SECTION 02:

VISION & PRIORITIES


STARBUCKS
COFFEE

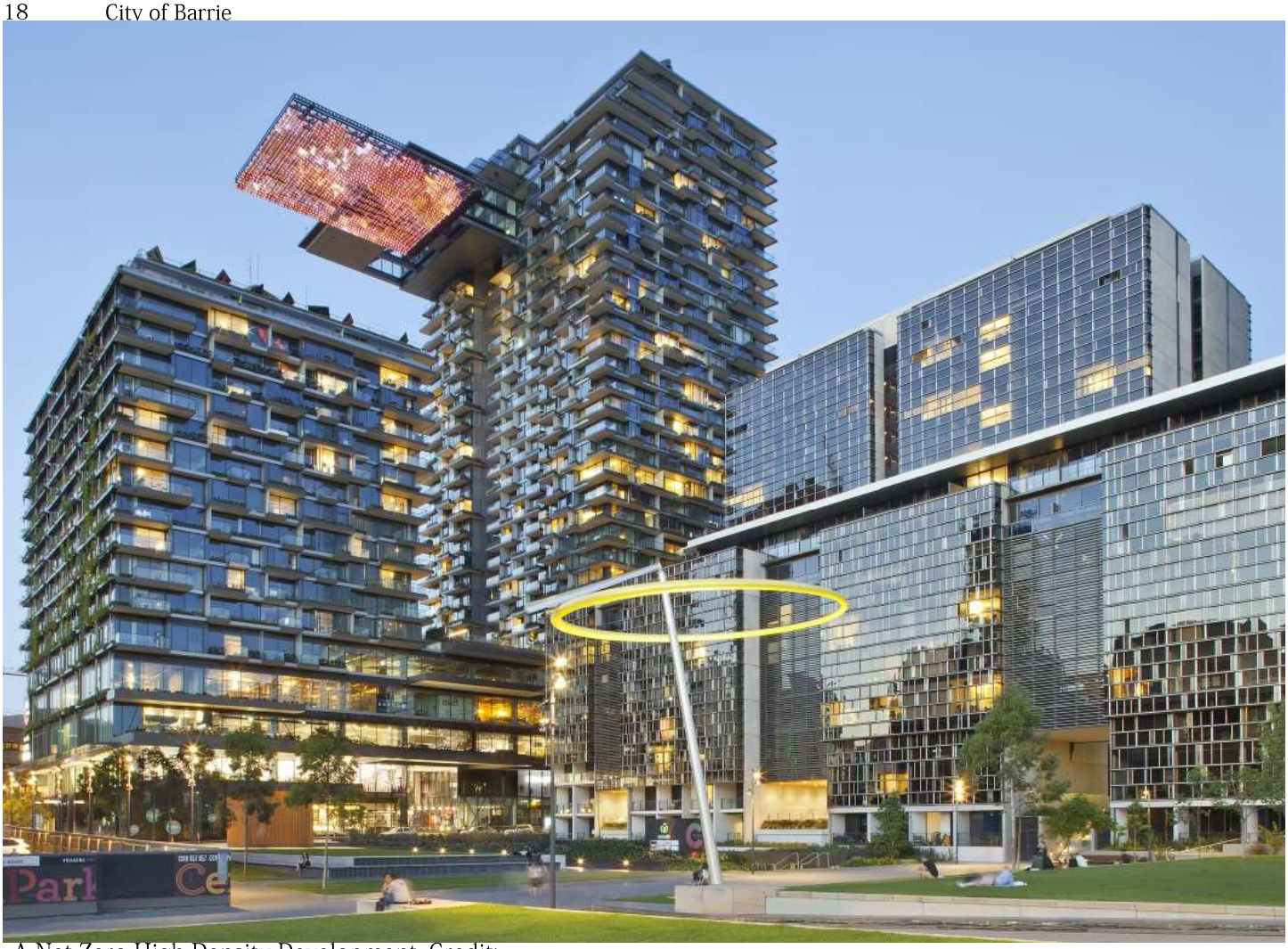
2.1
Design Vision & Priorities

The City-Wide Urban Design Guidelines are founded on the design vision established in the City's Official Plan and seek to promote a consistent level of high quality urban design that builds on the city's structuring elements of natural open spaces and neighbourhoods, establishes a recognizable character for the City's built environments, and enhances the pedestrian experience.

