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Introduction

Vision Statement

The guiding vision for the Town of Jackson is to create a vibrant urban village to improve the quality of life and physical environment for both residents and visitors alike. The emphasis is on encouraging development that is economically, socially and ecologically sustainable. This concept includes a variety of land uses in the Town where citizens live and work. Future development should consider the regional vernacular of the Intermountain West while inspiring innovative design and creativity that emphasizes a positive pedestrian experience. This will become a reality when the entire community - including government, the private sector, social service groups and special interest groups - agree to positively impact the Town through cooperation, collaboration and partnership.

Guidelines - Intent

The design guidelines were created to realize the Town’s vision statement.

The intent of the guidelines is to direct the physical development of the Town through building design and land planning.

These guidelines will act as a tool to coordinate various public and private development proposals and measure how they will further advance the Town’s vision.

The focus of these guidelines will be on the relationships between private and public spaces, composition, massing, street walls and building materials.
Introduction

The purpose of the following guidelines is not to attempt to solve the continuous debate over architectural style, but instead is an attempt to qualify fundamental design principles essential to creating a vibrant Town. The consensus of the public workshops and sentiment of the design group preparing these guidelines is that individual architectural style and approach should not be prescribed, but rather encouraged within the fundamental principles described in the following design guidelines.

Scope

The proposed design guidelines are presented as an aid to property owners, business leaders and designers who wish to make improvements to property in the Town. The design guidelines found here offer fundamental guidance that will help enhance the quality and strengthen the visual continuity in the Town. Their purpose is to stimulate creative design solutions for individual properties while promoting a sense of cohesiveness among the entire Town.
Town Design Guidelines.

Introduction

All development applications utilizing Division 4500. Nonresidential Standards of the Town’s Land Development Regulations shall be required to comply with the following guidelines.

Applicability

A Design Review Committee has been established to evaluate development applications and to advise and provide technical assistance to the Planning Director, Planning and Zoning Commission/Board of Adjustment and Town Council regarding compliance with these design guidelines. Procedures and requirements for establishment and conduct of the Committee have been set forth in Section 5070. Design Review Committee of the Town’s Land Development Regulations.
A. Public Space

Introduction

Public Space is a critical component in the future growth and development of the Town of Jackson. As the Town becomes a more densely built environment, there is a greater need for a symbiotic relationship between buildings and open space.

Public space should be usable and diverse in size and function, ranging from covered boardwalks to pocket parks. Development of these spaces should strive to enhance the experience of existing natural resources and complete a network of clear circulation links throughout town.

Effective public space will create a more diverse and enjoyable pedestrian experience throughout the Town, ultimately benefiting both residents and visitors.

Guidelines

1. Use

Public space shall be usable. Public space should be considered as a vital component of every development. It is important to treat the un-built portion of a site as designed, functioning space. Consider all appropriate uses for public space as it relates to:

A. Human scale - develop public space that is desirable and comfortable to inhabit. Use trees, canopies or other building elements to break the perceived height of adjacent façades to create a more human scale.

B. Relationships - public space should engage the interior of a building and relate to the adjacent building’s function and use.

C. Detail - details of lighting, signage, benches, paving, planting, canopies, etc. should relate to the overall function of the space.
Town Design Guidelines.

A. Public Space

Guidelines

2. Location

_Locating public space appropriately on site ensures that the space is comfortable and therefore functional._ When locating public space consider:

A. Seasonal adaptability - public space should be protected from full exposure to the sun, snow, wind and rain where possible. Orient public spaces to take advantage of daylight.

B. Transition - create habitable spaces that provide a transition between buildings and the adjacent streets and alleys.

C. Entry - Points of entry into a building should be clear and engaging to the pedestrian.

Guidelines

3. Connections

_Throughout the Town, public space shall act as a connector for the pedestrian experience whenever possible._

A. Consider how the proposed development connects with both the street and other development on the same block.

B. Consider how the proposed development makes connections with the overall Town open space and pathways systems and Cache and Flat Creeks.
A. Public Space

Guidelines

4. Scale & Variety

The proposed development should provide public space that is suitable to the scale and function of the development. The open space portion of the proposed development should be considered in the context of increasing the variety of sizes, types and locations of open space throughout the Town.

5. Screening

Screening - Whenever possible, use landscaping or architectural elements to buffer the pedestrian from automobiles, utilities, and parking lots.

Edges - Use trees, architectural walls, benches, etc. to create edges for public space. Clearly define the space without making it isolated or confined.

Criteria

· The project has demonstrated that the proposed public space is usable and desirable to inhabit.

· The project's developed public space will be engaging and in scale with the pedestrian.

· The design of the proposed public space(s) has integrated the following:
  - Orientation/day-lighting.
  - Screening the users from parking, utilities, and garbage facilities.
Town Design Guidelines.

