



Staff Report
 City of Richmond, Virginia
Planning Commission



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| UDC 2024-08 | Section 17.05: Consider and Suggest the Design– Template Street Fixtures and Appurtenances Meeting Date: 2/6/2024 |
| Applicant/Petitioner | Raquel Aguirre GRTC |
| Project Description | Template GRTC Sign/Seat |
| Project Location | |
| Address: City Wide | |
| Property Owner: DPW ROW | |
| High-Level Details: This is a request to review the template for a street fixture, as required by 17.05 of the City Code. The proposal is a modification of the existing GRTC Bus Stop sign to facilitate seating to be attached. This fixture will then be used by GRTC throughout the City. | |
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| UDC Recommendation | Approval |
| Staff Contact | Ray Roakes, Planner, raymond.roakes@rva.gov |
| Public Outreach/ Previous Reviews | NA |
| Conditions for Approval | NA |
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Findings of Fact

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| Site Description | General review for street fixture that will be used in locations citywide. |
| Scope of Review | Section 17.05: It shall be the further duty and function of the commission ... to consider and suggest the design of ... street fixtures and other public structures and appurtenances. |

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| Prior Approvals | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> GRTC Bus Shelters were reviewed and approved by the Urban Design Committee and the City Planning Commission in 1997 |
| Project Description | <p>GRTC and RVA DPW have been working to greatly increase the quality of a large number of bus stops throughout the City. One of the primary enhancements sought is the provision of seating at a bus stop. In many locations, there is not enough room to provide a full bus shelter or bench. GRTC has generated the proposed sign/seating to address instances where space is limited.</p> <p>The proposal includes the possibility of providing a solar paneled light, bus schedule and arrival screen, among other items. The intent is to provide the seating and solar powered light at the current project stage, additions may be made in the future.</p> <p>Staff finds the proposal will provide seating to bus stops that do not currently include seating, and will do so in locations that it would be impossible to provide more standard fixtures.</p> <p>Staff recommends approval.</p> |

Urban Design Guidelines and Master Plan

| | Text | Staff Analysis |
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| Master Plan | | |
| | Two of the major objectives stated in the City of Richmond’s Master Plan are to increase street-level pedestrian activity while safely and efficiently moving people and goods into and out of the City, and to promote a multimodal transportation system. | The proposal promotes multimodal transportation by increasing quality of bus stops. |
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| Urban Design Guidelines | | |
| P.6 GRTC Transit Stops | A comfortable, safe, and quality environment should be created at transit stops. The elimination of transit stops without replacement should be discouraged, unless addressing frequency. Standard bus shelters and other bus stop furniture that have been approved by the UDC, the City Planning Commission, and GRTC should be used at GRTC transit stops with high ridership and must be installed in a way that doesn’t obstruct the public right-of-way or accessibility. Benches installed at transit stops should have arm rests in the middle of the bench for the comfort of riders and to discourage its use for activities other than a short term wait for the bus. | The proposal increase GRTC’s ability to provide comfortable and quality transit stops with the provision of seating in locations where it is difficult to do so with current fixtures. |