

Costanzo, Kevin G. - PDR

From: Charles Pool <charlespool@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2025 10:07 AM
To: Costanzo, Kevin G. - PDR
Subject: Re: May 15th UDC Meeting - Agenda & Public Notice

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Dear Mr. Costanzo,

Please distribute my comment below to the UDC members regarding item **UDC 2025-15 Brown's Island Improvement Plan**:

TO: Members of the Urban Design Committee
RE: UDC 2025-15 Brown's Island Improvement Plan

Dear UDC Members,

I had the opportunity to attend the previous UDC hearing regarding the Brown's Island Improvement Plan when Committee members very astutely requested that the plans for Brown's Island be improved by decreasing the excessive hardscaping shown the plan. Objections were appropriately made to the Hollywood-like Brown's Island sign.

Unfortunately, the new proposal for an excessive Brown's Island sign should also be removed from the plan. Perhaps this strange concrete tower is supposed to somehow evoke the authentic stone bridge footings on Brown's Island? It is unnecessary to erect a fake bridge footing when the genuine footings are nearby. And are the pine boxes for seating below the inappropriate sign meant to evoke the caskets for the unfortunate workers killed in the Brown's Island armory explosion during the Civil War??

Please recommend that the sign, the pine box seating, and the excessive concrete of "Haxall Plaza" be removed from the plan. There is no other park in Richmond that requires a colossal sign to brand the park. Perhaps a sculpture could be substituted for the sign.



THE LOOKOUT HAXALL PLAZA

BROWN'S ISLAND IMPROVEMENT PLAN | UDC FINAL DESIGN REVIEW | 15 MAY 2025



Thank you very much for your consideration of this recommendation to remove the large Brown's Island sign, pine box seating, and excessive concrete from the "Haxall Plaza" in the Brown's Island Improvement Plan.

Sincerely,

Charles Pool
Richmond

On Fri, May 2, 2025 at 3:19 PM Costanzo, Kevin G. - PDR <Kevin.Costanzo@rva.gov> wrote:

Good Afternoon,

Please find the posted agenda which references applications to be considered at the **May 15th, 2025**, meeting of the UDC.

This meeting will be held at **10:00am in person at City Hall** located at 900 E. Broad Street, Richmond, VA 23219 in the 5th Floor Conference Room.

The public may participate in-person, or through electronic communication using Microsoft Teams. Instructions on how to participate virtually will be posted to the agenda, which can be found at the following web address:

<https://tinyurl.com/4ce7nna8>

If you have questions about the proposals or about the UDC review process or would like to provide feedback on the listed projects, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you kindly,



DEPARTMENT OF
**PLANNING AND
DEVELOPMENT
REVIEW**

Kevin Costanzo

Preservation – Section 106 Planner | authentiCITY Studio

(o) 804-646-6335

(e) Kevin.Costanzo@rva.gov

(w) rva.gov/planning-development-review

(m) 900 E. Broad St., Room 511, Richmond, VA 23219-1907

How am I doing? Please contact my supervisor Kimberly.Chen@rva.gov

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