

# 2017 Spokane Mayor's Urban Design Awards

## CALL FOR ENTRIES

2017 marks the 10-year anniversary of the Spokane Mayor's Urban Design Awards and another opportunity to celebrate people who are building the city of choice. These biennial awards highlight the importance of creative thought, technical proficiency, and the relationship of good urban design to our city's economic health and overall well-being. Mayor Condon will announce the awards; and award winners will receive a certificate of recognition and have their projects displayed on the city's website as well as on the third floor of City Hall.

## Qualifications to Enter

A goal of these awards is to highlight the best of Spokane's urban design projects that significantly improve Spokane's public realm. So, what is "urban design" and what is the "public realm"? There are various definitions, but for the purpose of these awards the following definitions are provided:

**Public Realm:** *The space to which the public has right of access and the setting for street life.*

**Urban Design:** *The thoughtful development of spaces that are the setting for street life and activities. It draws together the many components required for functionality, place-making, and sustainability to form places with distinct beauty and identity.*

Projects—large or small, public or private, permanent or temporary—are eligible for submission if they meet the following criteria:

- Within Spokane City Limits.
- Completed between January 1, 2012, and August 1, 2017 and has not been previously submitted.
- Contributes to the City of Spokane's quality of life and improves its public realm.
- Can be judged against some or all of the "Qualities of Good Urban Design", consistent with Comprehensive Plan objectives and "Smart Growth" principles.

## Submittal Categories

- Publicly Funded | Completed Projects
- Publicly Funded | Visions and Master Plans
- Privately Funded | Completed Projects
- Privately Funded | Visions and Master Plans

## Levels of Awards for Entries Submitted

- **Mayor's Choice Award:** Highest honor for overall urban design excellence.
- **Urban Design Merit Award:** Distinguished work in meeting specific criteria for good urban design.
- **People's Choice Award:** This category reflects the public's popular vote for a favorite project. Voting for this award will be collected over a 3-week period on the awards web page and in person at River Park Square.

## Special Acknowledgments

In addition to the awards for submitted projects, Spokane's Design Review Board (DRB) nominates projects for special recognition by the Mayor. The categories for these DRB Special Acknowledgments will be:

- **Creative Citizen(s):** A person or group whose work has enhanced Spokane's urban fabric
- **Heritage Project:** A design that has significantly contributed to Spokane's quality of life
- **Shrinking Lilac:** When it becomes apparent to the DRB that the designer/developer was too modest to submit excellent work

## Judging

The city's Design Review Board will provide recommendations to the Mayor who will make the final selections for the Mayor's Choice and Urban Design Merit Awards. The identities of applicants will be concealed until all judging is complete. Jurors will not review projects with which they've been involved.

Registration forms are available on the 3rd Floor of City Hall or on the awards web page.

<http://bit.ly/2pm6Ncu>

Application deadline is 12:00 noon, Tuesday August 1, 2017



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## QUALITIES OF GOOD URBAN DESIGN

### Jury Criteria

*Good design contributes generously to the public realm, and enhances the sense of community pride. Spokane Mayor's Urban Design Award entries will be judged by measuring the designer's performance against each project's potential and not in competition with each other. Thus, projects of less prestigious nature or modest budget can merit an award based on the designer's skill in optimizing the design opportunity.*

<b>Human Scale and Richness</b>	<i>A good urban place recognizes the complexity of people, appealing to their intellect, emotions, senses and spirit. Our experience of a place is enhanced by manipulating its features, such as using varied materials, creating differences in scale, and changes in light.</i>
<b>Safety</b>	<i>The physical arrangement of a place can greatly improve personal safety. Good design promotes safety through natural surveillance by providing appropriate lighting, pedestrian amenities, multiple uses, and ample visibility that reduce opportunities for crime against people and property.</i>
<b>Public and Private Space</b>	<i>A place with good urban design will utilize site elements to clearly delineate public, semi-public, and private spaces. Its design will consider the entire site to ensure its proper use and maintenance in the present and the future.</i>
<b>Flexibility and Adaptability</b>	<i>Good places provide a diverse set of experiences that allow users the flexibility to find their personal niche within the space. They also are able to adapt to accommodate a large range of uses, activities, and purposes over their lifetime.</i>
<b>Connectivity</b>	<i>Good places are designed first for pedestrians, next for bicycles and alternative modes of transportation, and then for cars. They should be designed for easy access by all modes of transport.</i>
<b>Accessibility</b>	<i>Good public places are accessible to all members of our community. They are designed with consideration for universal design principles and people of all ages and abilities.</i>
<b>Place-making</b>	<i>The result of good design is a strong sense of 'Place' that nurtures people's health, happiness, and sense of well-being by connecting to a deeper sense of meaning. Successful spaces become 'Places' when people activate them, attach meaning, and take ownership.</i>
<b>Comprehensible</b>	<i>Good design allows people to orient themselves quickly within a space. It provides points of reference; allowing people to construct a clear mental map and understand how to use the space.</i>
<b>Contextual Fit</b>	<i>A good design is sensitive to its setting whether natural or built. It is connected to its surroundings, utilizes local materials, builds upon our regional identity, and improves the quality of the surrounding environment.</i>
<b>Environmental Sensitivity</b>	<i>A good place result from sustainable site planning, the wise use of natural resources, and responsible construction techniques that reduce site impacts and pollution. It creates a balance between built and natural systems that define Spokane's quality of life.</i>

