



City of Richmond

900 East Broad Street
2nd Floor of City Hall
Richmond, VA 23219
www.richmondgov.com

Meeting Minutes - Draft Urban Design Committee

Thursday, June 9, 2016

10:00 AM

5th Floor Conference Room of City Hall

Call to Order

Roll Call

Present -- 6 - * Chris Arias, * Andrew P. Gould, * Giles Harnsberger, * Vice Chair Andrea Levine, * Robert Smith and * Committee Member Dawn Hicks
Absent -- 3 - * Chair Andrea Almond, * Bryan Green and * Jill Nolt

Approval of Minutes

1. [UDC MIN 2016-04](#) Minutes of the April 2016 UDC Meeting (Draft)

Attachments: [April 7, 2016 Minutes \(Draft\)](#)
[April 7 2016 Minutes \(Final\)](#)

Ms. Harnsberger had an amendment to the proposed minutes, that on page 13 in the second to last paragraph, the last line of the paragraph states "then and" when it should say "then an". She offered to identify the error on a copy of the minutes so they could be amended.

Ms. Harnsberger made a motion to approve the minutes as amended, Mr. Arias seconded it, and it passed by a 5-0 vote, with Mr. Smith abstaining.

Aye -- 5 - Arias, Gould, Harnsberger, Levine and Hicks

Abstain -- 1 - Smith

2. [UDC MIN 2016-05](#) Minutes of the May 2016 UDC Meeting (Draft)

Attachments: [May 5 2016 Minutes \(Draft\)](#)

A motion was made by Giles Harnsberger, and seconded by Robert Smith, to approve the draft May 2016 UDC Meeting minutes. The motion failed due to a lack of a quorum, as Chris Arias and Andrea Levine abstained due to their absence from the May 2016 meeting of the UDC.

Secretary's Report

Consideration of Continuances and Deletions from Agenda

CONSENT AGENDA

3. [UDC
2016-19](#) Conceptual Masterplan for Southside Community Center

Attachments: [UDC Report CPC](#)
[Staff Report to UDC](#)
[Location & Plans](#)

Topics of discussion included the lack of trash cans in the plan, which staff reported was due to the state parking garage land uses on both sides of the block encompassed by the project as well as the desire to retain as much clear sidewalk width as possible. The Committee asked for further clarity about the lighting being retained on site. Staff clarified that the recommendation was to retain what was there on the state property, and avoid cluttering a tight streetscape with additional unneeded lights for a limited project scope. Topics of discussion included the lack of trash cans in the plan, which staff reported was due to the state parking garage land uses on both sides of the block encompassed by the project as well as the desire to retain as much clear sidewalk width as possible. The Committee asked for further clarity about the lighting being retained on site. Staff clarified that the recommendation was to retain what was there on the state property, and avoid cluttering a tight streetscape with additional unneeded lights for a limited project scope.

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Mr. Arias made a motion to approve the consent agenda, Mr. Smith seconded, and all approved, with Mr. Gould abstaining.

4. [UDC
2016-22](#) Final Streetscape of East Franklin Street between 15th and 14th Streets

Attachments: [UDC Report to CPC](#)
[Staff Report to UDC](#)
[Location & Plans](#)
[Public Comment](#)

The UDC asked about the condition for sustainability. Staff clarified that the Urban Design Guidelines emphasize sustainability as an important feature for projects such as this, and so that they would like to see how projects will address sustainability as they come back for final review.

Mr. Arias made a motion to approve the consent agenda, Mr. Smith seconded, and the motion carried by a 5-0 vote with Mr. Gould abstaining.

REGULAR AGENDA

5. [UDC
2016-25](#) Final 17.05 Review of Bikeshare Bikes & Docking Stations

Attachments: [UDC Report to CPC](#)
[Staff Report to UDC](#)
[Location & Plans](#)
[Public Comment](#)
[Applicant Presentation to UDC](#)

Jake Helmboldt, the City's Pedestrian, Bike, & Trails Coordinator gave a presentation and overview of the project, explaining what bike share is and how it will work in Richmond as well as the features of the bikes and docking stations. He clarified that helmets will not be supplied as part of a rental, the options a user has if the station is full or a bike malfunctions, and the genesis of the black and yellow design scheme. Submitted and in meeting public comment were both very positive in support of the project.

Ms. Levine made a motion to recommend approval as submitted, Mr. Smith seconded, and it carried by a 6-0 vote.

Aye -- 6 - Arias, Gould, Harnsberger, Levine, Smith and Hicks

6. [UDC 2016-21](#) Final Review of Narrowing of Linden Street between Floyd & Grove Avenue

Attachments: [Staff Report to UDC](#)
[UDC Report to CPC](#)
[Location & Plans](#)
[Proposed Cross Section based on UDC Recommendation](#)
[Public Comment](#)
[Make Linden Safe](#)

he UDC had questions about the process, including about how the proposed project, particularly coupled with the streetscape encroachments also under review, matched the VCU Master Plan and what was the level of student engagement. On the narrowing, one member had concerns about the raised speed table at Floyd Ave and Linden St as creating too pedestrianized a space and not creating clear crossing points. The applicant clarified that the existing traffic signals would remain in the proposed project. The applicant also clarified many of the details of the proposed streetscape encroachments, under separate review, that will go in the space created by the narrowing of Linden St.

A motion, was made by Mr. Arias, seconded by Mr. Smith that the UDC recommend approval of the narrowing of Linden St as proposed. The motion carried by a 5-1 vote.

Aye -- 5 - Arias, Gould, Levine, Smith and Hicks

No -- 1 - Harnsberger

7. [UDC 2016-20](#) Review of Streetscape Encroachments for Linden St between Floyd & Grove Ave

Attachments: [Location & Plans](#)
[Staff Report to UDC](#)
[Public Comment](#)

Mr. Smith made a motion to recommend approval of the streetscape encroachments with the condition that if the project uses LED lighting that it will be 3000k color temperature. Ms. Levine seconded the motion and the item passed by a 4-2 vote, with Mr. Arias and Ms. Harnsberger opposed.

Aye -- 4 - Gould, Levine, Smith and Hicks

No -- 2 - Arias and Harnsberger

OTHER BUSINESS

8. [UDC 2016-24](#) Proposed Amendments to the UDC Operating Procedures regarding Encroachments belonging to VCU

Attachments: [VCU Standard Streetscape Encroachments](#)
[Operating Procedures Revisions - With Markup](#)
[Operating Procedures Revisions - Final](#)

Mr. Gould made a motion to approve these amendments with the one condition that some language be added to the Broad St sidewalk detail that points out that the condition of the existing concrete should be considered relative to the improved section and given thought whether or not it should be replaced. Ms. Levine seconded and the motion passed by a unanimous vote.

Aye -- 6 - Arias, Gould, Harnsberger, Levine, Smith and Hicks

Adjournment