**Strong Simple Forms**

*Urban places such as the Woodland District are dynamic environments that are active throughout the day. The design emphasis should be on the quality of the public places where activities of daily living take place, rather than on overly complicated building surfaces. Emphasize the spaces created by building massing through strong simple forms.*

*This guideline may be accomplished by*

- Strong, simple forms that reflect the building's function and use.
- Strong low-slope projecting roof forms.
- Building scale, proportions, and design expression that acknowledge the existing context.
- Outdoor rooms are accessible from the building but also provide privacy from the sidewalk.
- Strong, clear definition of the building roof cornice against the sky.
- Visually lighter materials are supported by denser, heavier materials; e.g., wood, metal, and stucco over masonry or concrete.
Material Expression

The strong simple forms of buildings are best supported with the integration of a limited set of carefully detailed materials.

This guideline may be accomplished by

» A limited palette of materials that are simply used, but with careful detailing. Such materials may include: concrete, wood, standing-seam sheet metal, glass, board-and-batten, wood siding, corrugated sheet metal, board-formed concrete, board-and-batten siding, commercial/industrial terra cotta, stone siding, spaced wood sun screens, ply-formed concrete, horizontal wood siding, brick, sheet metal panels, standing-seam metal roofing, stucco, heavy-timber.

» Structural systems are expressed as design elements, which could include exposed columns and beams or other visible structural frameworks.

» Application of materials creates visual variation and patterning of the façade.

» Plants and landscaping that act as soft material to complement building palette.

» Materials that emphasize strong simple forms and building massing.

Light stucco and glass against dark brick

Cast in place concrete, aluminum panels and glass

Tube steel columns, glass, metal panels

Glass and aluminum panels
Cast-in-place concrete is softened with green planting

Brick, stucco, glass

Board formed concrete creates a horizontal pattern

Vertical wood planks, stucco, glass

Metal panels, horizontal wood planks, glass

Vertical and horizontal metal panels, wood soffit
Material Expression, Continued

» Use of multiple materials is required; don't rely on one material alone.

» The primary material must be penetrated with openings and meet all of the other guidelines for glazing, canopies and detailing.

» Prohibited materials include vertical T-111 siding, metal siding and stucco as primary material (accent only).
Generous Use of Glazing

The community vision for the Woodland District is as a welcoming center of Lacey. Abundant glazing that connects the street to the interior of buildings reinforces the warm sense of community that extends from the public realm into businesses, offices and homes.

This guideline may be accomplished by

» Generous use of commercial/industrial glazing that connects the interior function to the public realm.

» Glazing that helps to define the programmatic functions of different parts of the building and can be understood from exterior and interior.

» Additional glazing that helps to define points of entry at each level.

Generous storefront glazing invites cafe seating

First floor glazing, bold glazing patterns above

Vertical glazing delineates building’s program

Ground floor residential windows behind setback
Carefully Detailed

The emphasis for the Woodland District is on walking and the human scale of the individual. While building massing and form may be simple, the details of a building—how one material meets another—are extremely important. Pay specific attention to all of the surfaces that people touch in the course of their transit through the Woodland District.

- A balance of horizontal and vertical lines and materials that add interest.
- Building forms look simple at a distance, with details that become apparent as the observer grows closer to the building.
- Clear articulation of the building wall at the roof.

This guideline may be accomplished by:

- Subtle undulating form at building corner above step back
- Multiple concrete treatments structure landscaping
- Careful detailing where wall meets roof
- Careful detailing where steel meets glass
Entrance Canopy

Canopies create inviting spaces for the pedestrian. They emphasize human-scaled design and comfort and can act as identifiers for businesses by providing clear orientation to the primary entrance. Canopies can incorporate signage of all scales and can include space for gathering, seating and bike parking.

This guideline may be accomplished by

- Integration of canopy design with overall building design.
- Generous protected area both vertically and horizontally, providing good natural light, feeling of openness, and coverage.
- Incorporation of signage into canopy design.
- Canopy height should be thoughtfully considered and should be determined by what function the canopy serves. If the primary function of the canopy is to provide weather protection at the entrance or to offer a protected space for café seating, the canopy could be lower in scale to provide a sense of protection. Other types of canopies create outdoor rooms and are larger in scale and, therefore, should be higher to create a sense of openness.
Double height canopy with prominent entrance

Prominent entrance with outdoor seating

Integrated canopy design with blade sign and seating

Multiple levels of canopy for separate use areas

Signage above and underneath canopy

Signage incorporated into canopy
Clear Orientation, Inviting and Human Scaled

The most beloved urban places mix clarity of structure and form with mystery and adventure and provide inviting, human-scaled places that encourage interaction and exploration.

This guideline may be accomplished by

- Outdoor rooms accessible from the building.
- Balance of exterior and interior lighting that makes the building equally inviting day or night.
- Strong low-slope projecting roof form at building entrance.
- Bicycle parking adjacent to and visible from the building entrance.
- Facades are subdivided into smaller, human-scaled elements that are defined by a change of materials.
- Vertical circulation (stair) is apparent as one approaches the building which encourages active use.
- Horizontal canopy shields the pedestrian on the sidewalk, defines the commercial realm, and helps to orient visitors to the entries.