
A Guide to Chilliwack's Design Guidelines for:

Building Protection

- Entryways and Exits
- Windows



March 2023

Introduction

The City of Chilliwack has prepared this brochure to assist you in navigating the building protection Design Guidelines for commercial properties.

After reviewing this information, anyone intending to install any building protection is encouraged to contact the Planning Department for assistance.

When is a Development Permit for building protection necessary?

If you are planning to install exterior building protection for your street-facing windows or doors, a Development Permit is required prior to installation. It is likely that your proposal will qualify under the City's streamlined application review process with a reduced application fee. The Planning Department will confirm this when you submit your application.

When is a Development Permit for building protection not necessary?

A Development Permit will not be required for interior building protection that is transparent. Below are two types of possible examples of exempt interior building protection:



These photo examples include black interior bars (L) and interior roll down gates (R) that are completely transparent, allowing clear views into the ground floor from the streets. A Development Permit is not required for this type of interior building protection. If you are unsure, please contact the Planning Department for assistance.

What are the Design Guidelines for:

1. Entryways and Exits (doors)

- May be secured with gates or bars (i.e., wrought or cast iron, or similar)
- May be secured with accordion gates or rolling grills but the storage box must be hidden under an awning/ canopy, or painted to match the building (or similar)
- All gates, bars or rolling grills:
 - ◇ Should be black in colour, or a complementary colour
 - ◇ Must provide a clear view into the ground floor from the street
 - ◇ May be ornate (detail, patterns) or plain (clean lines)
 - ◇ Must be connected to commercial uses only
- Solid shutters are prohibited
- Gates, bars and grills are prohibited for residential uses

Other considerations:

- Must meet Fire/ Building Codes (i.e., padlocks/ chains prohibited, door release hardware permitted)
- An encroachment agreement may be required if the proposal extends into the public sidewalk

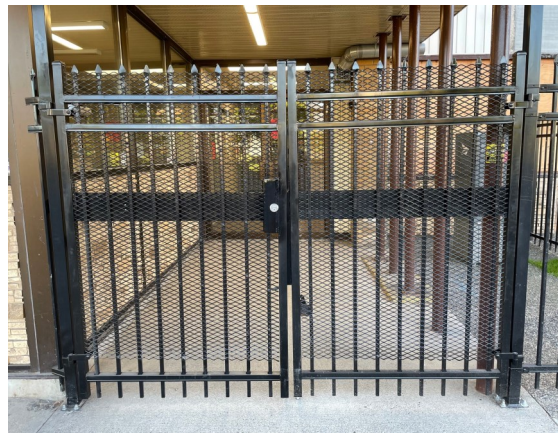
2. Windows

- All windows must be see-through
- Shatterproof glass should be considered your first choice of protection (i.e., rock glass, safety film, safety / laminated glass, etc.)
- May be secured with interior or exterior bars, gates, rolling grills or shutters
- All gates, bars or rolling grills:
 - ◇ Should be black in colour, or a complementary colour
 - ◇ Must provide a clear view into the ground floor from the street
 - ◇ May be ornate (detail, patterns) or plain (clean lines)
- If solid shutters are proposed:
 - ◇ Blank or bare metal is prohibited
 - ◇ Fits within the window frame and must not cover the building architecture
 - ◇ Use complementary colours with business decals or artwork
 - ◇ May be see-through (i.e., C-Thru, polycarbonate, etc.)

Fixed Gate with Ornate Details (L) and Plain Bars Installed over Door (R):



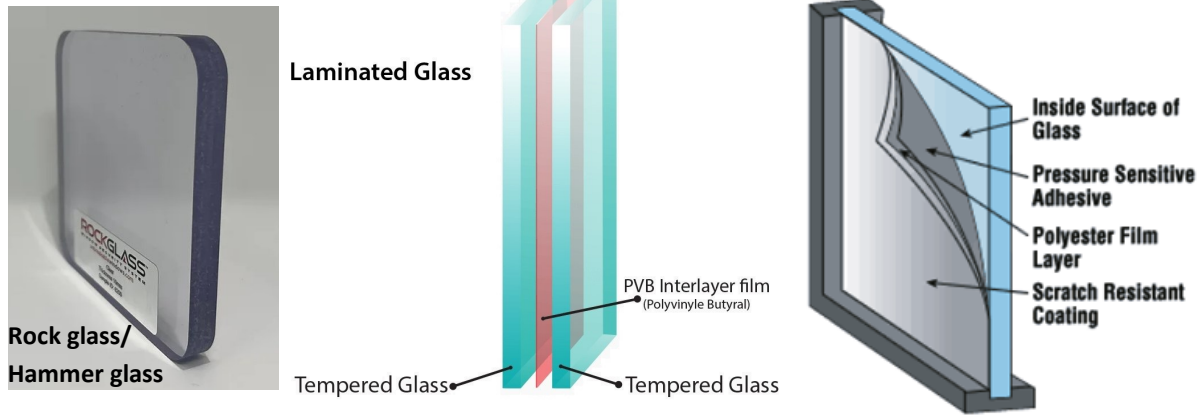
Retractable Grill with Hidden Box (L) and Fixed Gate with Plain Detailing (R):



Shutters Prohibited on Doors:



Types of Shatterproof Glass:



See-Through Window Shutters:



Window Shutter with Artwork (L) and Rolling Grill with Hidden Grill Box (R):



What are the Design Guidelines for:

3. Public Art

All mural or other art proposals on the outside of a building, including over window shutters, must go through a Council approval process prior to installation, per Policy Directive No. K-15 (Chilliwack Public Art). If you plan on including artwork in your proposal, please contact the Planning Department as soon as possible to ensure a timely review process.



Other Permits & Approvals that May be Required

Building Permit Approvals – a Building Permit is generally not required for the installation of gates, bars, grills, and window shutters; however, once your Development Permit application is under review your application may be referred to the Fire/ Building Departments to ensure compliance with Fire/ Building Codes.

Encroachment Agreements – an encroachment agreement may be required if your proposal extends or opens into the public sidewalk.

How Can I Find Out More?

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Chilliwack BC V2P 8A4

Phone: 604-793-2906
Fax: 604-793-2285
Email: planning@chilliwack.com

This brochure has been prepared to provide guidance only. It is neither a bylaw nor legal a document. Please consult the Local Government Act and its Regulations, and the City of Chilliwack applicable codes for definite requirements and procedures.

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