B. Composition

Introduction

This guideline addresses the elemental design tools of composition, proportion, and rhythm. These are important tools for achieving a balance between unity and complexity in design.

Composition is defined as the organization of parts of a project to achieve a unified whole.

Proportion is the relation of one part to another or to the whole.

Rhythm is a vocabulary of regular and repetitive elements or the relative variation of such elements.

These tools may be used to overcome the limitations of architectural style to achieve buildings that are timeless visual assets to the downtown. Each tool can be applied to the materials, surfaces and massing of a building to provoke visual interest, indicate the building's use and create an appropriate human scale. Using these tools, the balance achieved in the design should connect the proposed development to its context.

Guidelines

1. Consider composition, proportion and rhythm of the materials, surfaces and massing of all building elevations to promote visual interest at the scale of both the automobile and the pedestrian.

2. Use composition, proportion and rhythm of the materials, surfaces and massing to create a sense of entry and a sense of place.

3. To the degree possible, utilize composition, proportion and rhythm to address adjacent buildings.

Criteria

The project has successfully applied the design elements of composition, proportion and rhythm in the proposed materials, surfaces and massing.
C. Massing

Introduction

A building’s mass is defined by its component parts, including the size of its footprint and number of stories. Building mass is also determined by building form, roof shape, and orientation.

A building’s form can be a simple rectangular box or a more complex combination of volumes.

Massing refers to the size of buildings and how they meet the street. Consequently, massing affects the experience of pedestrians. The way in which a particular building ‘meets the street’ can produce an exciting and vital experience for the person on the street: it is not overbearing, rather it is engaging and stimulating. To ensure this experience, building massing should address the relationship between the size of the proposed building and the scale of the pedestrian.

Appropriate massing will also create a gentle transition between adjacent zoning areas with no abrupt changes in height or mass of adjacent structures.

The Town of Jackson has a ‘sawtooth’ profile of building heights that is a product of the historic building pattern, especially along the Town Square. The gaps that exist in the historic sawtooth profile provide opportunities to insert new buildings which are compatible in both scale and material, yet are distinguishable from the historic vernacular. Reaching a balance between old and new is the goal of the Design Guidelines, requiring the retention of the sawtooth profile while encouraging compatible new buildings which respect Jackson’s urban fabric.
## C. Massing

### Guidelines

1. **Mass & Height:**
   *The architectural form of development should have a human-scale, pedestrian orientation; the height of buildings should not overwhelm people walking in the vicinity of the buildings, therefore;*

   A. Canopies should be utilized over sidewalks or property lines to give buildings a human scale. (This should work in concert with guideline 2, *Additive & Subtractive Massing,* )
Town Design Guidelines.

C. Massing

Guidelines

2. Additive and Subtractive Massing:
Both additive and subtractive massing approaches are encouraged to reduce the visual impact of large building masses. The additive massing approach increases the size of the building by linking smaller, compatible elements in a way that allows them to remain visible as separate pieces after they are put together. A simple building with additions is an example. The subtractive massing approach is to take a building as a large mass, and then reduce it by taking parts of it away, in a logical manner. This approach is especially useful when buildings are built on the property line.

A. Utilize both additive and subtractive massing including sky plane techniques to reduce the visual impact of building masses. Balconies that partially step into the building and partially cantilever out away from the building face achieve this.

B. Architectural features on the second story and above may protrude into the public right-of-way a maximum of 5-feet.
C. Massing

3. Volume complexity
Large building masses should be achieved by linking a series of smaller masses. The result should be a building which can be seen as a group of related structures, rather than one large element. In the case of a project which covers multiple adjacent lots, density can be achieved in a positive way if the buildings themselves are designed with a certain amount of volume complexity, to avoid a large, monolithic structure.

A. Avoid large monolithic buildings. Translate the building program into a building complex, whose exterior reflects the interior uses and functions. At higher densities, a single building can be treated as a building complex, if its important parts (e.g. entries) are picked out and made identifiable while still part of one three-dimensional fabric.

B. Projects that contain multiple lots shall pay close attention to breaking up the vertical facade into a pattern typical of single lot development.

4. Roofs
Jackson will be comprised of linked building elements of one, two, and three stories. The roof types will either be parapet, flat, sloping or barrel vault roofs. Flat and parapet roofs are particularly appropriate at the edges of the site because they avoid some of the serious engineering and safety problems associated with snow sliding onto the public right-of-way.

A. A project should ensure that roofs are designed so that no snow or rain is deposited onto adjacent public or private walking surfaces.

Criteria

The mass, height, volume complexity and arrangement of building components of the proposed development enhances the streetscape within the context of the Town, while creating a comfortable experience for the pedestrian and mitigating adverse effects on the adjoining properties.
Town Design Guidelines.

