Urban Design

Urban Design means different things to different people consequently, the term is often misunderstood and greatly misused. Urban design may loose some of it's ambivalance if considered as a process to accomodate a changing urban environment. This process which emphasizes design possibilities rather than design finalities, develops from consideration of long range needs and goals and the city's character. The ends (the built environment) develop from the means (the cities decision making process). The city regulates and approves development, suggests development scenarios, and various guidelines. Through this process the city identifies the development character of the city.

Purpose of Report

This report addresses many urban design issues affecting Grand City. This issues range from the neighborhood to regional scale. The report also illustrates possible criteria to address these issues.

The Urban Design process needs not be carried out at the expense of any particular group, economic sector or govermental agency it must be a joint effort with all sectors of the city involved. With this in mind the recommendations and strategies have been prepared in the spirit of promoting greater understanding of everyones roles in making Grand City a better place to life and in effect, to ensure that future decisions regarding the development

character of the city meet both resident and city officials'
expectations.

Development Criteria

A major component of an ongoing program to enhance the
city's form and character is the creation of development
criteria that can be used to assist residents and city
official's in critiquing development proposals. The
development industry can also use the criteria as an
indication of what is expected them when they engage in
activities which alter the form and character of the city.
Each proposed development must be compatible with the
community and neighborhood of which the development will be
a part. There can be no handbook for urban design rather,
the criteria must be tailored for each specific area of the
city. Future community and neighborhood plans will refine
these issues farther, and define the scope and applicability
of the criteria for a particular neighborhood or district.

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