# Bethesda Downtown Design Advisory Panel (DAP) <br> Submission Form (revised March 2020) <br> PROJECT INFORMATION 

| Project Name | NOVEL Bethesda |
| :--- | :--- |
| File Number(s) | N/A |
| Project Address | 7820 Wisconsin/7810 Wisconsin/7800 Wisconsin/7815 Woodmont |

Plan Type $\quad \square$ Concept Plan $\quad \square$ Sketch Plan $\quad \square$ Site Plan $\quad \square$ Consultation w/o Plan

## APPLICANT TEAM

|  | Name | Phone | Email |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :---: |
| Primary Contact | Barbara Sears, Miles \& Stockbridge, PC | 301-517-4812 | bsears@MilesStockbridge.com |
| Architect | Michael Goodwin, Design Collective, Inc. 410-685-6655, mgoodwin@designcollective.com |  |  |
| Landscape Architect | Brian Reetz, Design Collective, Inc. 410-685-6655, breetz@designcollective.com |  |  |

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

|  | Zone | Proposed <br> Height | Proposed Density <br> (SF/FAR) | Requested BOZ Density <br> (SF/FAR) | MPDU \% |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Project Data | CR-3, C-3, R-2.75, H-290, H-225 | 314 | 526 Kst Residentia/14.5kst Retail/10.76 | 407706 Res/3746 Retail/7.76 | $25 \%$ |
| Proposed Land Uses | Residential, Retail, Parking |  |  |  |  |

## DESIGN ADVISORY PANEL SUBMISSION PROCESS \& REQUIREMENTS

1. Schedule a Design Advisory Panel review date with the Design Advisory Panel Liaison.
2. At least two weeks prior to the scheduled Panel meeting, provide via email to the Design Advisory Panel Liaison the completed Submission Form and required drawings in PDF format. Incomplete applications will be returned for revision. Applications deemed incomplete by the Liaison may result in the loss of the scheduled meeting date if not returned complete within the above time frame.
3. Concept Plan and Sketch Plan applications must include the following, at a minimum:

- Property location plan showing three-block context radius
- Illustrative site plan showing two-block context radius
- Perspective images of all building faces from a 3-D model that show the proposal in the built context, as well as with nearby buildings approved by the Planning Board. (Bring the 3-D model to the Panel review.)
- 3-D building massing diagrams illustrating:
- both strict conformance with the design guidelines and the proposed design, indicating wherethe proposal does not conform and how the alternative treatments meet the intent of the guidelines
- the maximum standard method of development density on site
- the maximum mapped density on site
- Precedent images showing scale, architectural character, materiality, etc. (Concept \& Sketch Plans only).

Except as noted, Site Plan applications must include all of the above, as well as, at a minimum:

- Floor plans for parking level(s), ground floor, typical floor, roof, and unique conditions
- Building/site sections showing full adjacent street sections with opposite building face
- Elevations for each façade
- Key perspective views expressing character of the building elevations and streetscape.


## DESIGN GUIDELINES CONFORMANCE

The primary goal of the DAP is to provide advice and recommendations that will heighten design excellence and improve the quality of architecture, urban design, and landscape architecture in Downtown Bethesda. Simple compliance with the numerical standards in the Design Guidelines does not in itself achieve Design Excellence.

## STREET TYPE(S): <br> Urban Boulevard (Wisconsin Ave)

|  | Recommended | Provided | Alternative Compliance? |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Sidewalk Zone |  |  |  |
| Planting/Furnishing Zone | $6^{\prime}-10^{\prime}$ | TBD |  |
| Pedestrian Though Zone | $10^{\prime}-20^{\prime}$ | TBD |  |
| Frontage Zone | $0^{\prime}-10^{\prime}$ | TBD |  |
| Building Placement |  |  |  |
| Build-to Line (from street curb) |  |  |  |
| Building Form |  |  |  |
| Base Height | $35^{\prime}$ from street curb | $30^{\prime}$ |  |
| Step-Back | $10^{\prime}-10^{\prime}$ | $36^{\prime}-6 "$ |  |

## DOES THE PROJECT INCLUDE A THROUGH-BLOCK CONNECTION OR TRAIL? $\square$ Yes $\square$ No

- If yes, please provide sectional diagrams demonstrating conformance with Section 2.1.9 of the Guidelines

