18.40.520 Architectural Features

18.40.521 Guidelines

(1) Commercial development within the City should reflect Golden’s character, including a small town feel, historic architecture, and compatibility with the surrounding mountain landforms.

(2) When building groups or multiple structures are planned for a single project, they should be designed in a unified architectural and spatial manner with reference to building placement, exterior finish, materials and design details.

(3) Brick, sandstone, wood, stucco, colored and textured concrete, and textured concrete masonry units for facing materials are encouraged.

(4) The design of facades visible from the street should include building materials that are similar or identical with the surroundings and provide an appearance of quality and permanence.

(5) Lighting, paving, and street furnishings such as benches and planters should be integrated into the overall building concept and design.

18.40.522 Standards

(1) Main building entries shall be accented with strong architectural definition.

(2) Buildings shall have a clearly defined base and roof edge so that the façade has a distinct base, middle, and top that relates to a human scale.

(3) Surface or facade details to enrich the architectural character and enhance the streetscape shall be used. These may include awnings, special entry details, lights, and bay or specially designed windows, cornices or molding details.

(4) Blank building walls that are visible to the public should be avoided. Blank walls should be designed to be less oppressive through the use of interesting details, design patterns and features that diminish the scale of the structure. For an expansive wall, consideration shall be given to implementing a pattern on the wall with a different color or type of the same material, or creating an area of the wall that is a different texture, color and material. Facades less than or equal to one hundred (100) feet in length, measured horizontally, shall be broken at least every thirty (30) feet through the use of projected or recessed components. Facades greater than one hundred (100) feet in length, shall incorporate wall plane projections or recesses having a depth of at least three (3) percent of the length of the façade and extending at least twenty (20) percent of the length of the façade. No uninterrupted length of any facade shall exceed one hundred (100) horizontal feet.

(5) The use of prefabricated metal for an entire structure, panelized flat plywood and highly reflective materials for facing materials is prohibited.

(6) Mechanical equipment mounted on the building including but not limited to vents, flues, and flashings should be painted to match the color of the building.

(7) Retaining walls should consist of materials consistent with proposed buildings.