# State of the City Report - March 15, 2023

The Portland Design Commission



#### Brian McCarter, Current Chair Retired principal urban designer/ landscape architect ZGF Architects



Chandra Robinson, Vice Chair Principal Architect Lever Architecture



Zari Santner Retired landscape architect, Former director PPR, Member RACC



Sam Rodriguez, Past -Chair Architect, VP Millcreek Development



Jessica Molinar Architect, Senior designer BRIC Architecture

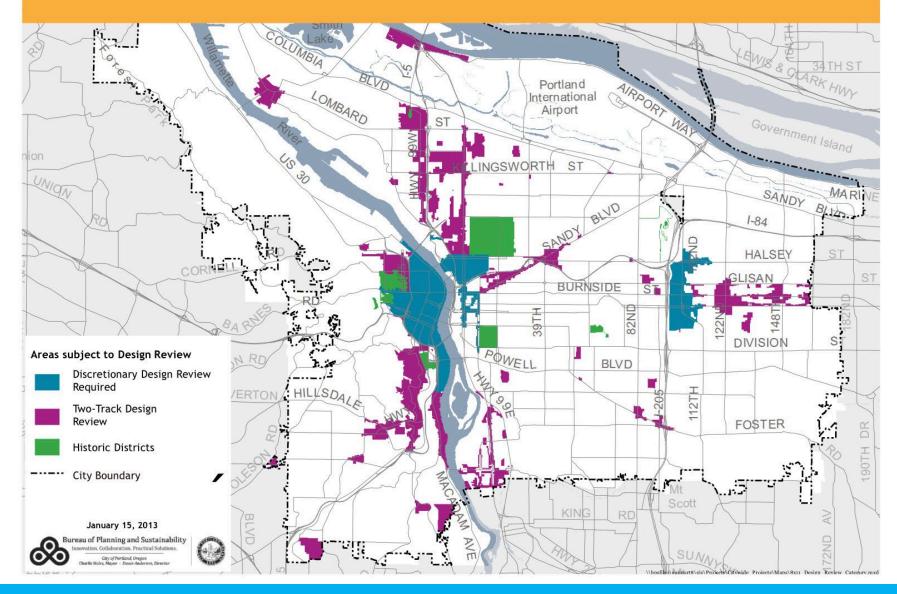


Julie Livingston Chair -Emeritus Architect, Senior Manager Home Forward



Don Vallaster Retired Architect Vallaster Corl Architects, developer

#### **DESIGN REVIEW AREAS**



## **Portland Design Zones**

#### THREE TENETS OF DESIGN

Build on **context** 

#### Contribute to the **public realm**

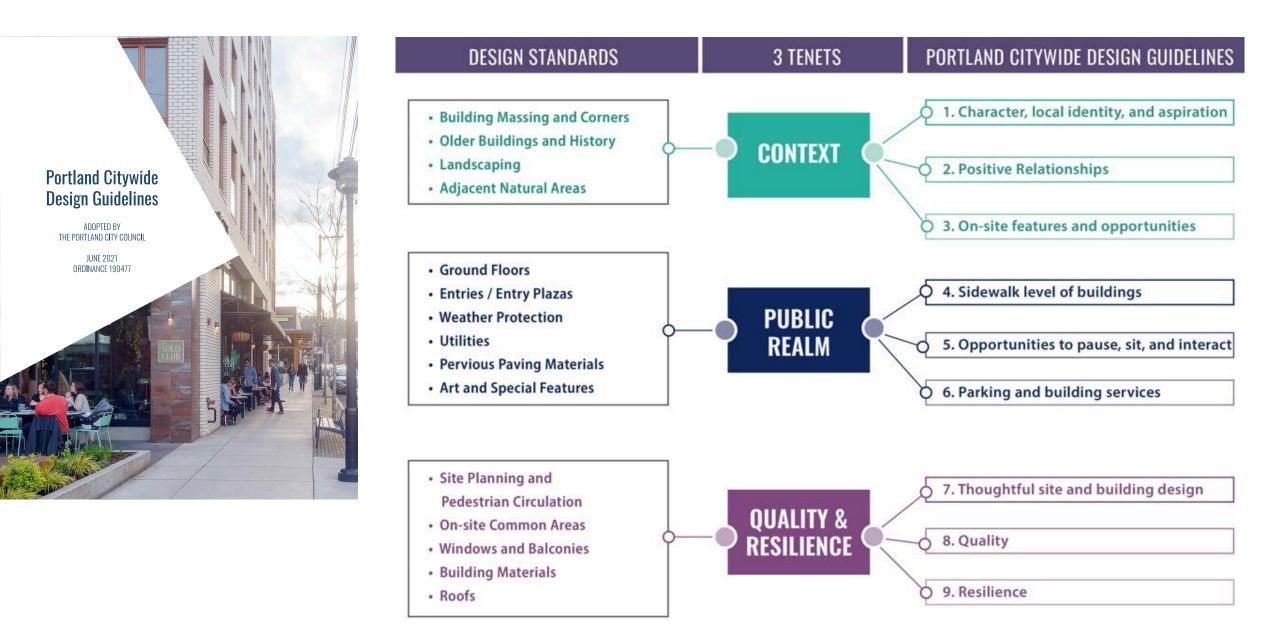
Promote quality and permanence/resilience

