



What is urban design?

1.0 What is Urban Design?

Urban design is the process of shaping the physical setting for life in cities, towns and villages and the art of *place making*. It is:

- About variety in architecture, the detailing on buildings, the colours, the landmarks, the views, the vistas and all the elements of the built environment that people relate to
- About areas for children and youth to play and open spaces as gathering places for people
- About streetscapes, including landscaping, lighting, signage and building setbacks
- About health and the quality of life
- About image
- About creating a “sense of place” that has character and its own identity – the “Oshawa” identity that signifies its unique culture, architecture, built form, parks and neighbourhoods. Oshawa must continue to be a great experience for those who live, work and play here and for those who come to visit



2.0 Purpose

The City of Oshawa established an Urban Design Awards Program in 2011 to acknowledge the significant contributions that architects, landscape architects, urban designers, planners, developers, builders, renovators and other individuals make to the appearance, livability and quality of life in our city. The City recognizes that urban design plays an important role in enhancing the image of a city. The City strives to implement sound urban design principles and a high quality built environment with a strong sense of community.

Projects selected as award winners will receive an “Award of Excellence”. The award winners may be eligible to participate in the National Urban Design Awards (Tier II) Program administered by the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada (RAIC), the Canadian Institute of Planners (CIP) and the Canadian Society of Landscape Architects (CSLA). Planning Services staff in the Department of Development Services will advise the eligible award winners of the deadlines and submission requirements for the National Urban Design Awards (Tier II) Program.



Building on our past

Planning for our future

3.0 Objectives

The objectives of the City's Urban Design Awards Program are:

- To increase public awareness of high quality urban design
- To enhance the city's quality of life and image by recognizing and promoting high quality urban design
- To recognize that high quality urban design contributes to creating an "Oshawa identity" which promotes the city as a great place to live, work and play
- To encourage and recognize locally responsive development and renovations that improve the quality of the city's built environment
- To inspire people to invest in high quality urban design projects

4.0 Jurors for the City of Oshawa Urban Design Awards

City Council has determined that the Jury for the Urban Design Awards will be:

- Mayor of the City of Oshawa
- Chair of the Development Services Committee
- Vice-Chair of the Development Services Committee

5.0 Urban Design Awards Program Process

- Submission deadline date for nominations for the 2022 Urban Design Awards will be Friday, April 29, 2022. Complete submissions must be submitted to Planning Services as per the submission requirements described on the nomination form found on the City's website, www.oshawa.ca/uda.
- A media release promoting the program, call for nominations and submission deadline will be advertised in the media and posted on the City's website.
- Following the submission deadline, the Jury will evaluate the nominated projects based on the criteria as established by City Council (see Section 7) and will determine the award winners.
- The Jury review process will be coordinated by Planning Services staff in the Department of Development Services.
- The Jury may visit the site of any project as part of its decision making process.
- A Jury Report will be prepared with a list and details of the winning projects.
- The winners will be notified.
- Winners will receive an "Award of Excellence". The award winners will be announced in June 2022. Winners will also be announced in a media release.



- The City's website will be updated following the award ceremony with the details on the award winners and the Jury Report posted to www.oshawa.ca/uda.
- The City of Oshawa will retain ownership of all submitted materials and may use them in exhibits, presentations or other communications, publications and promotions related to the Oshawa Urban Design Awards Program without cost. Submissions will not be returned.

6.0 Eligibility

- Anyone may nominate any project in the City that demonstrates excellence in urban design
- All projects must have been completed after March 14, 2018
- All submissions must conform to the submission requirements as described on the nomination form

7.0 Judging Criteria

To allow for flexibility in the nature and variety of nominated projects, there are no categories for nominated projects. The number of awards will be determined by the Jury.

The following criteria will be used to assess the nominated projects:

- Excellence in appreciation and expression of good urban design
- Excellence in positive contribution to the public realm/quality of place
- Excellence in appropriateness of built form, orientation, scale, building material and use within its context
- Excellence in successful integration with the surrounding land uses
- Excellence in creating a "sense of place" and a human scale relationship with the immediate context
- Excellence in positive contribution to infrastructure and energy efficiency
- Excellence in positive contribution to accessibility
- Excellence in overall design
- Excellence in conserving and enhancing existing site features and heritage features
- Excellence in landscape architecture
- Excellence in creativity, innovation and trend setting

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