DOES THE PROJECT INCLUDE A SECTOR-PLAN RECOMMENDED PARK OR OPEN SPACE? $\square$ Yes $\square$ No

- If yes, please provide diagrams demonstrating conformance with Section 2.2 of the Guidelines


## BUILDING FORM

|  | Recommended | Provided | Alternative Compliance? |
| :--- | :---: | :--- | :--- |
| Tower | 45-60' | NA |  |
| Separation Distance | Per Street Type | $10^{\prime}$ setback at levels 4 and 5,5 'setback levels $6-23$ |  |
| Step-Back | Limit tower floor plate, vary tower height, modulate and articulate facade, limit apparent face |  |  |
| Bulk Reduction Methods |  |  |  |

## IS THE PROJECT LOCATED IN A DISTRCT IDENTIFIED IN CHAPTER 3 OF THE DESIGN GUIDELINES?

$\square$ Yes $\square$ No

- If yes, please provide diagrams demonstrating conformance with the District-Specific Guidelines


## EXCEPTIONAL DESIGN POINTS REQUESTED (MIN: 10, MAX: 30): 10

- 10 Points: Generally consistent with the Design Guidelines and meets four of the CR Guideline Criteria
- 20 Points: Superlative design that in a uniquely compelling way meets the Design Guidelines or overcomes a significant site or similar constraint; a top example of design within Montgomery County
- 30 Points: Singular design that exemplifies the highest intent of the Design Guidelines and may be considered a top example of design within the Mid-Atlantic region


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## STREET TYPE(S): <br> Downtown Mixed-Use Street ( Fairmont Ave)

|  | Recommended | Provided | Alternative Compliance? |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Sidewalk Zone |  |  |  |
| Planting/Furnishing Zone | 5'-8' | TBD |  |
| Pedestrian Though Zone | 8'-12' | TBD |  |
| Frontage Zone | 0'-7' | TBD |  |
| Building Placement |  |  |  |
| Build-to Line (from street curb) | 15'-20' from street curb | 17'-0" |  |
| Building Form |  |  |  |
| Base Height | 35'-70' | 57' |  |
| Step-Back | 10'-15' | 10' |  |

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DOES THE PROJECT INCLUDE A SECTOR-PLAN RECOMMENDED PARK OR OPEN SPACE? $\square$ Yes $\square$ No

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## BUILDING FORM

|  | Recommended | Provided | Alternative Compliance? |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Tower | 45-60' | NA |  |
| Separation Distance | Per Street Type | $10^{\prime}$ setback at levels $6,7,30$ and 31 | yes, levels 8-29 exten |
| Step-Back | Limit tower floor plate, vary tower height, modulate and articulate facade, limit apparent face |  |  |
| Bulk Reduction Methods |  |  |  |

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## EXCEPTIONAL DESIGN POINTS REQUESTED (MIN: 10, MAX: 30): 10

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## STREET TYPE(S): <br> Downtown Mixed-Use Street ( Woodmont Ave)

|  | Recommended | Provided | Alternative Compliance? |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :---: |
| Sidewalk Zone |  |  |  |  |
| Planting/Furnishing Zone | $5^{\prime}-8^{\prime}$ | TBD |  |  |
| Pedestrian Though Zone | $8^{\prime}-12^{\prime}$ | TBD |  |  |
| Frontage Zone | $0^{\prime}-7^{\prime}$ | TBD |  |  |
| Building Placement |  |  |  |  |
| Build-to Line (from street curb) | $10^{\prime}-20^{\prime}$ from street curb | $16^{\prime}$ |  |  |
| Building Form |  |  |  |  |
| Base Height | $35^{\prime}-70^{\prime}$ | 57 |  |  |
| Step-Back | $10^{\prime}-15^{\prime}$ | $1^{\prime}$ | minimal frontage on cc |  |

## DOES THE PROJECT INCLUDE A THROUGH-BLOCK CONNECTION OR TRAIL?

- If yes, please provide sectional diagrams demonstrating conformance with Section 2.1.9 of the Guidelines DOES THE PROJECT INCLUDE A SECTOR-PLAN RECOMMENDED PARK OR OPEN SPACE? $\square$ Yes $\square$ No
- If yes, please provide diagrams demonstrating conformance with Section 2.2 of the Guidelines


