

Call To Order

Roll Call

Present	8 -	* Mr. Rodney Poole, * Mr. Melvin Law, * Mr. David Johannas, * Mr. Jeffrey		
		Sadler, * Ms. Ellen Robertson, * Ms. Selena Cuffee-Glenn, * Mr. Vivek Murthy,		
		and * Mr. Max Hepp-Buchanan		
Absent	1 -	* Ms. Elizabeth Greenfield		

Chair's Comments

Resolution of Appreciation for Doug Cole

Approval of Minutes

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

- Aye -- 5 * Mr. Poole, * Mr. Law, * Mr. Sadler, * Mr. Murthy and * Mr. Hepp-Buchanan
- Abstain -- 2 * Mr. Johannas and * Ms. Cuffee-Glenn

Minutes to be Approved, May 2, 2016

Attachments: Draft Meeting Minutes, 5-2-16.pdf

Director's Report

The City budget was adopted on Friday. There was a \$300,000 Capital Budget amendment in there that will help finish off phases 1 and 2 of the T. Tyler Potterfield Memorial Bridge. He stated they are working with Hargreaves and Associates and the construction firm Howard Shockey to get all the contract modifications in place so they can continue the work. The bridge will be done in October with most of the access completed by the end of the year.

- Council Action Update

Mr. Thompson stated Resolution 2016-R007 regarding mailings and notifications for City Planning Commission meetings will be going to Governmental Operations Committee meeting on May 26.

Ms. Cuffee-Glenn stated she and staff met with Mr. Hilbert to understand the intent of the paper. Subsequent meetings will be scheduled with Mr. Hilbert before anything will go before City Council, so they are trying to work out the details and understanding the intent and impacts for actual adoption of an ordinance.

Special Use Permits for the 1300 block of McDonough Street and 2701 Woodrow Avenue were approved at City Council's last meeting as recommended by the Planning Commission.

To declare a public necessity and to initiate an amendment to the City's zoning ordinance making the Department of Planning and Development Review, instead of the Office of the City Clerk, responsible for the mailing of required notices of City Planning Commission meetings.

Attachments: Res. No. 2016-R007

Consideration of Continuances and Deletions from Agenda

There were no continuances and deletions from today's agenda.

Consent Agenda

Mr. Sadler asked for Item Number 1, what is the use.

Mr. Doug Mawby, Department of Public Works, Right-of-Way Management stated this is piece of a paper street, a section of this street was closed many years ago south of this location, this particular piece was concurrently also on top of railroad right-of-way that serves the old tunnel. That piece vacated was quick claim by the railroad to the owners of the adjacent warehouse building, they are trying to redevelop that and their right-of-way still went over the top of the same location, so in order to clean that up they came to Public Works to vacate that portion of the right-of-way that is also on top of the railroad right-of-way.

There was no public comment.

Present	8 -	* Mr. Rodney Poole, * Mr. Melvin Law, * Mr. David Johannas, * Mr. Jeffrey	
		Sadler, * Ms. Ellen Robertson, * Ms. Selena Cuffee-Glenn, * Mr. Vivek Murthy,	
		and * Mr. Max Hepp-Buchanan	

-- Absent 1 - * Ms. Elizabeth Greenfield

The consent agenda consists of items that appear relatively non-controversial in nature and for which there was no known opposition at the time this agenda was set. The Consent Agenda items will be considered by the Commission as a group, and there will be a single combined staff presentation and a single combined public hearing held for all items listed on the Consent Agenda.

1.To close, to public use and travel, a portion of North 32nd Street,
located south of East Franklin Street and north of Williamsburg Avenue
and consisting of 5,418± square feet, upon certain terms and conditions.

Attachments: Ord. No. 2016-131

Staff Report

A motion was made that this Ordinance be recommended for approval to City Council. The motion carried by the following vote:

- Aye -- 6 * Mr. Law, * Mr. Johannas, * Mr. Sadler, * Ms. Cuffee-Glenn, * Mr. Murthy and * Mr. Hepp-Buchanan
- Excused -- 1 * Ms. Robertson
- Abstain -- 1 * Mr. Poole
- 2.

To authorize the special use of the property known as 1702 Floyd Avenue for the purpose of permitting one two-family attached dwelling with accessory parking, upon certain terms and conditions. 3.

