

Meeting Notes

Meeting Subject / No.: Stakeholder Workshop #1 – External Stakeholders (afternoon session)

Date of Meeting: August 20, 2014 **Location:** Municipal Building, Floor 9, Pacific Ave (Mun09-G64-20)

Meeting Facilitator: O2 Planning + Design Inc.

Project Name: West Eau Claire Park + Public Realm Plan

Attendees:
Company/Organization

O2 Planning + Design
City of Calgary - Centre City
City of Calgary – Planning, Development and Assessment
City of Calgary – Customer Service & Communications
Bike Calgary
ECCA (Eau Claire Community Association)
Eau Claire YMCA

Topic		Notes
1	Contextual relationships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Question was asked: how many residential units are expected with new development? • Park needs to balance between regional and local requirements • 6th street gateway is vital as a connection to Eau Claire Mixed Use Redevelopment
2	Pedestrian and Cyclist Integration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Separation between “fast” and “slower” users. Cycling, rollerblading and running can all use one separated path while walking can use another • Work with cycle track pilot program to find detours or alternative during congestion in the promenade section of pathway • Promenade is narrow and heavily used by cyclists, pedestrians, runners and rollerbladers • Cannot only consider commuters but also public realm users
3	Cycling Strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wayfinding, gateways and connectivity are the major considerations • 7th street bikeway gateway has visibility and sightline issues • 7th street bikeway gateway has awkward 45 degree angle turn which is not safe • Connecting 6th Street gateway with future 5th Street cycle track will be a major cyclist desire line as 5th street leads to underpass

Topic		Notes
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The 5th Street cycle track will end between 3rd and 4th Avenue • 3rd Avenue is a natural bicycle boulevard (but not marked or signed) • Consider sightlines for cyclists • Use the existing pathway edges for separated bike lanes (already marked with different concrete colour) • Explore flexibility in bike lane standards on this site • Redefine gateways/connections (corner plazas similar to Eau Claire at 1st Street SW) • Create landing space at 7th Street and reinforce pathway launch to 8th Street • Pathway circling helipad • Dual/twin pathways to separate pedestrian and cyclists should be explored • Separate uses on the existing promenade as promenade is wide? • Potential to use back alley between 2nd and 3rd avenue as cycling connection?
	Park use and function	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • West Eau Claire Park is used extensively for runners (even in winter season) as it is plowed regularly • Running loops and connection between the Eau Claire and Kensington Running Rooms • Unofficial use by organizations (Bootcamps, daycamps, outdoor fitness, etc.) • YMCA runs day camps in the area and on Prince's Island Park • Commercial use in the park should be explored (kiosks, coffee, newsstand etc.) • Marathon users train on asphalt • Time of day uses needs to be considered • Outdoor fitness and physical activity (Fitness park in Canmore is a good example) • Peace Bridge is used as a destination/meeting point for many park users
	Precedents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bilbao Promenade by Calatrava
	Vision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • World-class public realm • Contemplative park space which rejuvenates users. Much needed as many activity zones adjacent to this park space (East Village, Eau Claire Market and Plaza and West Village) • A breath of fresh air in an urban landscape (refreshing) • Reflective atmosphere • Great green area. Importance of keeping it green as there isn't a lot of green in the area.
	Potential Diagrams Needed + Action Items	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Determine projected residential increase in the surrounding area to adeptly design for local park use • Determine relative seasonal events in the area such as running races, festivals, etc.

