from Green Line
Eau Claire Plaza / Prince's Island already distinct - could be increased with market destination
1 Street connection has most concentration of heritage buildings and interesting pedestrian realm
Redevelopment of Sien Lok Park?
Transit hubs
Missing nodes - confluence of different types of traffic (ex: area where two train lines meet)
Connecting north/south - enabling people to connect between experiences/areas (ex. arts) - making pedestrian experience more enjoyable
How do we branch out from train and uber to offer more modes of transportation?
Extend free fare zone to Kensington/Sunalta/Bridgeland/Victoria Park increase connectedness of downtown
Lots of vehicular ways to cross town but maybe more difficult for other modes
Improve cycling connections on east side and south of 13 Ave to make cyclists feel safer
Beltline street car - loop to transport people around Beltline / DT
8 Street and 1 ST - connecting to the river - strengthening N-S connections - DT is very E-W oriented
Creating shared street on 2 ST with redevelopment - draw people towards Eau Claire / Prince's Island / Chinatown
Since we are ripping up streets for Green Line, let that inform how we rebuild/shape streetscape
Use 4 ST SE to connect Rivers District using Green / Red lines





# Centre City Plan Refresh

What We Heard Report: 2019 June 26  
Place-making Workshop

Connection to Shaw Millenium Park / Contemp Calgary - extend 8 Ave
Maintain staging components for parades on predominantly used streets
Eliminated parking could be mitigated by transit access
Roads perceived as either "speedway" or "bog" - should be building streets rather than roads - prioritizing places over function
8 Street SW - make street more comfortable for pedestrians - 17 Ave & 8 St - most vibrant mix of uses, needs better connection to river - focus on 8 Street and 7 Avenue
Bus connections north/south - improve service levels
East/west connections are stronger downtown than the Beltline
Construction on 17 Avenue - patios more accessible - focused connections to particular parts of 17 Avenue because of construction makes it easier to access
Connection of residential towers to Plus15s
Balance pedestrian and vehicles but DO NOT prevent vehicles and parking as regional draws are critical
4 Street on-street patios should be encouraged (but stay away from corners so buses have clearance to turn)
Encourage patio like at Purple Perk (no permit!)
Pilot of RPP permits in Mission (visitors can park using Park Plus and BIA receives revenue) is very successful and should be encouraged elsewhere
1 Street SW should be the main pedestrian route connecting the rivers
3 Avenue SW should connect E-W
Broadway - 4 Street SW - Do them all!! Start w/ Main Streets
5/6 Avenue dedicated transit lanes
Rationalize, upgrade bus stops & wayfinding near transit hub
8 Street SW could use more residential
Vacant parking lots around 9 Avenue should be redeveloped into residential
More residential around Olympic Plaza

Area #2	Eau Claire and Chinatown
<b>Response</b>	
Connection to river	
Potable water in parks	
Pull people into DT off river	
Build off of edges (parks) - fingers of activity going into neighbourhoods	
Connection from river to 8 Avenue	
Need a key corridor with an active edge - something that takes people from north to south	
River floats and activities that connect	
N-S connection to Stephen Ave - importance of 1 Ave(?) to connect N-S - could be a shared street	
Make better N-S connections - use 4 Street	
Success along river path	
How to manage geese in Prince's Island - lagoon maintenance esp. for skating	
Major connections N-S along 3 St and 1 St W and E-W along 2 Ave	
Importance of wayfinding - signage - direction to different districts	
Looking to make it possible to drife around and find more interesting things	
Wayfinding and branding	
Pop-up along 2 Avenue	
Flexibility for placemaking around 2 Ave Green Line station	
Make public spaces more active - more uses in parks - commercial in and around parks	
Necklace and beads (of activity) along parks	
Narrow roads w/ activation - allow for pop-ups	