**CONTEXT-RELATED GUIDELINES** balancing the aspirations of the future desired character with today's setting. The guidelines are sequenced to telescope from big picture to site-specific.

**PUBLIC REALM-RELATED GUIDELINES** that strengthen a building and site's relationship with the public rights-of-way and open spaces.

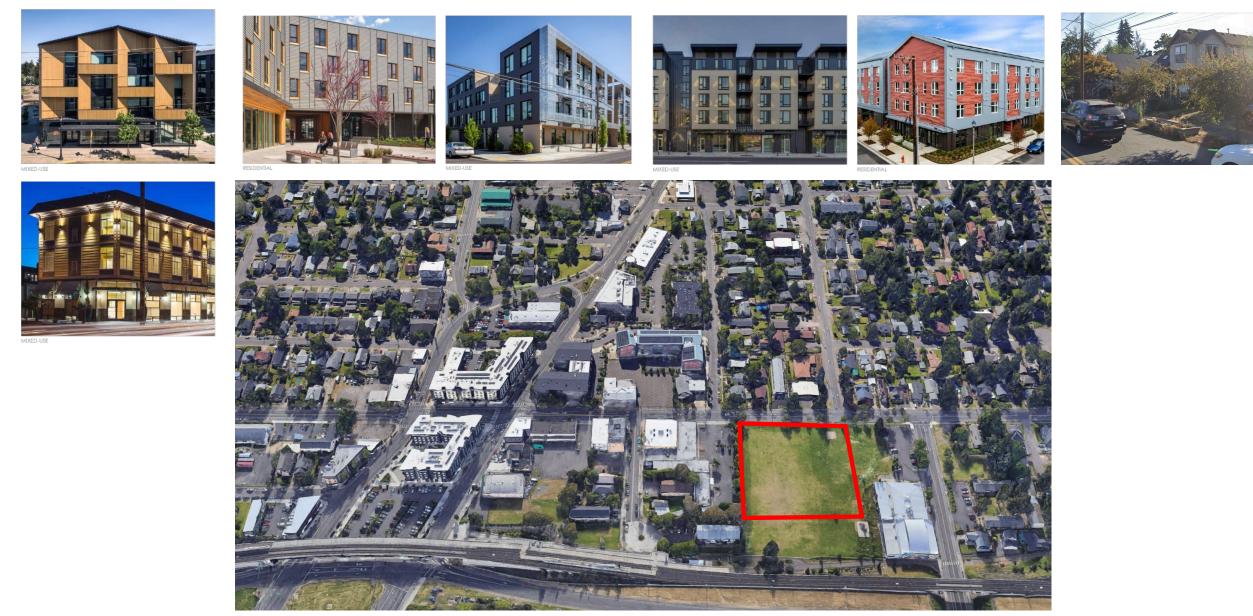
**QUALITY AND RESILIENCE-RELATED GUIDELINES** that underscore holistic site and building designs that benefit people and climate.