	Staff Report			
	Location Map			
	Application, Applicant's Report, Plans			
	Legal Description			
	A motion was made that this Ordinance be recommended for approval to City Council. The motion carried by the following vote:			
Ауе	 * Mr. Poole, * Mr. Law, * Mr. Johannas, * Mr. Sadler, * Ms. Cuffee-Glenn, * Mr. Murthy and * Mr. Hepp-Buchanan 			
Excused	1 - * Ms. Robertson			
	Final Review of Improvements to Elson Redmond Memorial Driving Range			

Attachments: Application & Plans

Attachments: Ord. No. 2016-132

Staff Report to UDC

UDC Report to CPC

The Final Location, Character, and Extent Review was approved on the Consent Agenda

4. Final review of modular buildings at Reid Elementary School

Attachments: UDC Recommendation to CPC

Application & Plans
Staff Report to UDC

The Final Location, Character, and Extent Review was approved on the Consent Agenda

- 5. Final review of modular buildings at Broad Rock Elementary School
 - Attachments: UDC Recommendation to CPC

Application & Plans
Staff Report

The Final Location, Character, and Extent Review was approved on the Consent Agenda

6. Final review of modular buildings at Greene Elementary School

Attachments: UDC Recommendation to CPC

Application & Plans

Staff Report to UDC

The Final Location, Character, and Extent Review was approved on the Consent Agenda

7.Final review of High Water Mark Initiative signs

Attachments: Application & Plans Staff Report to UDC

UDC Recommendation to CPC

The Final Location, Character, and Extent Review was approved on the Consent Agenda

Regular Agenda

8.

Conceptual Location, Character and Extent review of Maggie Walker Memorial Plaza; UDC No. 2016-12

Attachments: UDC Report to Planning Commission

Updated Plans, 5-12,16.pdf

UDC Recommendations-Response.pdf

Application & Plans

Comment Letter from the Commission of Architectural Review

Public Comment to CPC

Public Comment to UDC

Public Comment Presentations to the UDC

Petitions of Support & for Taller Statuary

Maggie Walker Memorial Plaza VAASLA Letter to Members of Planning + Art Commission April 15 2016.pdf

Mr. Mark Olinger introduced this item and provided a brief update to the Commission.

Ms. Kathleen Onufer provided a staff report for the Urban Design Committee.

Mr. Toby Mendez, Sculptor, provided a summary of changes to the conceptual design.

Ms. Diane Linderman, VHB, provided additional thoughts on the changes. She also went through the responses to the Urban Design Committee recommendations.

Michael Sawyer, City Transportation Engineer, spoke to the status of the traffic study, which is nearing completion. He also spoke to the crosswalk at Adams and Brook Road.

Mr. Johannas asked why we are not accommodating natural pedestrian patterns.

Mr. Sawyer stated that there is not enough room to accommodate both the pedestrians and the BRT impacts, with the goal to protect the northbound traffic on Adams.

Mr. Sadler believes the BRT's intention is to lessen the number of cars and that prioritizing traffic over the pedestrians is backwards.

Ms. Ellen Robertson asked where the BRT station is.

Ms. Cuffee-Glenn stated that we are not compromising safety and she asked whether we are trying to accommodate the logistics of BRT and all the other things that are happening in the intersection.

Mr. Sawyer stated yes, it is a very tight space.

Mr. Hepp-Buchanan asked about locating the crosswalk somewhere in that intersection.

Mr. Sawyer stated possibly to the north. The best form of creating a gap is to have a pedestrian countdown signal.

Mr. Murthy asked where the 3 loading spaces are. What is the minimum crosswalk width you could put in.

Mr. Sawyer stated there are site line requirements and the minimum width is 6 feet.

Mr. Johannas stated that we are increasing the pattern of diagonal traffic and yet at the same time, we are saying don't cross here. People will cross whether there is a crosswalk or not.

Mr. Sadler asked about bicycle infrastructure.

Mr. Sawyer pointed out the existing locations.

Mr. Johannas stated the project has come a long way. He still has a lot of concern for the lack of shading.