# Centre City Plan Refresh

What We Heard Report: 2019 June 26  
Place-making Workshop

2 Ave as a ped/activity/market street
Add outdoor amenities and activity outside YMCA
Convert surface parking to active uses - patios and activity - weekend items
Barrier to using/renting parking lots
3 Ave as the next Stephen Ave
Zip line from Rotary Park to Sien Lok Park
3 Ave connecting to 1 St as "authentic" Chinese street (aka hot pot, pool table, mahjong tournaments)
Activate giant parking lots along 2 Ave
Let BIAs control specific streets so as to activate them as they see fit. So many low-cost pilot opportunities!
Activation across office barrier
Temporary activation on vacant Eau Claire lots - Christmas market - Urban agriculture a la Vancouver
Zip line from Rotary Park to Sien Lok Park
Close streets for night markets / BIA autonomy
Too much shade in a lot of areas
Bonusing for public realm improvements
Maintenance (Chinatown)
Food and public amenity desert
Need for a destination
More commercial activity - restaurants
Develop market as an anchor
Need more interesting buildings
Neon lighting on larger streets in Chinatown
More residents needed in area
"Finish what we started"
Get rid of empty parking lots
Need to redevelop Eau Claire
More activation along 3 Street - but 3 Street also acts as a barrier - offices are blank
Build residential on top of existing curling rink
Grocery store needed
Incentivize specific lacking amenities (i.e. grocery store)
Affordable housing (non-market)
Need water features in Eau Claire Plaza and north edge of Prince's Island
B blocks - need incentives to proceed with plans
Ban surface parking in Chinatown
Could 2 Ave be rethought w Green Line tunnel? - redevelop around 2 St Station
Connectivity hub at 5 St and 2 Ave?
Connect Green Line into market (once redeveloped)
Change community boundary to 4 Ave from 5 to 8 Street
Connect Riverfront Ave to the west through Festival Market
Levy for non-infrastructure needs
James Short Park should be renamed as he was enemy of Chinese residents for years
Rename James Short Park to honour Chinese community

Area #3	Beltline and East Village
<b>Response</b>	
Green space and dog runs west of Macleod Trail - pop up space	
Use city land to provide open space	
Increase in park space	
13 Ave greenway continuation	



# Centre City Plan Refresh

What We Heard Report: 2019 June 26  
Place-making Workshop

Public open space in east Beltline
Dog park amenities
Continue 13 Ave Greenway
Extend 13 Ave green way to Sunalta - expand open space system
Cidex Hat site - open space challenges of vertical sprawl
Finish the greenway
14 Street dead zone - opportunity for activation - connection across at 15 Ave and 12/13 Ave to move people into community
1st - Build on that
Laneway walking connection - 16 Ave east
Do something with the 10 Ave parkade - activate the street & 10 Ave beside bars
Centre Street
E-W connectivity across Macleod Trail
11 St a great neighbourhood street
Do not harm the existing public realm
Quiet streets are disappearing
Maintain the quiet sections - nice to visit. Intensity on some streets but return to neighbourhood level
8 St and 1 St - connection all the way to the river
Increase connectivity of high density areas around Macleod Trail
Macleod Trail & 1 ST SE - improve streetscape
17 Ave edge interface on south with adjacent communities
14 Street feels like a dead zone, barren
Reinvigorate 14 Street SW
One-way avenues - streetscape improvements - road diets
11 St connection to the river
Connecting Decidedly Jazz Dance to the old YMCA
Shared N/S streets with pedestrians given wide road ROW
2 Street SW Green Line underpass could include pedestrian walkway or over-rail walkway conenction
Investigate one-ways on 14 + 15 Aves - planning to remain this way
2-waying 11 + 12 Ave or just slow the traffic
Existing cycling network needs to look permanent and beautiful
Opportunity to activate and integrate through the Devenish Building - connect new Mt Royal park with 17 Ave
Lane walk behind 17 Ave east of 8 Street
Potential to activate 10 Ave , parkades, vibrancy on street
Do no harm - projects should not diminish quality of life in the community (e.g. one way streets) from Sunalta to 1 Street changes nature of the street
Areas of quiet to areas of urban, active streets
Improve east-west connections between Beltline and Stampede at 14, 15, 17 Ave
Connect Vic Park with EV at 5 Street
Connect Beltline to Bow River north along 1 ST SW
Centre Street N-S connection through Beltline
11 and 12 Avenue - Does one way or two way make a difference, or is it design?
Do 14/15 Avenue stay one-ways? What's been different since they've changed?
Make the cycle tracks permanent and beautiful
15 Avenue - between 8 and 9 St - alley and park with better lighting
Safe connection from residential to downtown
Saddledome becomes water park! (West Ed Mall)
Close down 17 Avenue to vehicles one day per week
Close CP rail
Rotating Sunday street shutdowns