#### **OUR TOOLS** – Citywide and Central City Fundamental Design Guidelines



#### **Objective Track/Design Standards or Discretionary Track/Design Guidelines**

#### CONTEMPORARY CONTEXT



# Citywide Guidelines applied: 92 H Lents - Site and neighborhood

01 character, local identity, and aspiration of the place

- Adds affordable housing options adjacent to light rail station
- Reinforces the new Lents TC as a pedestrian district



02 positive relationships with surroundings

- Reinforces Town
  Center building
  orientation on 92<sup>nd</sup>
  Avenue
- Parking kept to side and rear



# 03 enhance on-site features and opportunities

- Establishes residential courtyard with great solar access and security ——
- Complements Lents
  Farmers Market ——
- Provides community garden facilities for residents —\_\_\_\_

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#### 05 opportunities to pause, sit and interact

- Seating, art
- Enclosure
- Street trees and landscaping



04 sidewalk level of buildings to be active and human-scaled

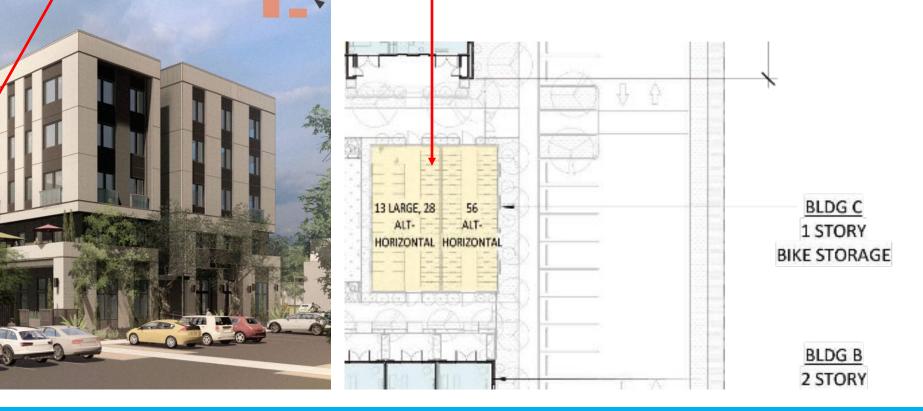
- Taller ground floor
- Multiple entries and windows
- Ground floor residential setbacks with stoops, stairs, landscaping
- Weather protection, integrated lighting
- Urban sidewalks



# **PUBLIC REALM**

06 integrate and minimize impact of parking and building services

- Screening, buffering of parking areas
- Utilities away from public realm
  - Long term bicycle parking



## **PUBLIC REALM**

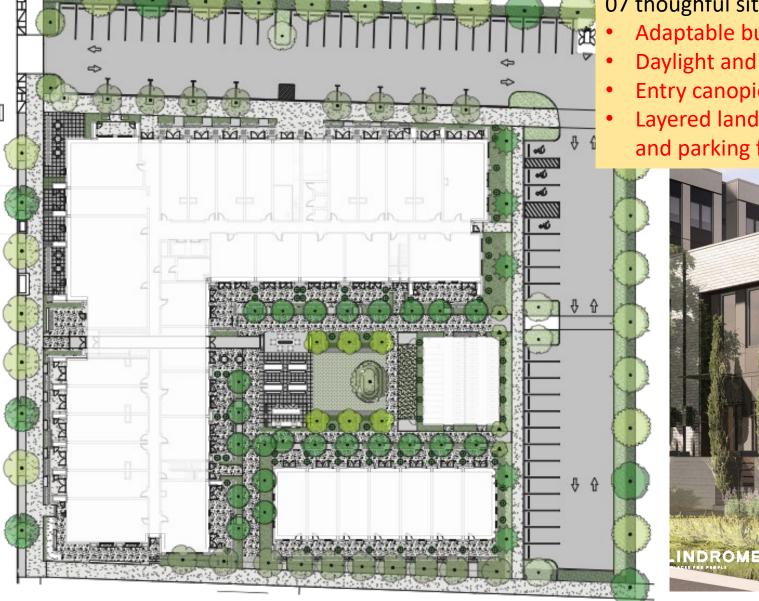
### **QUALITY AND RESILIENCE**



09 resilience, health, and stewardship... adaptability to

- Shading, tree canopy
- **On-site** stormwater

climate change...