Development in the City of Barrie will be guided by the design principles in the Official Plan, demonstrating:

1. Design Excellence
2. Human Scale Design
3. Diversity, Equity, and Inclusivity
4. Sustainability, Resiliency, and Adaptability
5. Contextual Design

The principles above are supported by several Design Priorities, outlined below. Through these principles and objectives, the City-Wide Urban Design Guidelines encourage creative approaches to achieving the City's vision, while providing detailed guidance, but also permitting designers to exercise a range of creative solutions to meet the intent of each guideline.



A Net Zero High Density Development. Credit:

Design for Excellence

Priority 1: High-Quality and Innovative Design and Architecture

New buildings will incorporate the use high-quality materials with craftsmanship, and durability, while demonstrating innovation and best practices in sustainability to reflect architectural design excellence and support Barrie in becoming a leader in design excellence and urban development.



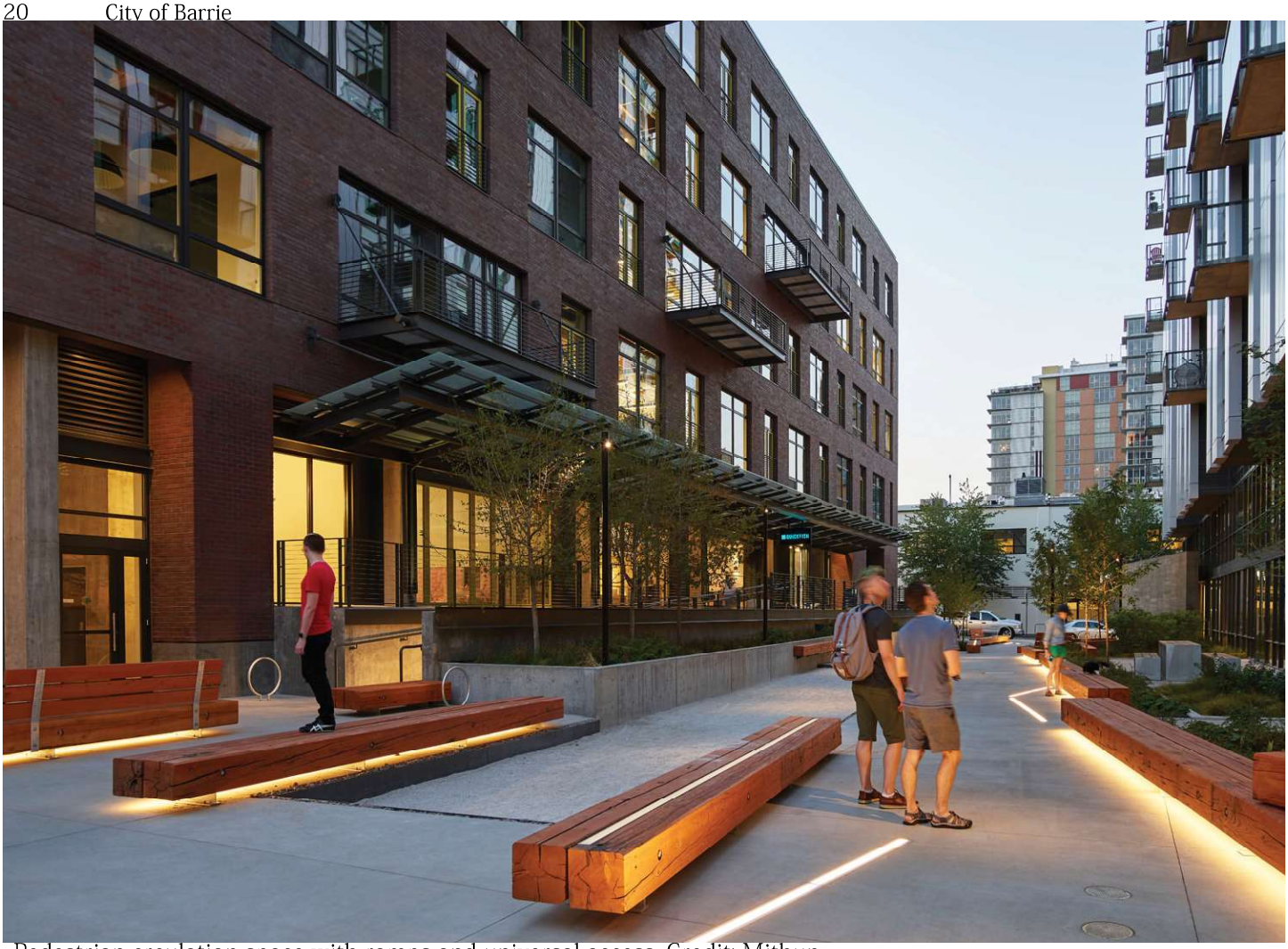
A High-Quality and Human Scaled Street Environment.

