

7.6 Building Siting, Massing, and Orientation

The University Districts will reflect a high standard of design excellence and incorporate buildings that activate the public realm, framing and defining green spaces and streets, and contributing to the character and identity of the campus.

General Guidelines

- Consider thoughtful building design and architectural treatment that is responsive to its surrounding context and reflective of its proposed use. Provide schematic unity or contrast between buildings and adjacent natural features and green spaces.
- Orient buildings towards streets and green spaces, with prominent and easily distinguishable entrances.
- Provide clear and barrier free pedestrian movement around and to building entrances, with weather protection at entrances and along building edges, where applicable.
- Break up long building edges through architectural treatments such as changes in material and plane.
- Incorporate building setbacks and step backs to maintain a pedestrian scale along the public realm.
- Locate vehicular access, pick-up and drop-off areas, and parking in areas that minimize visual impact and conflict with pedestrians and cyclists. Where the alternative is an interface with natural features, seek creative solutions to architecturally integrate parking and servicing, or provide effective natural screening to keep noise and other disturbances away from sensitive areas, as appropriate.
- Consolidate vehicle access points to minimize the number of breaks in the streetwall in order to maintain a sense of enclosure.



Chemical Sciences Building, Trent University. Source: Teeple Architects