07 thoughful site and building design

- Adaptable buildings
- Daylight and air to all units
- Entry canopies
- Layered landscaping at all street and parking frontages

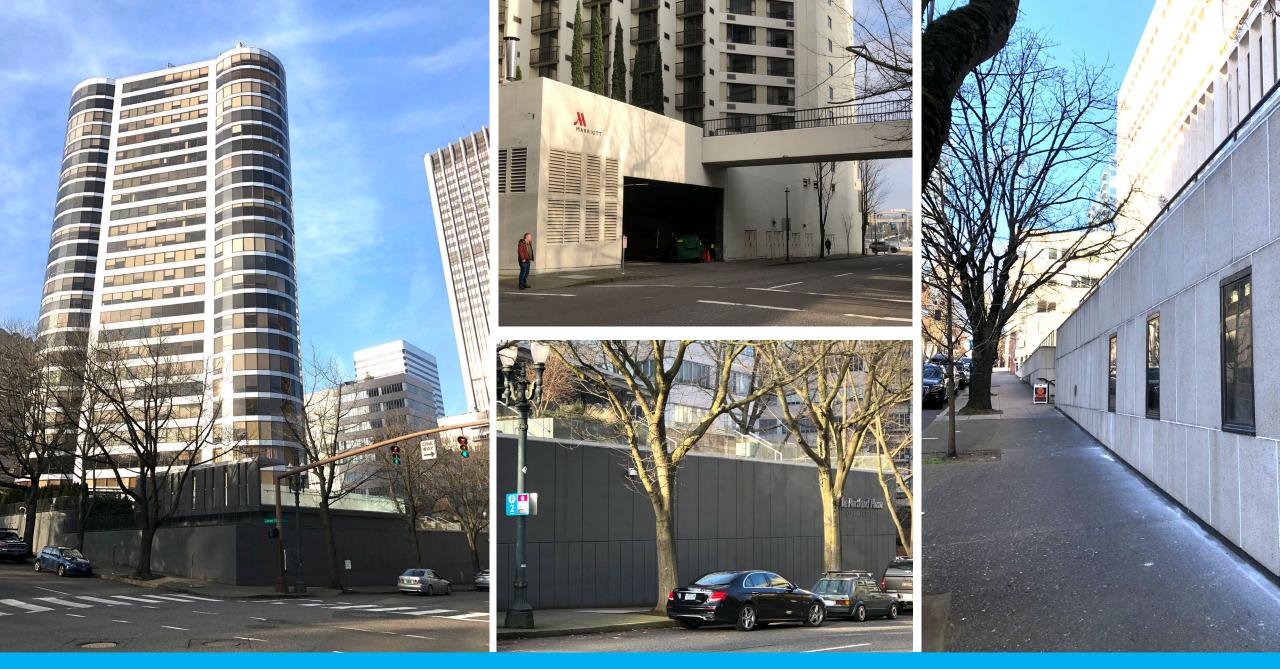
#### 08 quality...enduring materials...coherent approach

- Limited palette of proven materials
- Simple elevations materials reinforce podium, tower and roof cap
- Ground floor units framed by projecting walls and recessed stoops