Design for the Human Scale

Priority 2: Connected, Walkable Neighbourhoods
Sites will be designed for permeability and connectivity to surrounding streets, sidewalks, bike lanes, trails and open spaces. This network of connections will be designed to provide safety and visibility, prioritize people and active modes of movement, and provide access to sunlight and generous landscapes.

Priority 3: Human-Scale Design for Livability
The scale of new developments will create comfortable streets with access to daylight, and support the liveliness of public spaces.

The building types described in this document and the City's Zoning By-Law, will encourage and support human-scale design and pedestrian activity. New buildings will be designed to activate and integrate with public spaces, amenity spaces, and streetscapes. The design of sites and the ground floor of buildings will create a seamless transition between private and public spaces to support a vibrant public realm.



Pedestrian crculation space with ramps and universal access. Credit: Mithun.

Design for Diversity, Equity and Inclusivity

Priority 4: Safe, Comfortable, and Accessible Buildings, Streets and Open Spaces
The City is dedicated to achieving overall community wellness and prosperity, and this includes designing buildings and sites for greater safety, comfort, accessibility and recreational enjoyment. This includes: ensuring spaces, services and infrastructure are available to meet the needs of all residents through all stages of life; using the placement of physical features and the programming of spaces to maximize visibility and foster positive social interactions; and designing public, semi-public and private spaces in a way that provides equitable access across different levels of ability.

Priority 5: Placemaking to Enhance Community and Neighbourhood Identity
Development should contribute to a local sense of place by considering neighbourhood context, linkages, and future land uses at each scale of design – from site layout to landscaping to building details.



Integrated Green Infrastructure in Tanner Springs Park, Portland Oregon.

