

4TH STREET SW UNDERPASS ENHANCEMENT PROJECT

WHAT WE'VE HEARD FROM YOU.

The 4th Street SW Underpass Enhancement Project is predicated on hundreds of hours of dedicated public engagement, set forth in several landmark City of Calgary documents. True to this course, a significant element of 4UE continues to be the engagement of internal and external stakeholders to influence the Project as both a process and a product: identifying issues, finding collective solutions and influencing design opportunities.

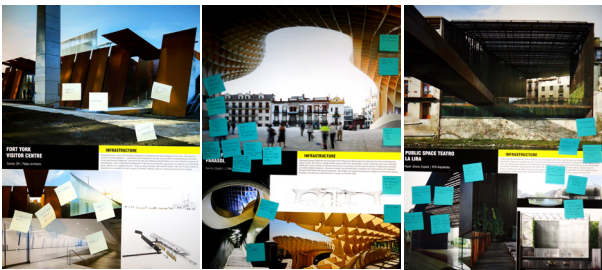
The Stakeholder Imagination Session, held on March 20, marked the first of four opportunities for interested stakeholders to actively participate the in design process. The following handout outlines the key messages we heard that day.

Sensibilities as identified by Stakeholders.



Public Art Space of discovery; landmark; unique character; dialogue between viewer & place; engage in genesis of place; socially inspired/challenging material; figure & ground; movement/time; infrastructure-as-art; surface-as-canvas; animation; light as medium; curation

Infrastructure



Scale; grandness; iconic; movement; rail line; context counterpoint; strata (air space); flexibility; perception/illusion; embedded public art; armature for program; non-utilitarian palette; materials-as-wayfinding; anti-graffiti; durability; sustainability; maintenance; safety; comfort

Gateway

Contrast between installation & environment to enhance reading; surprise; destination; multi-modal; an authentic history.

IDENTIFIED ISSUES

A site walk through conducted at the outset of the session was an opportunity for participants to identify personal preconceptions and new impressions of the site. Working within teams, participants were asked to discuss and document these observations. The result was a comprehensive and collaborative understanding of the existing site conditions, which distilled into 6 broad categories of issues:

1. Safety
2. Maintenance
3. Materiality
4. Sensory
5. Spatial/Functional
6. Potentials.

DESIGN SENSIBILITIES

Discussing world-class precedent projects, stakeholders were challenged in Part II of the session to define the underpass project's complex circumstances quickly and comprehensively. Critical conversations about public art, infrastructure and gateway supported the development of several design sensibilities. This insight provided a context of design excellence in which the next exercise, the GAP analysis, was completed.



Site issues as identified by Stakeholders.



Physical site model annotated with Stakeholder Action Items.

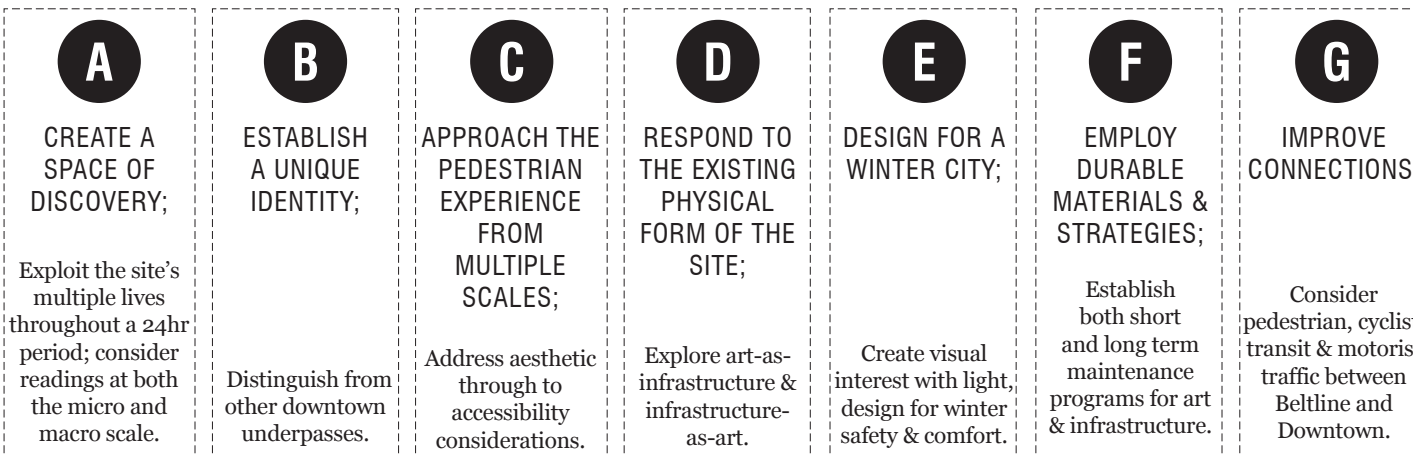
IDENTIFIED OPPORTUNITIES

Armed with both a robust understanding of the site and a familiarity with world-class design interventions, participants worked to develop a series of Action Items particularized to the project site. These Action Items bridged the existing performance of 4UE with the potential for excellence inspired in Part II.

Since the Imagination Session, the Design Team has synthesized these sixty-seven Action Items (diverse in scale, detail and complexity) into

seven conceptual Design Mandates: qualitative metrics by which the performance of the forthcoming conceptual designs will be evaluated.

In other words, the establishment of Design Mandates ensures that the evolution of the 4th Street SW Underpass Enhancement Project is consistently driven with the direct input provided by the project's stakeholders.



Seven Design Mandates



SAVE THE DATE

MAY 08

DESIGN CHARRETTE I

Presentation of and discussion around three design concepts.

MAY 12

PUBLIC FEEDBACK SESSION & ONLINE SURVEY

Finally, in anticipation of the next get-together, the following 'Teasers' highlight a few of the current topics within the 4UE design studio intended to provoke, invoke & evoke discussion.

See you on the 8th!

TEASERS

1. HOW DO WE UNDERSTAND TIME IN OUR EVERYDAY LIVES?

2. HOW DOES CALGARY'S LIGHTSCAPE ANIMATE OUR SENSE OF PLACE?

3. WHAT MAKES A PLACE DISTINCT? DOES IT INCLUDE A PARTICULAR CONNECTION TO OTHER PLACES?