



City of Richmond

900 East Broad Street
2nd Floor of City Hall
Richmond, VA 23219
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Summary Urban Design Committee

Thursday, September 8, 2016

10:00 AM

5th Floor Conference Room of City Hall

Call to Order

Roll Call

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

Approval of Minutes

1. [UDC MIN 2016-008](#) Minutes of the August 4, 2016 Meeting of the UDC (Draft)

Attachments: [8/4/16 Minutes to be Approved](#)

Ms. Levine made a motion to approve the August 4, 2016 minutes of the Urban Design Committee, Ms. Harnsberger seconded. The motion passed by a 5-0 vote, with Mr. Arias abstaining because he was absent from the August 4, 2016 meeting.

Aye -- 5 - Almond, Green, Harnsberger, Levine and Smith

Abstain -- 1 - Arias

Secretary's Report

Consideration of Continuances and Deletions from Agenda

After a discussion of public comment as well as Committee concerns on the item, Chairwoman Almond made a motion to move consideration of the Landscaping Plan for BRT Pulse Stations to the regular agenda. Mr. Smith seconded the motion, and it was approved by a unanimous vote.

CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Harnsberger, seconded by Vice Chair Levine, that this be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye -- 6 - Almond, Arias, Green, Harnsberger, Levine and Smith

2. [UDC 2016-36](#) Review of streetscape encroachments associated with a new building at 111 S 6th Street

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

Ms. Harnsberger inquired about how the sidewalk would look and function at the parking garage entrance and exit areas. The applicant asked if she meant with regards to safety, and detailed some of the safety concerns and approaches they are considering. There was no public comment.

This item passed as part of the consent agenda.

3. [UDC 2016-38](#) Review of signage and awning encroachments at 202 S Robinson St

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

This item passed as part of the consent agenda.

REGULAR AGENDA

4. [UDC 2016-39](#) Review of Landscaping Plan for BRT Pulse Stations

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

This item was moved to the regular agenda. Chairwoman Almond made a motion to move it to the regular agenda, Mr. Smith seconded it, and it carried by a unanimous vote.

This item was considered as part of the regular agenda. Ms. Harnsberger made a motion to approve the final location, character, and extent of this item with the added condition that the landscape plans use non-invasive, drought-tolerant groundcover with sympathy for the neighborhood palette.

5. [UDC 2016-37](#) Final Review of Revisions to Main Street Station Site Work

Attachments: [Location & Plans](#)
[UDC Report to CPC](#)
[Staff Report to UDC](#)
[Previously-approved final plans, UDC 2012-28\(2\)](#)
[CPC Council Letter UDC 12-28\(2\)](#)
[Public Comment](#)

Staff recommendations for the project include:

- That the proposed bike lane on East Franklin Street taper into the right-of-way that

travels underneath the train shed to provide a seamless transition

- That the bike share station have a clear ingress and egress to and from 15th Street, including relocating the existing signage in place, as well as a direct hardscaped and ramped connection to the western path of the parking area for direct access to Franklin Street

- That the number of retractable bollards be reduced to one or three, to provide an odd number and ease in path selection through the site and contain a reflective element for low-light conditions

- That the applicant work with the Transportation Engineer and Pedestrian, Bicycle & Trails Coordinator to ensure ramps are aligned to ensure appropriate sidewalk width and pedestrian desire lines are maintained

As well as the additional consideration:

- That the applicant consider designating some bicycle parking as long-term, with lockers or other protected storage, and remove excess bicycle parking with poor sight lines from the project

Ms. Harsberger made a motion to approve this item with the staff recommendations with the exception of submission of an updated lighting plan and details of the proposed canopy because they have been submitted, as well as the additional consideration that drought-resistant, non-invasive groundcover be used in the landscape plan. Ms. Levine seconded the motion, and it passed by a unanimous vote.

Aye -- 6 - Almond, Arias, Green, Harnsberger, Levine and Smith

OTHER BUSINESS

Ms. Onufer stated that the discussion on lighting by Public Works will come to UDC in October. Mr. Smith and Ms. Harnsberger made some appendixes for the guidelines for LED and lighting. Ms. Smith distributed some appendixes and notes and gave a brief description regarding LED lighting and stated that it is cleaner and brighter for the City. Ms. Harnsberger and Mr. Smith discussed our health benefit of using LED lighting.

Mr. Olinger stated that he wants the Committee to do a night time tour and stated that they have a lot of light fixtures on Main Street as they create new standards and questioned how do they cut down on the glare.

The Committee briefly discussed the lighting in the city.

Ms. Onufer stated that she will upload the lighting draft guidelines so that the public is able to view it.

Adjournment