# Centre City Plan Refresh

What We Heard Report: 2019 June 26  
Place-making Workshop

Close 17 Ave 1 day per week
Water park (West Ed Mall) at Saddledome
Preservation of low-cost community groups
Successes - BUMP to more neighbourhoods
Standardize good practices throughout the area not just specific pockets
Is it part of the Centre City?
Preserve low-cost spaces near 1 ST & 12 Ave SW - connect organizations
Affordable grocery stores on the east end of Beltline
CPR tracks interface
Do we need more retail and development?
Stampede - entertainment or community first?

Area #4	Downtown West
<b>Response</b>	
Note: the community often includes 8 street in their area. Consider boundary adjustment.	
No character. Vertical sprawl.	
Rename as "Mewata"	
8 street is a good street to redefine as a connection from the beltline to the park. Also good to focus on west of 8th street as quieter, more residential.	
8th avenue is the declared parade route and has Stephen ave master plan coming. Good area to focus.	
10 street at louise bridge is a wonky area. Train tracks isolate downtown west from eau Claire.	
Park/river system is not easily accessible – create connection! Then start designing the streets that lead to the river, with that in mind.	
9th Street where ctrain is a barrier, cuts off the downtown west to the rest of the city.	
Upgrade of river pathway. Can't access water.	
Focus on assets (shaw, contemporary Calgary, river) to focus \$\$ on pedestrian connections.	
More connectivity to the river. Would be used by residents of beltline and other areas south, and would drive people through downtown west.	
Push back 4th and widen river pathway.	
11 Street in the original cc plan was referenced as green street – great opportunity. Should be enhanced.	
10,000 step pathways.	
Better sidewalks and streets that are not crumbling.	
Important connection 11th street to beltline.	
Road network is a challenge – not easy to go to the river...not easy to go to coop.	
Underpass on 11 Street. More people oriented commercial.	
4 Ave between 10 Street bridge and 11 Street is very unpleasant and could be serious pedestrian draw	
11 St Rail crossing should be under/overpass to improve connectivity	
8 Street main N-S connection	
10 Street and 11 Street connections across Bow Trail to river	
Improve walking & cycling linkages at Memorial & 14 Street	
Improve access to river on 11 Street north across Bow Trail	
Improve access to Beltline on 11 Street south across CPR tracks	
Dog park + wave park = cluster	
Community wants to activate the temporary park.	
Important to have public outdoor spaces	
No grocery or retail.	
Mewata armory – could it have greater public access.	
Temporary park to provide more park space for the community.	



