

Design Narrative

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TO: City Of Naperville
FROM: Jim Wiese – HEDK Architects
RE: City Gate II – Design Narrative

City Gate II Apartments has been thoughtfully conceived as a natural extension of the City Gate Centre master plan, reinforcing the development's modern contemporary identity while strengthening its sense of cohesion and place.

Building on the architectural language established by the existing commercial structures and Domain Apartments, the design continues the emphasis on strong linear forms, clean massing, and a refined material palette. As a direct complement to Domain Apartments—the first residential component within the development—City Gate II adopts a similar vocabulary of flat rooflines, articulated balconies, and carefully composed façade treatments. These shared elements create visual continuity between the two residential buildings, positioning City Gate II as a “sister” structure that echoes the character and quality of Domain while introducing subtle distinctions that enrich the overall composition.

Key coordinating elements include:

- A balanced material palette of brick masonry, cast stone accents, painted surfaces, wood panels, and metal panel accents that directly relates to the established palette used throughout the City Gate Centre development.
- Prominent corner features and vertical accents that echo the massing and architectural emphasis found in Domain Apartments and the surrounding commercial buildings.
- Consistent horizontal banding, window patterns, and articulated balconies that reinforce the rhythmic, contemporary aesthetic established across the development.

At the same time, the project responds to its broader context within the commercial office park environment. Its scale, orientation, and façade treatments are carefully

balanced to integrate seamlessly with adjacent office and retail uses, supporting a cohesive streetscape and pedestrian-friendly experience.

Ultimately, City Gate II Apartments is designed not as a standalone structure, but as an integral piece of a larger, unified development—complementary in form, material, and spirit—enhancing both the residential offering and the overall identity of City Gate Centre.