1 early consultation

Early identification & resolution of design issues lead to predictable & timely final approval.

2 application

Applications for Design Review are made at Zoning & Permits located at 31-30 Fort Street.

3 design review

All projects are reviewed to ensure they comply with City policies & guidelines.

City Staff | UDAC

Projects may be reviewed by City Staff or may go to UDAC.

outstanding issues may require further review

4 recommendation

City staff make recommendations for approval or approval with conditions.

approved | conditions

not approved

In circumstances where an agreement cannot be reached on design recommendations or when the applicant is not satisfied with the decision of the Director, the Design Review application may be appealed to the Council's Standing Policy Committee on Downtown Development, Heritage and Riverbank Management.

director

standing policy committee

5 permit

Timeline:

- **Early Consultation (Optional):** 1-2 weeks. This is beneficial for identifying potential roadblocks early and can significantly speed up the formal application process.
- **Formal Application Review:** This can vary depending on project complexity. Expect 2-4 weeks for a standard project, but complex projects with unique designs could take 6-8 weeks.
- **Design Review and Recommendation:** Once your application is deemed complete, the city staff review typically takes 2-3 weeks. Adding revisions based on their recommendations could add another 1-2 weeks per revision cycle.
- **Permit Issuance:** Assuming a smooth approval process, permit issuance after final approval should be within 1-2 weeks.

Total Timeline: Aim for a minimum of **3 months** for the entire process, but be prepared for it to take **4-6 months** for complex projects or those requiring multiple revision cycles.

Additional Insights:

- **Completeness is Key:** Ensure your application includes all required documents to avoid delays for missing information. Double-check the City's website for a comprehensive list.
- **Holiday Impact:** Factor in potential delays due to holidays during the application process.
- **Public Engagement:** Be prepared for the possibility of needing to present your project at a public hearing depending on the project's scale and potential impact on the community.
- **Consider Professional Help:** An architect or designer familiar with the Downtown Winnipeg design review process can be a valuable asset in streamlining your application and ensuring it meets all requirements.

Important Disclaimer: This timeline and these insights are estimates and may not reflect the actual processing times. It's always best to consult directly with the City of Winnipeg's Zoning and Permits Department for the most up-to-date information and guidance specific to your project [1].