Mr. Mendez stated they wanted to install Maggie Walker first, then put the landscaping behind her, thus not placing any trees along Broad. The proposed trees provide a backdrop to Maggie Walker and do not force Maggie Walker to compete with the buildings behind her. One of the goals is to have unlimited views from Broad.

Mr. Johannas stated that there is no reason to not accommodate the climate.

Mr. Mendez stated that there is just no way he would put a tree next to Maggie Walker.

Mr. Sadler stated that he does not support limiting discussion.

Mr. Gary Flowers stated he is a resident of Jackson Ward. Given the community output, they cannot equate placing a tree in front of the memorial with placing one in front a building. This would impair the site lines.

Ms. Sarah Driggs, Public Art Commission, feels that the plan reflects a lot of what the Urban Design Committee requested and she hopes they continue to work with the team on the design. The Public Art Commission has not seen this design. She asked the Planning Commission to urge the team to work with the Public Art Commission when working towards the final plan; to do a more economic plan and paring down the cost of granite. The Planning Department should meet with the neighbors concerning the traffic study.

Mr. Sam Forrest stated two things come to mind, the sitting wall is too high and how are we going to cut the proposed green space.

Ms. Beth Glaser stated she is a resident of Jackson Ward. Nobody is addressing the stormwater issues. How can we afford such an expensive statue when we have potholes everywhere. Nobody is happy about it being at this location. It should go to Abner Clay Park. It would be much more affordable. It has disturbed the entire community.

Ms. Jenny Dotts stated she is a resident of the City of Richmond and has a business in

Jackson Ward. Listening to Mr. Mendez regarding the landscaping and trees and how they will prevent the historic buildings from competing with the statue really underscores the whole misdirection of this plan, which is to take a really historic site, erase what is unique about it and remake it to accommodate a statue. That is the wrong way around. The national park service is undertaking a landscape survey. People outside have higher regard than the people sitting here.

Mr. Michael Brown stated he was born and partially raised in Jackson Ward and a proud graduate of Maggie Walker High School. He commends the commission and all involved for their comments. He pointed out Tribeca 2 and how hard it is to pull out on to Harrison. He stated he would say no tree, let's move on.

Mr. Melvin Jones stated before this project even got started, before Max's was there, he put a paper in to City Council to put Maggie Walker there, and we are still talking about a tree. There are no trees around Robert E. Lee. Do not treat Maggie Walker like this.

Mr. Andrew Blakley stated he requests that the Planning Commission enforce the Urban Design Committee's recommendations in whole, including the crosswalk. Delivery trucks are going to end up running their engines and unloading in those loading spaces, nothing could be more disrespectful. We need to look at those spaces and we really need to concentrate on pedestrian safety. You can gain back more plaza space by removing those loading spaces. We have enough drive by memorials. This is an opportunity to make a space where we can go and take in how Maggie Walker has effected the City. He stated regarding landscaping, the request from the Urban Design Committee was to eliminate or reduce the amount of landscaping, who is going to maintain the proposed landscaping. The willow oaks proposed on Adams do not match those on Broad street. The trees may be too close to each other and grow unhealthy. He would like to revisit the shade studies. He stated, stormwater, how will it be managed; will it all be managed by the two landscape beds. There is an inlet on Brook road, he does not see that it is going to be modified. The applicant should be held to all the Urban Design Committee's recommendations.

Mr. Rubin Peacock stated it looks like they are going to put a tree right in front of his window. Regarding utility poles and moving them, it looks like they will be directly in front of everything. He would like to see a real drawing instead of the conceptual drawings. He stated two tractor trailers were unloading this morning for over an hour.

Mr. Maurice Hopkins stated he represents the Maggie Walker High School alumni. He is here to finalize this project. We have come along way. The point is Maggie Walker should exist in that location. It is up to you to make sure it is done appropriately. He has missed seeing a visual recording at the base of the statue. That should be included and it has been repeated multiple times. It should be added to the list. The budget is an internal problem. The Public Art Commission spent 2 hours talking about the budget. Those are considerations after the fact. Let's work this out.

Mr. Sadler asked have arrangements been made for the relocation of utility poles.

Ms. Linderman pointed out the relocation of one utility pole and street light pole.

Mr. Sadler stated reference was made to a shade study, was a shade study done.

Ms. Linderman stated City Planning staff did that.

