

# MUDA Submission

**Award Category: Civic Design**

**Project Name: 17 Avenue S.E. Extension and Victoria Park/Stampede Station Rebuild**

## B. Project Description

*A summary which includes the project site and context, intent, design concept and descriptions of features which respond directly to the award criteria. Describe how the design meets the expectations of the Urban Design Elements described in Calgary's [Guide to Urban Design Review](#). This summary may be used by the City to prepare promotional material exclusively for the MUDA program.*

The 17 Avenue S.E. Extension and Victoria Park/Stampede Station Rebuild is a foundational part of the Rivers District Master Plan, creating a critical connection within Calgary's emerging Culture + Entertainment District. This \$128 million project is reopening a key corridor across 17 Avenue S.E. for the first time in 40 years and modernizing the 40-year-old LRT station to make it safer, more accessible, and to better serve Calgarians and visitors alike.

The design was driven by the limitations of the original elevated LRT station, which created significant physical and visual barriers. Commuters were required to navigate a series of stairs, ramps, escalators and Plus 15 walkways to cross Macleod Trail or access Stampede Park, making the pedestrian experience fragmented and inefficient. As one of Calgary's busiest LRT stations—serving approximately 13,000 transit customers daily—a modern and accessible design for the new Victoria Park/Stampede station was essential. The new at-grade station reduced the pedestrian access experience from 400 metres to 60 metres and offers improved accessibility for all.

The station's copper-vaulted canopies, paired with an eye-catching oculus—an elliptical backlit glass that will bring the vibrant colours of The District to life—create a memorable and welcoming arrival for visitors. The extension boasts streetscape enhancements, like pavers that mirror the design of Stampede Trail and the BMO Centre, and rolled curbs, ensuring a smooth transition from daily use to festival conditions for major events like the Calgary Stampede, enhancing safety and the visitor experience.

The 17 Avenue S.E. Extension also features a new three-lane configuration that allows pedestrians, cyclists, and vehicles to move seamlessly between landmark destinations including the newly expanded BMO Centre and forthcoming Scotia Place. Upon completion, the extension will also connect with future development along Stampede Trail — a vibrant retail and entertainment corridor, multi-modal connector and, for special events, a pedestrian-only festival plaza and urban community space.

The design aligns closely with the Urban Design Elements outlined in Calgary's *Guide to Urban Design Review*, fostering a distinctive sense of place through thoughtful use of materials and flexible design solutions. Multimodal transportation options—pedestrian, wheeler, and vehicular access—are fully integrated to support the movement of millions of annual visitors attending major events, concerts, sporting activities, and the Calgary Stampede. Additionally, the design improves livability for the district's current 4,000 residents and anticipates growth, accommodating 8,000 future residents and four million square feet of new mixed-use residential and retail development at full build-out.

Resilient and sustainable features are integrated throughout, including landscaping with drought-tolerant, low-maintenance plants to reduce water usage, and permeable surfaces to manage stormwater

runoff, aligning with Calgary's resilience and sustainability goals. Additionally, enhanced transit infrastructure encourages public transit use, helping to reduce vehicle emissions and supporting the vision of a walkable, well-connected community.