**QUALITY AND RESILIENCE** 





## **BEFORE DESIGN REVIEW**



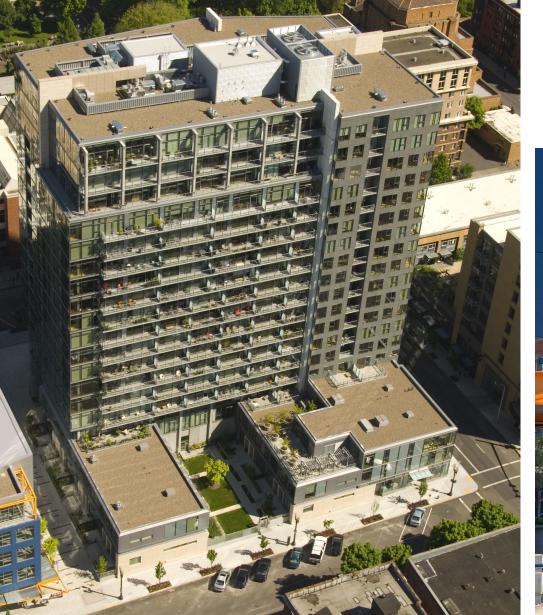


# **DESIGN REVIEW - 1980s**

#### **DESIGN REVIEW - 1990s**



# **DESIGN REVIEW - 2000s**

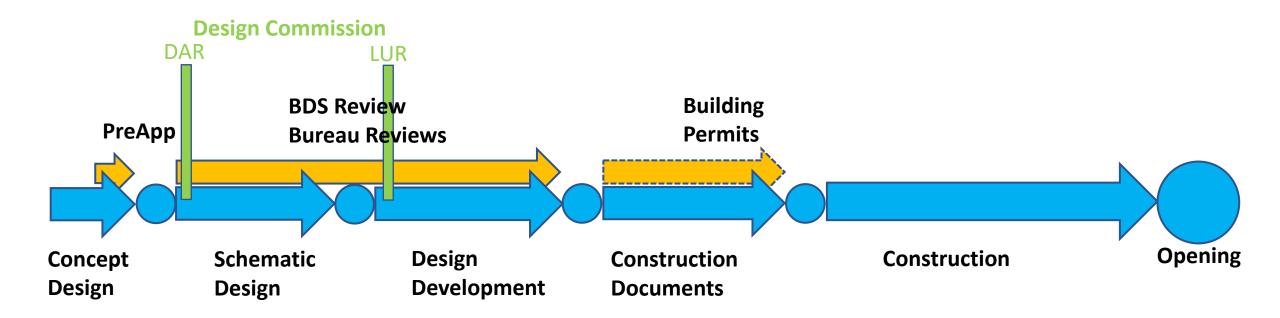








## **DESIGN REVIEW - 2010s**

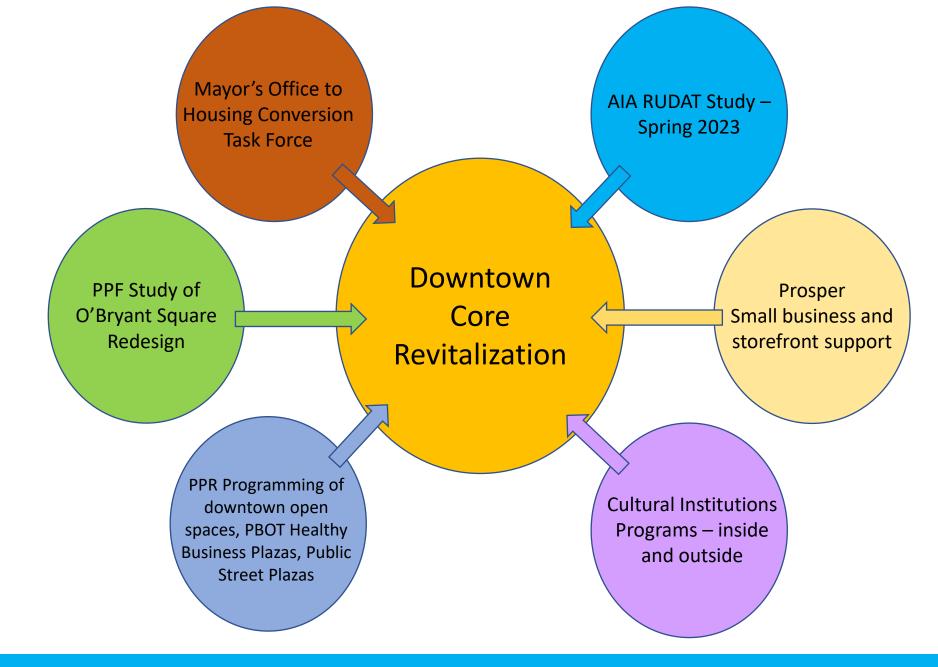


City of Portland Review and Permitting Process Applicant Design Process

## **PERMITTING AND DESIGN SCHEDULES**



### CENTRAL CITY – 2023?



## **DOWNTOWN REVITALIZATION**



Director Park - pre-Pandemic







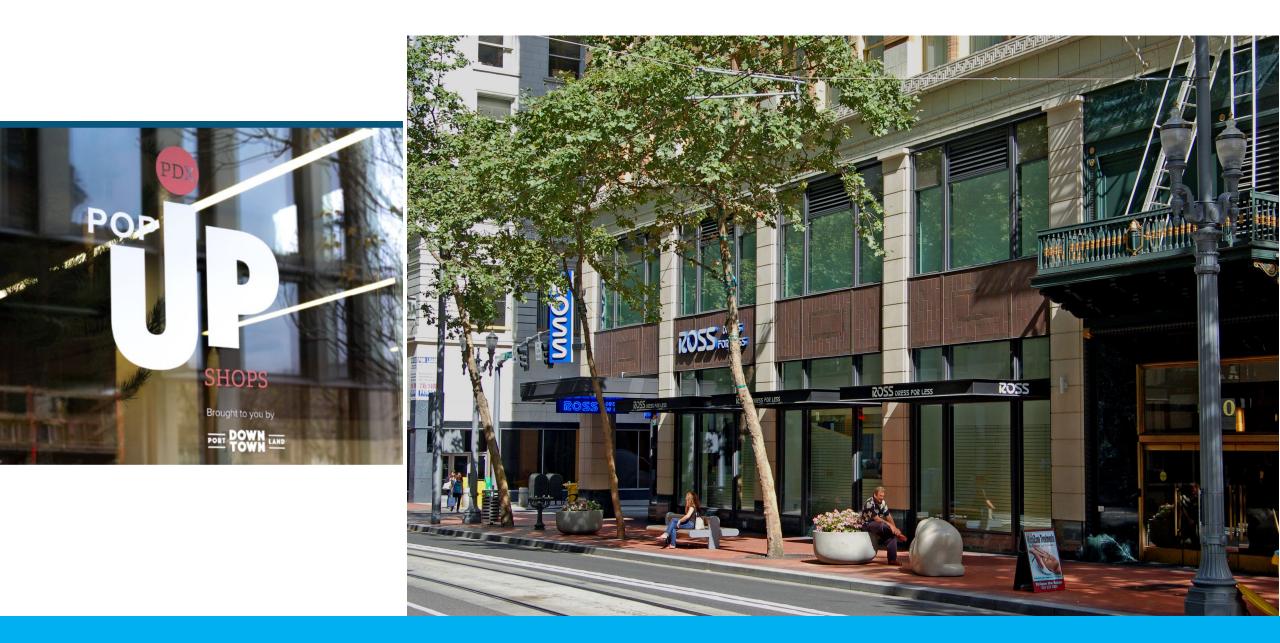


Director Park - 2023

#### **SHORT TERM STRATEGIES** - PPR, PBOT Downtown Open Space & Street Space Programs



#### **SHORT TERM STRATEGIES - O'Bryant Square Redesign**



## **SHORT TERM STRATEGIES - Storefront Activation**



#### **SHORT TERM STRATEGIES - Storefront Security Upgrades**

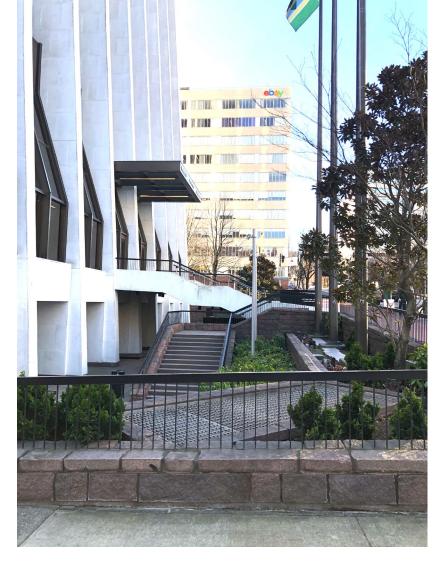


## **SHORT TERM STRATEGIES - Storefront Security**



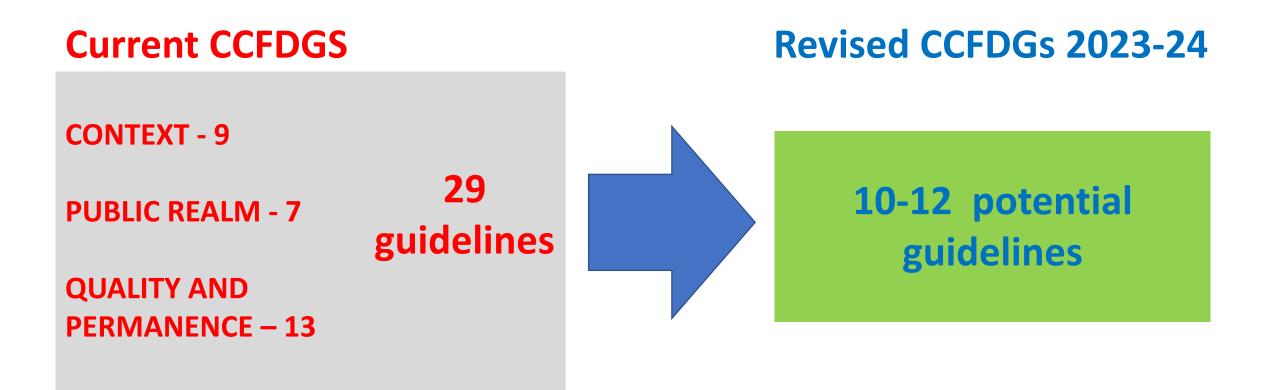
Historic one-quarter to one-half block office buildings:





Full block office buildings, 50+ years old:

