



City of Richmond

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

Meeting Minutes Urban Design Committee

Thursday, October 7, 2021

10:00 AM

5th Floor Conference Room of City Hall

[PDRPRES](#) Public Access and Participation - Urban Design Committee
[2021.154](#)

Attachments: [Public Access and Participation Instructions](#)

Call to Order

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Roll Call

- Present** -- 8 - * Charles Woodson, * Andrea Quilici, * Justin Doyle, * Eva Clarke, * Amelia Wehunt, * Jessie Gemmer, * Damon Pearson and * Max Hepp-Buchanan
- Excused** -- 1 - * Member Emily Smith
- Absent** -- 2 - * Chair Andrea Almond and * Mitchell Danese

Approval of Minutes

None.

Secretary's Report

Planning Commission Approvals

CONSENT AGENDA

None

REGULAR AGENDA

[UDC 2021-37](#) Final location, character, and extent review of the temporary GRTC Transfer Station. 808 E. Clay Street

Attachments: [UDC Report to CPC](#)
[Updated Narrative 10.14.21](#)
[Staff Report to UDC](#)
[Location & Plans](#)
[TTP Restroom Design for Operators Letter](#)
[Proposed Fence Options](#)

Mr. Dandridge stated that the applicant said was able to obtain 3 planters from Venture Richmond, but if there's a way to obtain more planters, that would be ideal.

Committee Member Woodson stated that the planters could be reused, and the use of planters between the parking area and the transfer state could take the place of a chain-link fence.

Committee Member Gemmer asked how Venture would water the plants in the planters without utilities.

Mr. Oliver said that Venture volunteered the planters, but GRTC has to relocate them and maintain them. The width of the island is only about 7' wide, based on comments from DPW. The site wasn't designed for pedestrian use, but they expect pedestrians to use it. It's likely to get struck by vehicles. Any planter they would fit there would have to be pretty narrow. The applicant questions whether they can get the height they're looking for the separation using planters rather than a fence.

Committee Member Quilici said maybe artists could be engaged and there could be an artistic edge between the bus facility and parking.

Ms. Clarke suggested that the applicant work with GRTC and come up with some type of artistic solution. Art around transportation does exist and it could be a great opportunity, but they would have to explore that option further.

Mr. Oliver said they're constrained on width because buses have to be able to make the turns safely. They could potentially use 4 more parking spaces, and the population is already sensitive about parking loss.

Emily DeRoss from GRTC said that they'd be open to a creative solution, but her concern about wooden fence would be the line-of-site, they wouldn't want to block that off entirely.

Committee Member Quilici said that a black screen would already made an impediment to line-of-site, so if that's the final solution, is wrong if visibility is key.

Mr. Dandridge clarified to say that the chain link fence would be painted black, not a black screen.

Committee Member Quilici asked about a toilet facility. He asked if there's a way to screen the facility, or maybe an artist could paint it. Maybe they could give it an interesting texture or some other solution.

McGregor with GRTC said they can consider a creative option for the facility.

Ryan Bounds from Kimley said the restroom facility could be wrapped in paint or finish,

there's a lot of flexibility. There is a catalog they can acquire from the supplier.

Committee Member Quilici said he thinks an artist or another creative solution would be best.

Committee Member Gemmer asked about the quantity of benches, and if there will be any benches within the bus shelters.

McGregor said the current benches will be taken from the existing transfer center and adding more.

Gemmer asked if the number of benches shown is enough for all the rider ship. McGregor said he thinks it would be a sufficient number.

Committee Member Quilici asked if there were any public comments. There were none.

Committee Member Quilli asked if the Committee would want to make any changes to the motion.

Committee Member Woodson reminded everyone that the chain link fence is part of the motion.

Committee Member Gemmer asked Woodson if he would be comfortable adding a condition about adding art to the restroom facility. Woodson said yes, that's fine. Mr. Doyle said he's fine as well.

Committee Member Woodson asked about the funding for getting an artist. Ms. Clarke said their office would have to work with GRTC – they are constrained by federal/state regulations – so they would have to see who could fund it later.

Committee Member Woodson asked if it would fall under the purview of PAC.

Mr. Dandridge said he believed so, and he can check with Susan Glasser, Secretary to the Public Art Commission.

Kevin Vonck said he thinks it would have to go through PAC since it's on city property, and they don't have dedicated funding, but they could move to the process along if so desired.

Woodson said he was at 2nd Street Festival at 4 W. Broad, there are socially responsible poster works that is a private group putting them up – he recommends people look at them.

A motion was made by Committee Member Woodson, seconded by Committee Member Doyle, that this item be approved with the following conditions:

- **Staff recommends that the applicant further study the need for a chain-link fence between the parking lot and the temporary Transfer Center, and consider the feasibility of its removal**
- **Public Art opportunity be incorporated into the design of the exterior of the temporary restroom facility**
- **Final color selection for site furnishings be submitted to staff for review**

The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye -- 8 - Charles Woodson, Andrea Quilici, Justin Doyle, Eva Clarke, Amelia Wehunt, Jessie Gemmer, Damon Pearson and Max Hepp-Buchanan

Excused -- 1 - Member Emily Smith

OTHER BUSINESS

UDC Guidelines

Adjournment