Mr. Sadler stated the last speaker mentioned a video, was that ever part of your consideration.

Mr. Mendez stated there was no specific discussion of that video but there is a place for

something similar like a kiosk.

Mr. Sadler asked about an approximate cost for this project?

Mr. Olinger stated \$800k coming from Planning and Development Review, Public Utilities, and the Department of Public Works.

Mr. Murthy stated in reference to stormwater management, have you done any preliminary engineer drawings.

Ms. Linderman stated the drop inlet will be modified and they have to meet the stormwater regulations. It is a combined area so they don't have to treat it for stormwater quality.

Ms. Robertson stated there has been conversation about maintanence, will this be considered Parks and Recreation.

Mr. Sadler stated the Department of Public Works takes care of most of the grass.

Mr. John Buturla, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer for Operations stated it is a joint responsibility. The statue will be Parks and the site will be the Department of Public Work's purview.

Ms. Robertson asked if all things go well, what is the projected schedule.

Mr. Olinger stated the end of the year is the goal.

Mr. Hepp-Buchanan stated regarding the parking spaces for the loading zones, are they 24/7 loading zone or are the sometimes parking spaces.

Mr. Mike Sawyer, City Transportation Engineer, stated it could vary.

Mr. Johannas stated he is greatly in favor of all aspects. He has concerns with the functions on some human levels.

Mr. Sadler wanted to make it clear that this is only a conceptual review and that there will be a final review.

Ms. Robertson asked Mr. Olinger for some accomplishment benchmarks.

Mr. Olinger stated they can hopefully come back with final documents in about 30 days. After final we can get it out to bid.

Mr. Hepp-Buchanan would like to see a crosswalk on the north side of Adams and Brook. He likes shade too but there are more people besides the people at the site, who should be able to enjoy the view. Mr. Hepp-Buchanan made a motion to approve with an amendment to place a crosswalk along just to the north of the Adams and Brook Road intersection and across Brook Road on the western access point. Mr. Sadler seconded the motion.

A motion was made by Ms. Cuffee-Glenn, seconded by Mr. Law, that the Conceptual Location, Character and Extend be approved with a condition that a croswalk be provided at the northern section of the Brook Road and North Adams Street intersection and also across Brook Road west of the intersection with Brook and Adams. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye -- 8 - * Mr. Poole, * Mr. Law, * Mr. Johannas, * Mr. Sadler, * Ms. Robertson, * Ms. Cuffee-Glenn, * Mr. Murthy and * Mr. Hepp-Buchanan

To authorize the conditional use of the property known as 100 South
 14th Street for the purpose of authorizing a nightclub, upon certain
 terms and conditions. (As Amended)

Attachments: Ord. No. 2016-102

Staff Report Location Map Plans Application & Appilcant's Report Shockoe Partnership Letter of Support Fulton Hill Properties Support Letter

Mr. Willy Thompson provided a presentation as outlined in the staff report.

Mr. Andy Condlin spoke on behalf of the applicant. They have worked with the neighbors to help mitigate any potential impacts and the Riverfront plan speaks to 18 hour activity.

Mr. Nicholas Smith stated another look should be given to the zoning regulations to be able to play music and serve alcohol after midnight. The smaller businesses will have a harder time going through all the regulations.

A motion was made by Mr. Murthy, seconded by Ms. Robertson to recommend approval of this Ordinance to City Council. The motion carried unanimously 8-0.

To amend and reordain Ord. No. 80-103-90, adopted Jun. 16, 1980, as previously amended by Ord. No. 2003-26-24, adopted Feb. 10, 2003, and Ord. No. 2007-264-231, adopted Oct. 22, 2007, which authorized the expansion of the existing day nursery, in the property known as 1617 Monument Avenue, to authorize expansion of the existing day nursery and accessory parking in the property known as 1617 Monument Avenue, 1627 Monument Avenue, and 1627 Rear Monument Avenue, upon certain terms and conditions. (As Amended)

Attachments: Ord. No. 2016-133 - Amended 20160523

Staff Report.pdf Plans Plat Applicant's Report & Application Map Community Response Letters.pdf Letters of Concern_Opposition.pdf Letters of Support.pdf

Mr. Matthew Ebinger provided a presentation as outlined in the staff report.

Mr. Poole asked what is the current staff level.