## LONGER TERM STRATEGIES - OFFICE TO RESIDENTIAL CONVERSION



#### **UPDATE - CENTRAL CITY FUNDAMENTAL DESIGN GUIDELINES**



#### City of Portland Design Commission

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#### A Guide to the City of Portland Design Review Process

Prepared by the members of the Portland Design Commission Updated January 6, 2022

#### PUBLIC REALM

#### **Parking & Parking Garages**

- □ Garage entrances and on-site loading spaces create dead space adjacent to public sidewalks in a city that strives to be walkable and pedestrian friendly. The Commission consistently seeks configurations that minimize or avoid these negative impacts.
- At-grade or above-grade parking should be entirely within the building structure and wrapped with active uses. Modifications that result in the reduction of active ground floor uses for parking, loading, or similar functions are not supported by the Commission.
- □ Above-grade parking expressed on a building's exterior is a poor response to all three tenets and is strongly discouraged. If it is proposed, it should be mechanically ventilated and given a façade treatment consistent with the building's overall design concept.



#### Build on the character local identity, and aspiration of the place.

#### THIS GUIDELINE MAY BE ACCOMPLISHED BY...





Orienting a building's mass and landscaping to enhance natural topog raphy. Terwilliger, SW Barbur and SW Hooker

Transforming a Center Transit Station Area and linear superblock to provide a prominent street wall along the transit line, broken up with a series of outdoor spaces and ground floor retail. Hazelwood, NE 122nd and E Burnside





Utilizing landscaped setbacks and entry sequences that mimic nearby residential patterns. **Alberta**, NE Alberta and NE 26th Ave

Designing the site to respond to the ecology and beauty of the place. This project uncovered and restored Tryon Creek's headwaters, providing a connection to the area's natural landscape. **Multnomah Village**, SW 30th and SW Marigold

24 PORTLAND CITYWIDE DESIGN GUIDELINES

## **INTERIM SUPPORT: REVISE - GUIDE TO DESIGN REVIEW**



#### **2022 PROJECT OF THE YEAR - 92H Lents**

## **THANK YOU - DISCUSSION, QUESTIONS?**

