

## Urban Design

### Highlights of Proposed Changes:

- Interim policies until urban design guidelines are prepared for various areas of the City of Cambridge
- The Planning Act was amended in 2006 to allow municipalities to address external building design relating to sustainable design, character and appearance
- Public Realm:
  - Sustainable design and enhance design quality for municipal projects
  - Increased connection to the Grand River & tributaries, e.g. trail system, pedestrian bridges
- Site Development and Buildings – Development will be compatible:
  - Massing and scale with existing streetscape
  - Appropriate transitions in height to adjacent buildings
- Buildings situated at or near the street edge
- Incorporate pedestrian elements: walkways, pedestrian scale lighting
- Parking:
  - Parking structures include active ground floor uses
  - Shared parking arrangements including access permitted
- Signage should complement streetscape and be part of architectural design
- Views and Vistas to landmark buildings, natural and cultural heritage elements should be protected
- Gateways – may be identified at entrances to community core areas
- Accessibility:
  - Development will be consistent with Provincial Accessibility legislation and regulations
  - Municipal facilities will be designed in keeping with approved Facility Accessibility Design Standard
- Safety: site development to incorporate the principles of Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design
- Sustainable Design:
  - Energy efficiency and sustainability encouraged in site, building and neighbourhood design
  - Green building technologies, e.g. LEED are encouraged
- Transit Oriented Development: within 500 metres of major transit station:
  - Compact urban form and mix of medium and high density uses
  - Safe pedestrian environment
  - High quality public realm

- Promote healthy and liveable communities through design:
  - Well connected streets to accommodate different modes
  - Safe, accessible, well-serviced neighbourhoods
  - Walkable neighbourhoods
- Public Art is encouraged and City's Arts and Culture Master Plan will be implemented
- Urban design guidelines may be developed for the City as a whole and/ or specific areas, e.g. Urban Growth Centre, Community Core areas
- Development proponents may be required to submit an urban design study and the City may retain a qualified professional or establish a design Peer Review Panel to provide independent professional advice on design matters

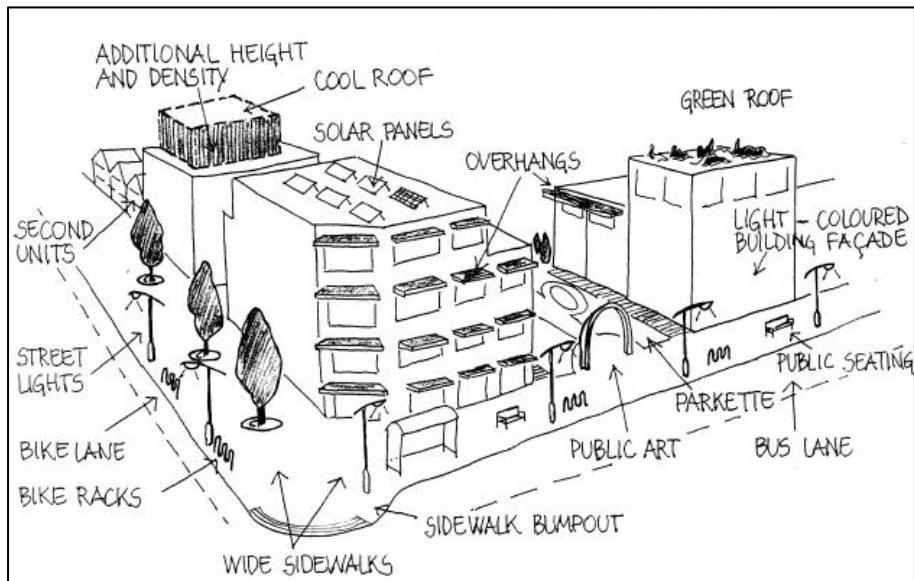


Image from Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing



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