Mr. Ebinger stated the current staff requirement is 8. That is specified in the ordinance but the amendment would defer to the Social Services requirement for staffing ratios based on the number of children and the ages of the children.

Mr. Poole asked staff goes from 8 to 34.

Mr. Ebinger stated 34 is the maximum; ratios are different based on the ages of the children.

Ms. Jennifer Mullen, Roth, Donner, Jackson, provided the applicant's presentation.

Mr. John McGlease stated he and his wife has owned and lived in their home at 1628 Park Ave for the last 31 years. Their lot backs up the southside of the church parking lot. He is opposed because it exasperate the parking and traffic problems that already exist. It's a bottleneck where the entrance is located off of the alley trying to get into the facility. It will be worse bottleneck when there are 40 additional students in the school; that is an additional 80 extra vehicle trips a day. The parking in the parking lot pretty much blocks their access into their garage. The existing limitations are there for a reason. There's no reason why those limitation should be ignored.

Ms. Theresa Singleton stated she has lived at 1626 Park for 9 years. It has gotten increasingly difficult to get in and out of her garage and back gate. The southside is where people cut through. Her own car has been hit twice. She stated she is in opposed to this item.

Ms. Cory Cotfield stated she lives at 1624 Park Avenue and is in opposition to this proposal. She has been in her home only 5 months but she has been blocked numerous times with mini vans. The drop-offs are parking in the alley.

Ms. Alice Massey stated she lives at 1643 Monument Avenue. She has worked with the applicant to try and improve the traffic flow. She would like to see the plan implemented before it gets approval.

Ms. Cindy Lawford stated she is concerned with young people and the parents amongst a busy day to have more time to pickup and drop off. Need more parental supervision. She stated we love the layer of fabric of having the facility in the neighborhood but the traffic needs to be improved.

Mr. Sadler has offered his disapproval of in-home day care. This is the kind of affordable day care that the city needs.

Ms. Robertson stated she is concerned with some of the neighbors' concerns. She encourages the neighbors to be more aggressive with prosecuting people when they are violating No Parking signs. She wants to be sure there are appropriate No Parking signs along the alley.

Ms. Mullen stated we will work with the Department of Public Works to make sure all proper signage is being provided.

A motion was made by Mr. Sadler, seconded by Ms.Robertson to recommend approval of the ordinance, as amended, to City Council. The motion carried by the following vote:

- Aye -- 8 * Mr. Poole, * Mr. Law, * Mr. Johannas, * Mr. Sadler, * Ms. Robertson, * Ms. Cuffee-Glenn, * Mr. Murthy and * Mr. Hepp-Buchanan
- 11.Conceptual Review of East Riverfront Transportation Improvements,
including recolocation of Dock St and reconstruction of E Main St

Attachments: UDC Recommendation to CPC

Application & Plans

Staff Report to UDC

Public Comment

Applicant's Presentation

DPW response to UDC Recommendations

Selected Cross Sections_Tobacco Row

Ms. Kathleen Onufer provided a presentation as outlined in the staff report.

Mr. Johannas asked about the elevation of the traffic circle. He asaked do we have an elevation of the relocated Dock Street.

Ms. Onufer stated Dock Street will begin somewhere around 17-18 feet and move up to 32-33 feet at the circle.

Mr. Johannas asked about the Downtown plan.

Ms. Onufer stated the Downtown Plan recommends 4-6 stories.

Mr. Hepp-Buchanan asked what are the widths of the sidewalks on both sides.

Ms. Onufer stated 10.5 for most of the road but the Urban Design Committee recommended narrowing some of the right-of-way.

Mr. Hepp-Buchanan asked are the tree wells included in the width of the sidewalk. He asked what is the usable pedestrian zone of the sidewalk.

Ms. Onufer stated yes, the tree wells are five by five. The Urban Design Committee recommended removing grates and possibly narrowing the median width.

Mr. Poole stated this is a conceptual plan. Many of the items in the recommendations say consider. He stated they should put consider at the top and take out the specifics of the recommendations, and to have them considered since it is conceptual and they are working on the plan.

Mr. Lamont Benjamin, Capital Projects Administrator talked about how this project has come together.

Mr. Mark Vasco, applicant engineer provided a presentation of the design elements.