Design for Sustainability, Resiliency, and Adaptability

Priority 6: Enhanced and Protected Natural Heritage Network

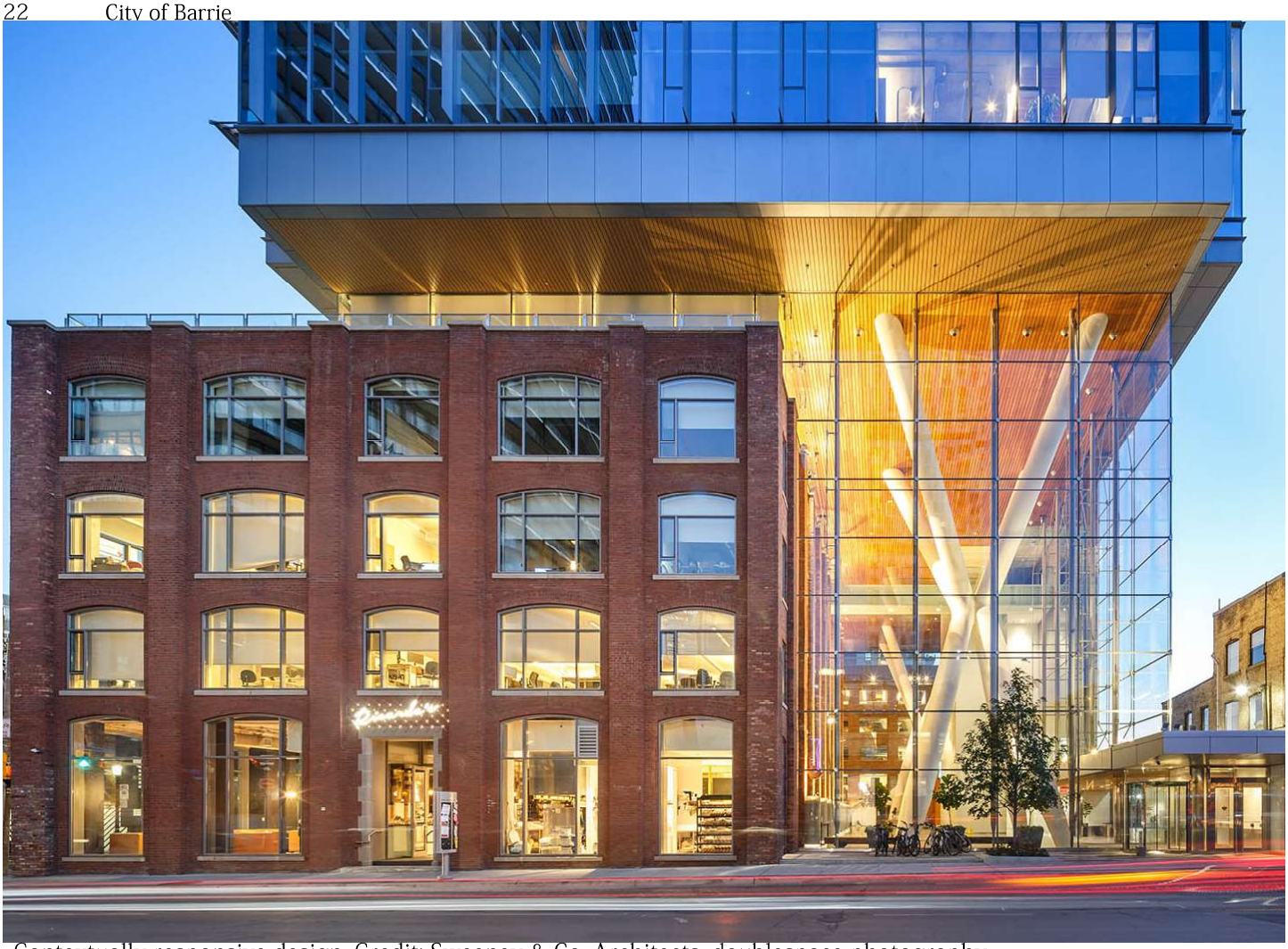
As a waterfront and green city, Barrie needs to have a Natural Heritage System that protects natural heritage features and their ecological functions; it must also have open spaces that connect into one another that foster public enjoyment and health. The City will work to ensure that Barrie's Natural Heritage System is designed appropriately to preserve these open spaces, improve their environmental quality and ecological functions, and ensure their use and enjoyment by all citizens.

Priority 7: Sustainable Design and Development

There are many principles that can contribute to sustainable design and development and help better preserve our environment for future generations. These approaches are prioritized by the City and include, but are not limited to, design and development principles that promote resource efficiency and the reduction of greenhouse gases, maximize solar gains, preserve indoor air quality, and reduce and divert waste.

Priority 8: Buildings, Infrastructure, and Open Spaces Resilient to the Effects of Climate Change

By preparing our buildings, sites and open spaces for future shocks and stresses, and by using urban design to help mitigate the effects of climate change, the City can plan for greater resilience and better adapt to and recovery more quickly from the challenges of an ever-changing world.



Contextually responsive design. Credit: Sweeney & Co. Architects, doublespace photography.

Contextual Design

Priority 9: Contextual Design

New developments should reflect Barrie's unique context by promoting connectivity and sustainable development through contextual analysis that responds to character and sense of place. New developments will prioritize compatibility with surrounding context, including streetscapes, built development, topography and natural heritage systems. Response to site context should complement design excellence with appropriate setbacks, massing, transitions, orientation and connections. Consideration should also be given for the future area context if the site is in an area of transition and should address interim development and/or changing conditions.