



Downtown | 8 Street S.W.

Key Statistics

\$10M

Invested to date in planning, design, completed underpass enhancements and public art

15 city blocks

Of premiere street frontage for mixed-use development

2013-2016

Master Plan, Design and Build 8 Street Underpass

2022-2024

Get shovel-ready with additional investment

2025-26

Ready to bid and construct in phases

\$2.4M

Current budget request to advance to shovel-ready in 2026

Transforming 8 Street S.W.

Connecting the Beltline, downtown commercial district and the Bow River with a high quality, amenity rich, mixed-use corridor.

Project Vision

The City's vision for 8 Street S.W. is to create a contemporary, pedestrian focused urban destination area with a distinct identity that connects people, parks and neighbourhoods supported by vibrant retail experiences, and a variety of transportation modes. This investment will accelerate private investment along the street and create a premiere north-south pedestrian route from 17 Avenue S.W. to the river.

Project Approach

A collaborative, multi-disciplinary urban design project team made recommendations for implementing upgrades based on a comprehensive master plan and three years of public and stakeholder engagement. This resulted in a collective vision and key principles captured in the master plan. Additional progress has been made through capital investments to transform the CPR underpass and additional design work south of 10 Avenue S.W.

Implementation Strategy

Initial capital investments should be prioritized north of the CPR line as a catalyst for attracting business and residents back downtown. Afterwards, improving the public realm from the CPR line to 17 Avenue S.W. will result in a complete corridor that realizes the original vision of the master plan.

Key Considerations

- Traffic calming and more space for walking and wheeling by "right-sizing" the vehicular roadway
- Addressing an urgent need to remove existing barriers to universal accessibility in the sidewalk
- Improved lighting, public furnishings and street trees — things citizens want the most
- Complement existing high-quality mixed-use buildings and attract additional development/private investment
- Utility relocations are required — minimize where possible to make sound investment decisions.

