

Five Stages to Main Streets

The City's Main Streets Program, launched in 2014, follows a five-stage approach to thoughtfully plan and develop each street. While we aim to complete all Main Streets as quickly as possible, projects across Calgary exist at different stages of the process and may take years to advance due to availability of public and private funding, as well as City priorities.

Stage 1 – Strategize



24 streets within established communities were evaluated as Main Streets. All Main Streets have undergone two years of public engagement, economic market analysis and strategies for design and implementation have been outlined.

Stage 2 – Plan



The planning stage focuses on policy revisions that allow for higher population densities, a greater mix of building types, and more access to transportation options. Projects in this stage are going through land-use redesignations, local plan amendments and infrastructure capacity assessments. The [Municipal Development Plan](#) (MDP), local area plans, the [Land Use Bylaw](#), and citizen input are all measured when considering policy revisions.

Stage 3 – Design



The design stage includes three phases of public engagement and the development of a streetscape master plan. Master plan drawings outline the project vision and conceptual designs for the proposed improvements based off feedback from the public engagement and alignment to the core principles.

Pending funding, construction drawings may be completed in this phase to get the project shovel ready.

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Stage 4 – Build



Once the design is complete and the project is funded, the Main Street moves into the build phase where it begins construction and community transformation is realized.

The build phase has two sub-phases: short term investments and permanent construction. Short term investments include community-focused pilot projects, test concepts and high need improvements.

These can include traffic calming measures, temporary park space and pedestrian realm improvements. Permanent construction means the long term transformation of the main street based on the streetscape master plan.

Stage 5 – Live



Once construction is complete, The City and the community will work together to ensure the vitality of the Main Street is upheld for generations to come.

The City will commit to ongoing investments and maintenance as needed to ensure the main street continues to promote the four core principles of the Main Streets Program.