# 2017 Spokane Mayor's Urban Design Awards **REGISTRATION FORM**

**Project Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address or Location:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Owner or Developer:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Design Team :**

(Individuals and firms who should be given credit -- this may include consultants, contractors, photographers, etc.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Category of Submission:** \_\_\_\_\_

Is the project funded with public or private dollars?  Public  Private  Both

Is the project Completed or Vision and Master Plan?  Completed Project  Vision and Master Plan

**Release of Materials:**

The materials presented with this entry are cleared for exhibition and publication. I have acquired all necessary copyright releases and/or licenses from all parties associated with this project and accept responsibility for any claims they may make related to this submission.

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Payment Method (Choose one):**

Entry Fee \$75 is enclosed (Check No. \_\_\_\_\_)

Please make checks payable to: "City of Spokane - Mayor's Design Awards"

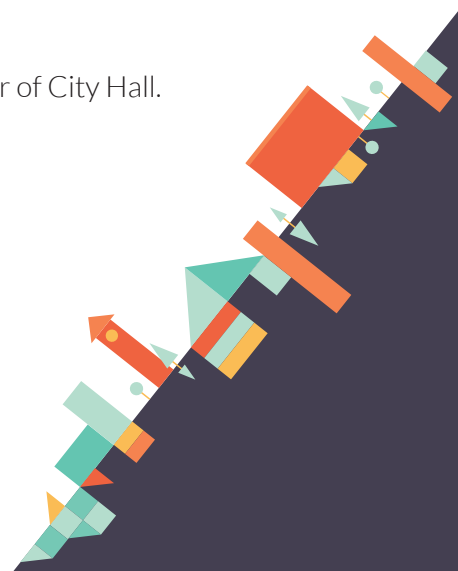
Receipt from permit counter enclosed

You may pay with cash or credit card at the permit counter located on the 3rd floor of City Hall.

**Send: Registration Form, Submittals, and \$75 Entry Fee to:**

Spokane Design Review Board  
c/o Omar Akkari, Urban Designer  
Planning & Development Department, 3rd Floor, City Hall  
808 West Spokane Falls Boulevard Spokane, WA 99201

**Note:** Please attach additional (typed) sheets as necessary.  
Submittal information and entry fee will not be returned.



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## SUBMITTAL REQUIREMENTS

### 1. Three Ring Binder for 8.5" x 11" pages including (in order):

**Registration Form** Please do not include identifying information (any information indicating the submitting party or design team) except on the registration form, as it will disqualify your application!

**Project Description** (Maximum of 650 words, 12 point font) Please include:

- Location (address, city/county, state)
- Completion date
- Purpose for the project and how it contributes to the quality of the neighborhood it is in.
- Describe how the project addresses the applicable "Qualities of Good Urban Design". Please describe those qualities which your project strongly represents. The project does not have to express all of the listed qualities to be award worthy.

**Photographs** to describe the project (minimum of three), including at least one that shows the project within its context. All other photos shall focus on those aspects of the project within the public realm.

**Site plans, sections, and/or elevations** as necessary to describe the project and how it relates to its surroundings. These items may be either 8.5" x 11" or 11" x 17" pages that fold out from the 8.5" x 11" binder. Please include graphic scale and north arrow.

**CD** with all of the above materials included. Format: The project description shall be a PDF or Word format, images shall be .jpeg format at approximately 1920 pixel wide x 1200 pixel tall. All provided images must be cleared for use in promotional publications including the city's website, social media, and various other media outlets.

### 2. Presentation Board for Public Display at River Park Square

**Provide a 20" x 20" presentation board as follows:**

- Use 3/16" black foam core or gator board - blacken all edges.
- Include 1/2" margins on all sides.
- Images and text may be configured at the applicant's discretion. The board should clearly communicate the project design and how it contributes to Spokane's quality of life. Please consider readability while selecting text size; people will be viewing your project from five to six feet away.
- Include a 5"x 5" title block on the lower right hand corner indicating the project name, developer and design team.

*Please do not include identifying information outside of the title block, as it will disqualify your application!*

#### **For more information contact:**

Omar Akkari, PLA | Urban Designer  
P: 509-625-6146 | E: oakkari@spokanecity.org  
Visit the awards web page: <http://bit.ly/2pm6Ncu>