D. Street Wall

Introduction

Street walls result when buildings are constructed to or near the front and side property lines of a site. This pattern of development - typical of the properties surrounding the Town Square - creates a strong edge that defines the sidewalk and street. Avoiding breaks (e.g. parking lots and low-intensity development) will further enhance the character and strengthen the identity of the Town.

The goal of street walls in the Town district is to continue the connected network of comfortable and inviting pedestrian paths that form the transition between the street and adjacent buildings.

Guidelines

1. The project should generally be built to the property lines at the sides and along the street frontage.

2. There should be no voids in the street wall except for the circumstances described in these guidelines, below.

3. It is appropriate to open up the street wall for a portion of the frontage as necessary to create areas of public open space, identify entrances and make pedestrian connections.

4. At the corner, it is appropriate to step back the street wall to create comfortable pedestrian areas.

5. Vehicle entrances to underground or rear parking areas may be acceptable, but should be minimized to avoid conflicts with pedestrians.
D. Street Wall

Criteria

The project clearly defines the public space adjacent to the sidewalk and/or street.

The scale of the street wall appropriately addresses the pedestrian.

The proposed development minimizes voids in the street wall, and where voids exist, they serve to create a better pedestrian realm.
The Jackson building tradition may be said to be one of opportunity. Historically, material choices have been made based on the availability of materials. This has created a rich tradition of using building materials that reflect the region in which we live. New construction should seek a fit within this regional context.

Exterior materials function as the outer layer of the building envelope and may also serve a structural function. Issues such as weather protection, durability, and maintenance affect the functional aspect of visible exterior materials. These, in turn, affect the long-term performance of the building and its impact on the environment.

The objective of the Design Guidelines for materials is to allow flexibility in the choice and applications of exterior materials. Project approval will be based on how the proposal integrates with the surrounding local context. Innovation, creative design and new technologies can improve and enhance the immediate surroundings, while expanding the varied and authentic palette of building materials used in the Town of Jackson. A creative and rigorous approach to the selection and application of building materials will generate a more vibrant appearance to the Town and an inviting environment for pedestrians. This benefits Jackson’s building tradition and will strengthen the strong sense of place found in our downtown core and throughout the Town.

To achieve this, the guidelines intend to address the following:

Material selection should take into account the historical vernacular of the Town and surrounding area as well as the unique natural context of the valley.

Material application should take into account multiple views of the building.

Transparency, visual interest, and scale should be considered at the pedestrian/street level.

Durability and maintenance should be a consideration in material selection.
## E. Materials

<table>
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<th>Guidelines</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>1. Application of Materials</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>These guidelines strongly encourage applicants to consider the inherent nature of materials and their appropriate application.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

A. Application of materials is at least as important as the materials themselves. Lack of attention to how materials are used can lead to concerns, including, but not limited to, how a material or a surface begins and ends (termination), how a switch from one material to another occurs (transition), and viewing the building as a whole or from many angles (continuity).

Paying attention to which materials and their structural application are selected for vertical supporting elements (compressive), spanning over openings (tensile), or creating building planes such as walls (infilling) will lead to appropriate materials used in believable situations.

<table>
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<tr>
<td><strong>2. Materials Selection</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Applicants must consider the regional, local, and immediate context (including existing buildings) the natural environment, and the local culture when selecting exterior materials and components.</td>
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These guidelines strongly encourage designers to consider how the materials selected for a building will relate to the immediate surroundings.

To support the continued development of unique architecture, these guidelines do not specifically restrict the use of any materials. Review of proposed materials will consider the positive and negative impacts on the surrounding buildings, natural environment and culture. Proposed materials will be evaluated on this basis.
E. Materials

Criteria

The proposed materials are appropriate based on the surrounding context, both built and natural. The proposed materials will be durable and maintainable over time.

The material application of the proposed project has successfully addressed the following:

- Multiple views of the structure.
- How structural materials are represented.
- How major building walls and planes are treated.
Submission Requirements

Applications shall contain the information described below for the review of the project to determine compliance with the Town’s Design Guidelines, unless a waiver of said requirements (or portions thereof) is granted by the Planning Director for good cause shown. The Planning Director shall ensure that only pertinent information is required from the applicant, commensurate with the magnitude of the project.

Building Permit - Design Review

All applications shall include the following information to be reviewed by the Design Review Committee prior to submission of a building permit:

1. Drawings of all building elevations accurately showing the colors of the proposed structure, including adjacent context, and initial material types. Minimum 1/4 scale.

2. Material samples or reasonable, clear photographs or representations of all final material selections.

3. A concept statement that clearly describes the intended use(s) and architectural theme of the overall project and a detailed description of how each design guideline has been addressed by the proposed project.

4. A figure/ground diagram at an appropriate scale that illustrates all structures within a 1-block radius of the proposed project.