## BUILDING FORM

|  | Recommended | Provided | Alternative Compliance? |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Tower |  |  |  |
| Separation Distance | 45-60' |  | constrained site footpr |
| Step-Back | Per Street Type | 2' | minimal frontage on cc |
| Bulk Reduction Methods | Limit tower floor plate, vary tower height, modulate and articulate facade, limit apparent fac |  |  |

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## Shared Street (Norfolk Ave)

|  | Recommended | Provided | Alternative Compliance? |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :---: |
| Sidewalk Zone |  |  |  |  |
| Planting/Furnishing Zone | flexible | TBD |  |  |
| Pedestrian Though Zone | $6^{\prime}-10^{\prime}$ | TBD |  |  |
| Frontage Zone | NA | TBD | providing setback for r |  |
| Building Placement |  |  |  |  |
| Build-to Line (from street curb) | Sector plan recommended right of way | $42^{\prime}$ |  |  |
| Building Form |  |  |  |  |
| Base Height | $25^{\prime}-50^{\prime}$ | $36^{\prime}-6 "$ |  |  |
| Step-Back | $15^{\prime}-20^{\prime}$ | $20^{\prime}$ |  |  |

## DOES THE PROJECT INCLUDE A THROUGH-BLOCK CONNECTION OR TRAIL? $\square$ Yes $\square$ No

- If yes, please provide sectional diagrams demonstrating conformance with Section 2.1.9 of the Guidelines DOES THE PROJECT INCLUDE A SECTOR-PLAN RECOMMENDED PARK OR OPEN SPACE? $\square$ Yes $\square$ No
- If yes, please provide diagrams demonstrating conformance with Section 2.2 of the Guidelines


## BUILDING FORM

|  | Recommended | Provided | Alternative Compliance? |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Tower | $45-60^{\prime}$ | $34^{\prime}-6 "$ from adjacent property line |  |
| Separation Distance | Per Street Type | see diagrams provided |  |
| Step-Back | Limit tower floor plate, vary tower height, modulate and articulate facade, limit apparent fac |  |  |
| Bulk Reduction Methods |  |  |  |

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## NOVEL BETHESDA





## RECALLING BETHESDA'S HERITAGE

- BEGAN AS A NATIVE AMERICAN RIDGELINE TRAIL BETWEEN ADJACENT RIVERS
- BECAME SETTLERS RIDGE-LINE TRADE ROUTE CONNECTING COMMUNITIES TO PORT OF GEORGETOWN
- VISION - RECALL BETHESDA'S LINEAGE AS A NODE OF ENERGY AND VIBRANCY CASCADING DOWN TO THE SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES IT WAS BUILT UPON



## RECALLING BETHESDA'S HERITAGE

- THE CONCEPTUAL APPROACH WILL MANIFEST THIS METAPHORIC VISION INTO THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT WHILE SIMULTANEOUSLY EMBODYING THE TENETS OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND BIOPHILIC DESIGN.
- CAPITALIZE ON THE OPPORTUNITY TO HARNESS THE ENERGY OF THE BUILDING'S HEIGHT AND DRAW THAT DOWN TO THE URBAN REALM, LETTING IT SPILL ACROSS THE STREETSCAPE CREATING AN ENERGIZED COMMUNITY NODE THAT IS RESPONSIVE TO AND REFLECTIVE OF A NATURAL LANDSCAPE



### 2.8 8 Tower. "Menu" of Methods to Reduce Bulk

Intent: Downtown Bethesda is an important location in Montgomery County for increased building heights to accommodate future growth. However, collectively, buildings at taller heights can be an imposing presence on the public realm by casting large shadows, limiting sky views and creating an uncomfortable scale for pedestrians.

B. Use Unique Geometry

Varied geometry adds visual interest and helps to reduce the perceived bulk of a building's upper floors. Angled and curved facades allow a building to be viewed dynamically from different vantage points. They can enhance privacy between towers in close proximity by directing views away from nearby windows.

c. Vary Tower Heights

Whether creating a large
development with several towers, $r$ an infill development between multiple existing towers, variation in building height can reduce the mposing massing of several large structures built adjacent to each other.

There are several ways to reduce the actual bulk of a building's upper floors or to creatively reduce the perceived bulk of the building. Below is a menu of design techniques that can be used to sculpt building towers and achieve a varied skyline responsive to human scale. Every project is not required to apply every method; however, several should be used in combination to best meet the guideline intent.

