

# City of Richmond

*900 East Broad Street  
2nd Floor of City Hall  
Richmond, VA 23219  
[www.rva.gov](http://www.rva.gov)*



## Meeting Minutes

**Thursday, August 8, 2024**

**10:00 AM**

**5th Floor Conference Room of City Hall**

**Urban Design Committee**

## Call to Order

[PDRPRES  
2024.048](#)

To access the meeting via Microsoft Teams, please use the following link: <https://tinyurl.com/5x6sbfd4> or dial \*67-804-316-9457 and enter ID: 458 536 086# Public comment will be requested in turn for each item on the agenda. Please stay on mute during other times to reduce background noise. If using a phone to access the meeting, you can use \*6 to mute and un-mute.

**Attachments:** [08 08 2024 Public Access and Participation Instructions - Urban Design Committee](#)

## Roll Call

**Present --** 10 - \* Committee Member Luigi Mignardi, \* Jessie Gemmer, \* Damon Pearson, \* Committee Member Charles Woodson, \* Committee Member Timothy Hamnett, \* Committee Member Keith Van Inwegen, \* Committee Member Samuel Young, \* Committee Member Mitchell Danese, \* Committee Member Eva Clarke and \* Committee Member Justin Doyle

**Absent --** 1 - \* Amelia Wehunt

## Approval of Minutes

A high level summary statement will be provided before voting on a final motion for each individual item. The summary statement will be transmitted to the Planning Commission along with the Motion outcome; and be recorded as minutes for the record.

## Secretary's Report

Scope of Review Reminder

17.07 General Location, Character, Extent Approval of public buildings, structures, streets, parks, etc.

- Items of a specific nature that are designed by professionals, such as engineers or architects, are not considered general.

17.05 UDC may make recommendations on the specific design of public structures, appurtenances, and street fixtures.

## Consideration of Continuances and Deletions from Agenda

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

The UDC discussed recommendations on planting species for UDC 2024-36 - 29 N 17th St., that the proposed sign located at 2920 W. Cary Street was missing a period after the A.B.C(.); and concern over the proposed plaza at 29 North 17th Street not being a plaza as required by the zoning code.

**A motion by Committee Member Clark, seconded by Committee Member Woodson, to approve the Consent Agenda with Staff recommendations was approved by unanimous "aye" vote by the Committee.**

[UDC 2024-35](#) UDC 2024-35 ENCROACHMENT - Permanent building sign extending

into ROW located at 2920 West Cary Street

**Attachments:** [UDC 2024-35 App](#)  
[UDC 2024-35 Plans](#)  
[UDC 2022-35 Staff Report](#)

[UDC 2024-36](#) UDC 2024-36 ENCROACHMENT - Expansion of permanent outdoor seating in the ROW located at 29 North 17th Street (17th Street Market)

**Attachments:** [UDC 2024-36 Application](#)  
[UDC 2024-36 Plans](#)  
[UDC 2022-36 Staff Report](#)  
[Exhibit 1 - Site Photo - Current Existing](#)

[UDC 2024-38](#) UDC 2024-38 Plan of Development Recommendation for Front Yard Setback - 2000 Semmes Avenue

**Attachments:** [UDC 2024-38 App](#)  
[UDC 2024-38 Narrative](#)  
[UDC 2024-38 Plans](#)  
[UDC 2024-38 Staff Report](#)  
[Exhibit 1 - POD Architecture Plan Set](#)  
[Exhibit 2 - POD Landscape Plan Set](#)

[UDC 2024-39](#) UDC 2024-39 FINAL AMENDMENT Location, Character, Extent review for Phase 1 of the remodeled Blackwell Park located at 1400 Maury Avenue.

**Attachments:** [UDC 2024-39 App](#)  
[UDC 2024-39 Narrative](#)  
[UDC 2024-39 Plans](#)  
[UDC 2024-39 Staff report to UDC](#)  
[UDC 2024-39 UDC report to CPC](#)  
[PREVIOUSLY APPROVED Concept Plan](#)  
[PREVIOUSLY APPROVED Phase 1 Plans](#)

## **REGULAR AGENDA**

[UDC 2024-37](#) UDC 2024-37 FINAL Location, Character, and Extent review of the proposed Diamond District Stadium located at 3001 North Arthur Ashe Boulevard

- Attachments:** [UDC 2024-37 Application](#)  
[UDC 2024-37 Narrative](#)  
[UDC 2024-37 Rendered Site Plan](#)  
[UDC 2024-37 Architectural 3D Renderings](#)  
[UDC 2024-37 Architecture](#)  
[UDC 2024-37 Staff Report to UDC](#)  
[UDC 2024-37 UDC Report to CPC](#)

The UDC discussed planting species, shade for activity areas within the stadium, how parking will be facilitated, architectural quality as viewed from the future Festival Street – including the provision of fencing along that façade, accessibility for the children’s play area, if the proposed architecture was unique within Richmond or among similarly situated baseball stadiums, architectural quality as viewed from the bridge on Arthur Ashe Boulevard (A.A. Blvd), materials used on the roof that are visible from the A.A. bridge, quality of materials visible from A.A. Blvd, lighting to break up facades, disappointment in City Staff that the project was brought before the UDC as a FINAL application rather than providing a CONCEPT review.

Public comment was provided with concern over the quality and uniqueness of the architectural design, playground design, accessibility, view from the highway.

**This Location, Character and Extent Item was recommended for approval with amendments to the Planning Commission due back on 8/20/2024.**

**The UDC Recommended the following Conditions of Approval:**

- 1. The UDC recommends that final details on outdoor lighting be sensitive to light pollution or dark-skies compliant.**
- 2. The UDC recommends inclusion of permeable hardscape materials and sustainable stormwater features, where appropriate, and as suggested by the Urban Design Guidelines.**
- 3. The UDC recommends the applicant incorporate public art, where feasible.**
- 4. The UDC recommends that the Applicant explore additional brick proportions and detailing visible from Arthur Ashe Boulevard.**
- 5. The UDC recommends that the Applicant include additional shade and seating.**
- 6. The UDC supports consideration for solar power generation.**
- 7. The UDC recommends that the Applicant include for Planning Commission review, renderings of the view from Arthur Ashe Boulevard and the Arthur Ashe Boulevard Bridge, as well as renderings showing architecture during the night time.**
- 8. The UDC supports changes to the architectural façade that make it more iconic and monumental.**

**Aye --** 8 - Committee Member Luigi Mignardi, Jessie Gemmer, Committee Member Charles Woodson, Committee Member Keith Van Inwegen, Committee Member Samuel Young, Committee Member Mitchell Danese, Committee Member Eva Clarke and Committee Member Justin Doyle

**No --** 2 - Damon Pearson and Committee Member Timothy Hamnett

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

Discussion - Richmond Connects Lighter, Quicker, Cheaper

**Adjournment**