5. A transverse street cross-section that extends a half block in each direction of the project. The submission must include the entire block the project is situated on. For sections, line drawings or mass void sections are appropriate; please include scale figures and vehicles on all drawings. Minimum 1/8 scale.

6. A longitudinal street elevation that extends half a block in each direction of the project. The submission must include the entire block the project is situated on. For elevations, line drawings are appropriate; please include scale figures and vehicles on all drawings. Minimum 1/8 scale.

7. A site plan clearly indicating the location, detail (lighting, benches, signage), and size of public space(s).
Submission Requirements

8. A character sketch in elevation, axonometric, or perspective drawing, conveying the intended character of the major public space from a pedestrian perspective.

Sketch Plan - Design Review

All applications shall include the following for review by the Design Review committee as part of all Sketch Plan applications:

1. Drawings of all building elevations, including adjacent context, and initial material types. Minimum 1/4 scale.

2. A concept statement that clearly describes the intended use(s) and architectural theme of the overall project and a detailed description of how each design guideline has been addressed by the proposed project.

3. A figure/ground diagram at an appropriate scale that illustrates all structures within a 1-block radius of the proposed project.

4. A transverse street cross-section that extends a half block in each direction of the project. The submission must include the entire block the project is situated on. For sections, line drawings or mass void sections are appropriate; please include scale figures and vehicles on all drawings. Minimum 1/8 scale.

5. A longitudinal street elevation that extends half a block in each direction of the project. The submission must include the entire block the project is situated on. For elevations, line drawings are appropriate; please include scale figures and vehicles on all drawings. Minimum 1/8 scale.

6. A site plan clearly indicating the location, detail (lighting, benches, signage), and size of public space(s).

7. A character sketch in elevation, axonometric, or perspective drawing, conveying the intended character of the major public space from a pedestrian perspective.
Town Design Guidelines.

Submission Requirements

Final Development Plan - Design Review

All applications shall include the following for review by the Design Review committee as part of all Final Development Plan applications:

1. Drawings of all building elevations, including adjacent context, and initial material types. Minimum 1/4 scale.

2. A concept statement that clearly describes the intended use(s) and architectural theme of the overall project and a detailed description of how each design guideline has been addressed by the proposed project.

3. A figure/ground diagram at an appropriate scale that illustrates all structures within a 1-block radius of the proposed project.

4. A transverse street cross-section that extends a half block in each direction of the project. The submission must include the entire block the project is situated on. For sections, line drawings or mass void sections are appropriate; please include scale figures and vehicles on all drawings. Minimum 1/8 scale.

5. A longitudinal street elevation that extends half a block in each direction of the project. The submission must include the entire block the project is situated on. For elevations, line drawings are appropriate; please include scale figures and vehicles on all drawings. Minimum 1/8 scale.

6. A site plan clearly indicating the location, detail (lighting, benches, signage), and size of public space(s).

7. A character sketch in elevation, axonometric, or perspective drawing, conveying the intended character of the major public space from a pedestrian perspective.

8. A three-dimensional massing study using either a massing model (a scale of 1” = 20’ is appropriate) or drawings showing three-dimensional perspectives and/or sections and elevations. The study shall show the proposed development in the context of neighboring buildings and/or potential development allowed by the underlying zoning district. At a minimum, the study should show the immediately adjacent buildings preferably the entire block.
Design Review Criteria

Recommendations for Design Review or Final Development Plan shall be dependent upon criteria that the proposed project complies with the Town’s Design Guidelines established as part of these Land Development Regulations. The Staff, Design Review Committee, Planning and Zoning Commission and Town Council may also attach any conditions deemed appropriate, to ensure compliance with the following criteria:

Public Space

The project has demonstrated that the proposed public space is usable and desirable to inhabit.

The project's developed public space will be engaging and in scale with the pedestrian.

The design of the proposed public space(s) has integrated the following:
- Orientation/day-lighting.
- Screening the users from parking, utilities, and garbage facilities.

Composition

The project has successfully applied the design elements of composition, proportion and rhythm in the proposed materials, surfaces and massing.

Massing

The mass, height, volume complexity and arrangement of building components of the proposed development enhances the streetscape within the context of the Town, while creating a comfortable experience for the pedestrian and mitigating adverse effects on the adjoining properties.

Street Walls

The project clearly defines the public space adjacent to the sidewalk and/or street.

The scale of the street wall appropriately addresses the pedestrian.

The proposed development minimizes voids in the street wall, and where voids exist they serve to create a better pedestrian realm.
Town Design Guidelines.

Materials

The proposed materials are appropriate based on the surrounding context, both built and natural. The proposed materials will be durable and maintainable over time.

The material application of the proposed project has successfully addressed the following:

- Multiple views of the structure.
- How structural materials are represented.
- How major building walls and planes are treated.