# Centre City Plan Refresh

What We Heard Report: 2019 June 26  
Place-making Workshop

Grocery store needed.
Shaw millennium park does not have good access.
Connecting Kerby Centre to the rest of the community.
Green space doesn't serve community well.
Need green space for field sports. Return Mewata stadium to sports use.
Need kid spaces.
Smaller festival/event site.
Pop up activities
If you want to bring in more amenities for residents why not use tax tools like the US. Eg., not charge property tax. (done in Saskatoon)
Millennium Park as concert venue during X-Games
8th – cycle track is crammed in, not great realm there. Feels like a waste land.
No sense of place, just residential towers.
People need to feel safe in order to move to areas especially women, visible minorities etc.
Stephen ave is desolate.
Stephen ave in this area, mostly vacant.
Opportunity at kerby centre location. Could be potential redevelopment site.
Kerby station is an important centre to focus on. Opportunity.
Lots of parking lots – lots of undertutilized areas.
8th and 8th worst spots for public safety. Focus on this area between 7th and 8th. Create a whole new vibe
11 Street is huge opportunity. On west side has public space/greenery/major buildings. 1 street is pretty wide too.
Area outside contemporary Calgary is a really good place for public realm that can bring people into the train station and over to Stephen Ave.
Lacks amenities, foods, drinks.
Rumble house is a good concept for the neighbourhood. Could connect it up to ACAD to enhance the art narrative for the neighbourhood.
Cycle track is in rough shape on Stephen Ave.
Commercial spaces are large. Break them up?
Not a great place to hang out in bad weather, because no where to go in and weather a storm.
Doesn't go down there, because they feel unsafe.
Kerby Centre block to be acquired
8 Ave between 8 St and Mewata needs serious public realm work
Hostile 14 St at Millennium Park needs improvement
Traffic calming on 6 Avenue to separate local road from arterial
E-W connection along 7 Avenue or 8 Avenue
10 Street & 4 Avenue needs to be made human friendly
14 Street between river and CPR track is hostile environment
Bow River pathway an unpleasant experience along DT West
City should acquire & redevelop Kerby Centre
Reduce design speeds along 9 Avenue and 6 Avenue
8 Avenue needs maintenance

<b>Area #5</b>	<b>Downtown Commercial Core</b>
<b>Response</b>	
Safety! Mobility / women - perception hot-spots (user-generated info)	
Marketing / wayfinding / info on special places within downtown to the general public - leverage communication w/ real estate bodies	
Market Downtown - diffuse the perception of unsafe area after 5pm	



# Centre City Plan Refresh

What We Heard Report: 2019 June 26  
Place-making Workshop

Connectivity
CPR underpasses are unexpected gems of the CC (beautiful, part of history)
School bus hub to simplify how to get kids to school in the surrounding neighbourhoods
Plaza areas which are programmable sParks - shift in thinking on how we use public spaces (ie. Plazas in front of offices)
Activated CTrain stations / programming adjacent to stations
Activated Plus15 roof-top areas (easement areas)
Temporal art / market spaces & galleries
Improve public realm - shift to pedestrian
Expand/spread ped-oriented areas along Stephen Ave more to the west
"Shitty" public realm / ped experience along Centre Street (in Chinatown)
Make public parks actually public - shedding the perception of "private" design (improved edges, connections into these spaces)
"Cheap" activation of spaces (furniture, local art, playgrounds)
Adjacent places of interest with next-to-park spaces
How do we get better public realm to incentivize development in DT? Bonus density in key areas - prioritize public realm / landscape
CPR deck-top park planning for eventual vacancy
Ability to be flexible in activations and uses to animate
Allow simple wins from community-driven events
Temporary activation of spaces to entice people to area
More soft landscaping and storm water management
Critical mass of school-aged children/families to live in DT to accommodate inner-city schools
How do we keep people in DT?
Food/market spaces! More amenities
Beyond 5pm activation
Improve public realm through green spaces - dedicated green spaces for families / after-work uses
What are the drivers? What do young families want in DT (lifestyles, international trends/expectation)
Tracking where DT people live/work - what are their skills and jobs?
How can we make DT more attractive? Vs EV, Eau Claire, Beltline? Would it be viable to do this?
"Downtown by design"
Residential development follow more residential development so keep encouraging it
Remove parking requirements for Commercial Core new development
Small grocery, schools, recreation for kids (ice rink, soccer fields)
More connected culture, services, and daily uses
BBQ parks for families!
Density bonusing that supports affordable housing
Land use that does not give away density (FAR)
Affordable housing location criteria: access to transit, grocery, park/open space, schools, employment
Explore inclusionary housing to incentivize residential
Universal design public realm
Schools to attract families and to promote rethink of family ?
More community spaces in DT Core - can it be a multi-use space
Incentivize vacant spaces in DT offices - city-led pilot programs - community spaces, schools, incubators, affordable housing
Shift from corporate to residential uses in DT - how do we incentivize this?
Removal of political/process barriers
Leverage creative class into DT - reclaim DT office space into creative incubators