## D. Modulate and Articulate

 FacadesTechniques to break up large facades and reduce perceived building bulk include shifts in massing to allow for upper floor terraces, green roofs and balconies; changes in facade planes; and varied fins, frames and mullions to add depth to glass facades.

E. Vary Tower Placement and

Orientation
Similar to variation in tower height, variation in tower placement and rientation can increase perceived eparation between towers, reduc he perceived imposing massing of several adjacent towers and hcrease privacy by orienting views in different directions.


## F. Limit Apparent Face

The apparent face is the length of facade plane that is unbroken by facade plane that is unbroken by ertical changes in depth. Limiting this length reduces the perceived bulk of a long building facade


Design
Collective










DIAGRAM: BUILDING PERFORMANCE INTEGRATION
(CRESCENT Design $\begin{aligned} & \text { Collective }\end{aligned}$



LOOKING NORTHWEST ACROSS WISCONSIN AVE
CRESCENT Design
Collective


## ARTICULATION DIAGRAM

Design
Collective



## ARTICULATION DIAGRAM

Design
Collective



## ARTICULATION DIAGRAM

CRESCENT Design


Design
Collective


## ARTICULATION DIAGRAM




### 2.4.6 Tower: Separation Distance

Intent: To allow access to light and air, limit the impact of shadows on the public realm and reduce the extent of large blank walls as new buildings develop at or near the property line

## Guidelines:

A. Separate tower floors at least 45 to 60 feet (22.5 to 30 feet from the side and rear property lines).
B. Provide a continuous building base along the lower floors
C. Avoid building towers to the property line creating expansive blank party walls that are mposing on the pedestrian environment.

## Alternative Treatments:

Buildings below 120 feet or with limited property size/width/depth may reduce tower separation or consider party walls. If party walls are necessary, mitigate their visual impact with elements such as public art, lighting, texture and/or patterning that provide visual interest and are appropriate to the context and architecture of the building.
Where existing neighboring building towers are built to or close to the property line, new development should aim to achieve the total tower separation where possible. However, at a minimum, the new building tower levess sold Guideline 2.46 A from the side and rear prop ines, except where building to the lot line could etter address an existing blank wall condition.

Varied geometry in a building's upper floors, and facade modulation between buildings can also be used as methods to increase the perception of tower separation and allow access to light and air


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Downtown Mixed-Use Streets typically accommodate high levels of pedestrian activity with frequent parking turnover, as well as loading and service access needs for local businesses and multi-unit residential buildings. These streets are predominantly lined by mid- to high-rise buildings with a mix of commercial and residential uses. Examples of Downtown Mixed-Use Streets include Woodmont Avenue and most streets in the Downtown Bethesda core and Woodmont Triangle District.

ntent: Building and sidewalk design long Downtown Mixed-Use Streets hould create a vibrant environment that accommodates the diverse need f businesses, residents and visitors. idewalks should balance ease of alkability for continuous pedestrian flow with space for outdoor uses.

Table 2.02: Downtown Mixed-Use Street Sidewalk Zone
A. Planting/Furnishing Zone: 5-8f

Pedestrian Through Zone: 8-12f
Frontage Zone*. 0 - 7 f

## Building Placemen

D. Build-to Line: 15-20 ft. from street curb

## Building Form

Base Height: 3-6 stories (35-70 ft.)
F. Step-back: $10-15 \mathrm{ft}$.**
ernative Treatments
On this street type, buildings under 120 ft. may consider alternative methods to reduce tower bulk other than step-backs. These are outlined in Section .


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PLAZA AT CORNER OF WISCONSIN AND NORFOLK AVE


PRECEDENT FACADE MATERIALS - BASE



CRESCENT Design
Collective


FACADE PRECEDENT - LOWER LEVELS


CRESCENT Design
Collective


FACADE PRECEDENT - MIDDLE LEVELS


CRESCENT Design


FACADE PRECEDENT - TOP LEVELS

(CRESCENT Design

Collective





(.). Grarage Level 1


CRESCENT Design COMMUNITES Collective


CRESCENT Design ComMUNities Collective


CRESCENT Design
COMMUNTIES Collective


CRESCENT Design
$\underset{\text { CREMUNTIES }}{\text { CREAS }}$ Collective


(-.) North Elevation

(2.6s) East Elevation

(1) South Elevation

(80) West Elevation


