



SUBJECT	UBC Advisory Urban Design Panel (AUDP) 2023-2024 Annual Report
SUBMITTED TO	Property Committee
MEETING DATE	November 21, 2024
SESSION CLASSIFICATION	Recommended session criteria from Board Meetings Policy: OPEN
REQUEST	For information only - No action requested
LEAD EXECUTIVE	Melanie Stewart, Vice-President External Relations
SUPPORTED BY	Michael White, Associate Vice-President Campus and Community Planning

PRIOR SUBMISSIONS

The subject matter of this submission is received annually by the Property Committee, most recently on: [November 21, 2023](#) – Property Committee (OPEN) Receive Annual Report for information

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Advisory Urban Design Panel (AUDP) mandate is outlined in the Terms of Reference adopted by the Board of Governors on July 18, 2002. The AUDP is an advisory body to the Board of Governors with respect to institutional projects on UBC’s Vancouver campus, and to the Development Permit Board for development in the residential neighbourhoods. The AUDP review covers a wide range of campus architectural and landscape design issues. This task includes reviewing a project’s relationship to campus buildings, open space, neighbourhood development and overall campus design in the context of the Board of Governors’ established policies, including the Vancouver Campus Plan, Land Use Plan and appropriate Neighbourhood Plans.

The AUDP is facilitated and supported by Campus and Community Planning staff. Design review for the UBC Okanagan campus is provided by staff from Okanagan Campus Planning and Development and Vancouver Campus and Community Planning.

BENEFITS

Between November 1, 2023 and October 31, 2024, the AUDP met six times. The panel provided design review and advice for the following proposals:

ACADEMIC LANDS

- Lower Mall Precinct (Place Vanier and St. John’s College Student Housing): a redevelopment master plan of an existing student housing precinct to provide additional first-year, upper-year, and graduate student housing along with amenities such as student commons and dining, outdoor social and recreation space, childcare, and landscaping that supports broader biodiversity and ecology objectives.
- Orchard Childcare: a small infill building at Orchard Commons that provides 25 new childcare spaces including interior play and support spaces and an exterior play area.
- Anthropology and Sociology (ANSO) Building Renewal: a Routine Capital Renewal project to address the existing building’s seismic vulnerability, envelope deficiency, deferred maintenance of the building systems, and to improve program delivery and accessibility inside and surrounding the building.
- Gateway North: a six-storey infill building that will house a medium-sized grocery, two floors for a Canada Foundation for Innovation supported Advanced Therapeutics Manufacturing Facility, and two floors to be leased to third party partners.

NEIGHBOURHOOD LANDS

- Lot 26, Westbrook Place: a revised site approach to address public feedback for the 16-storey market residential tower and lower-scale city homes. The development includes a range of housing units from studios to three-bedroom apartments, along with associated outdoor play and social space.
- BCR Lot 7, Westbrook Place: one 12-storey market rental tower and four six-storey staff and faculty rental buildings, including a new single-loaded exterior-circulation typology. A range of studios to three-bedroom apartments are provided and are supported by in-building amenities and a central courtyard space.

For each of these projects, the AUDP played a key role in assessing the merits of the proposals and identifying areas for improvement related to the physical development and design. The panel's experienced and qualified advice helped ensure the university's design, planning and sustainability policies were reflected in plans and projects approved for construction. Further, the panel helped ensure densification of the campus is matched with quality-built environments and landscapes that support the well-being of the campus community and campus ecology.

RISKS

With six of the eight AUDP members being from the development/design industry, it functions as a peer review on major capital projects. The panel therefore assists the university in reducing risk by providing advice on areas for improvement, balancing competing objectives and optimizing the quality of design within the fixed budget. The panel is an advisory panel to the university and therefore there is no associated financial risk.