Mr. Johannas asked does this work include upgrading utilities.

Mark Vasco stated they are working with the Department of Public Utilities.

Mr. Law asked would the public art in the roundabout have an adverse impact on safety.

Mr. Vasco stated no, not in his opinion.

Mr. Buturla stated they would try to marry public art and public safety to ensure that there are no conflicts associated with that.

Mr. Murthy asked have they looked at how the existing utilities may accommodate

future development.

Mr. Vasco stated there would have to be service connections. The 12 inch water line is substantial enough to handle that kind of development. In fact there is a 24 inch water line along one part of main street. There is also a fair amount of sewer. There should not be an issue.

Mr. Buturla stated they will certainly take advantage of any opportunities to upgrade.

Mr. Murthy stated they are hearing a lot of about urgency, is there a phasing plan, especially concerning BRT.

Mr. Vasco stated yes, they would construct Main Street first, ensuring the continuance of 2-way traffic.

Mr. Hepp-Buchanan asked when will we see this project again.

Mr. Vasco stated hopefully in July.

Mr. Kara stated regarding the schedule, they plan to bring it back in July. All the major features will be included. They do need input on things like right-of-way and median. That information will help move things along. The total project could cost \$7.2 million. Undergrounding utilities may run over a million dollars, which is not included. They are pursuing state money.

Mr. Hepp-Buchanan stated Gillies Creek Greenway have been mentioned a few times, are we going to see a potential alignment in the 60 percent plans.

Mr. Kara stated yes.

Mr. Hepp-Buchanan stated he asked about tree grates and wants to maximize available space. Why did the Urban Design Committee want to take them out?

Mr. Kara stated they would prefer to keep them.

Mr. Olinger does not find tree grates a minor issue. He stated what we need to do is figure out what is the effective width we need and anticipate how conditions change.

Mr. Sadler stated there was not much advanced notice for this but here we are on a tight timeline and he objects to that.

Public Comment

Mr. Nicholas Smith read what the Department of Public Works says this project is. It was presented for transportation purposes. However, it appears that many of the design elements are being done to support future development. The roundabout only needs to be out of the flood plain to help support development. He asked the Commission to continue this item.

Mr. Fred Fisher, Partnership for Smarter Growth, stated there is too much riding on this and there are a lot of things that need to be considered. The community should have more opportunity to address it, perhaps with a charrette.

Ms. Cokie MacDonald stated please defer until after the Federal charrette. The raising of the roundabout makes the Echo Harbor a more buildable site. The other issue is doing it piecemeal.

Mr. Keith Rogers stated the letters of opportunity pilot is a grant that the City receive for technical assistance to provide enhancement. It is to be complimentary to all the activities that they have going on, and in no way is contrary to the plans that they have in motion for various transportation and Land Use projects.

Mr. Olinger stated the primary focus for the charrette is the Orleans Station.

Mr. Johannas stated we made a commitment to putting public transit in the City. He is also concerned that the neighbors need to be able to have lots of input.

Mr. Hepp-Buchanan made a motion to an amendment to align with the Gillies Creek greenway and a crossing of the greenway as well as narrowing the median. Mr. Murthy seconded the motion.

A motion was made by Mr. Law, seconded by Ms. Cuffee-Glenn, that the Conceptual Location, Character and Extend be approved with considerations given to the UDC recommendations and that a six foot median and five foot tree grates be incorporated into the design. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye -- 7 - * Mr. Poole, * Mr. Law, * Mr. Johannas, * Ms. Robertson, * Ms. Cuffee-Glenn, * Mr. Murthy and * Mr. Hepp-Buchanan

No -- 1 - * Mr. Sadler

Upcoming Items

6/6/ 16		Parklet Design Guidelines
	<u>Attachments:</u>	Parklet Design Guidelines
6/6/ 16		Presentation on the Commerce Road Corridor Economic Development Study

Adjournment

Mr. Poole adjourned the meeting at 5:15 p.m.

All persons attending the meeting are requested to register on the attendance sheets that have been placed on the chairs and are also available at the table by the conference room entrance. Once you have completed an attendance sheet, it should be provided to the Commission staff.

Rodney M. Poole, Chair

Daniel "Willy" Thompson, Acting Secretary