



A GUIDE TO

Winter City Design

from *The Minneapolis Plan for Sustainable Growth*

This bulletin offers ideas on how urban design can celebrate the winter months in Minneapolis, showcasing year-round livability and vibrancy.

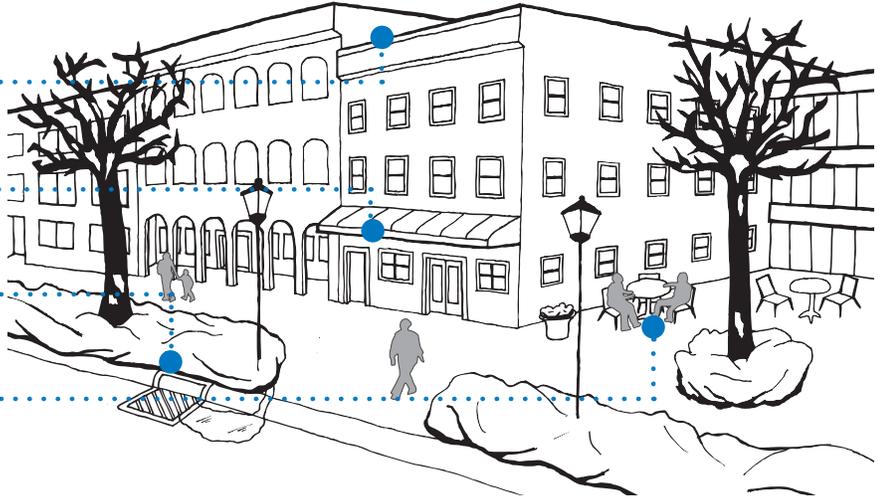
Building Massing & Site Design

Buildings of **similar height** to their surroundings, or sequentially stepped back, help create more favorable wind conditions on the street.

Awnings or other facade projections reduce wind speed at ground-level.

Sloping the site's grading away from walkways and entries will help ensure **proper drainage**, reducing ice build-up.

Habitable outdoor space such as patios encourage activity during the cold months, especially if amenities such as heaters are provided.



Pedestrian Provisions



Lighting makes pedestrian activity safer and promotes security. **Seasonal lighting** adds a festive ambience.

Interference with bicyclist and pedestrian activity is avoided by allowing **adequate space for snow storage** during winter.

Street furnishings like benches encourage pedestrian activity year-round, even in cold temperatures.

Non-slip surfaces, especially in pedestrian areas such as entrances, help make walking safer and more enjoyable.

Landscaping

Deciduous plantings allows sunlight to access and warm buildings during the cold winter months.

Evergreen trees and shrubs provide winter interest while screening wind from pedestrian spaces and preventing drifting snow.

Salt-resistant species of trees between the sidewalk and the street provide separation from traffic.



FOR MORE INFORMATION

Consult the **Urban Design Chapter** of *The Minneapolis Plan for Sustainable Growth* online at: http://www.minneapolismn.gov/CPED/comp_plan_2030.asp

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