



The Philadelphia Art
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Robert Roesch
Chair

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Carmen Febo San Miguel
Matthew Kenyatta
James Lowe
Raed Nasser
Pepón Osorio
Rebecca Segall
Mario Zacharjasz

Alex M. Smith
Director

Philadelphia Art Commission Meeting Minutes Wednesday, September 11, 2024 - 9:30 AM

Members Present: José Almiñana, Carmen Febo San Miguel, James Lowe, Pepon Osorio, Rebecca Segall, and Robert Roesch

MEETING OF THE PHILADELPHIA ART COMMISSION

Katherine Liss, Art Commission staff member, on behalf of Alex Smith – Director of the Art Commission – introduced the Zoom platform and remote Art Commission process, noting that the meeting is being recorded and those participating in the meeting are giving their consent to be recorded. A link to the recording, will be posted on the Art Commission website and the meeting agenda and materials can also be found on the website at: (<https://www.phila.gov/departments/philadelphia-art-Commission/>).

*Katherine Liss polled the Commission via roll call, then stated a few instructions for the public. Members of the public may comment on agenda items during the meeting. When the agenda item that you are interested in is being discussed, you can use the “raise hand” feature and staff will unmute you during the public comment period. If you’re joining by phone, you can also use the hand raise feature by dialing *9 during the public comment period, and if you have any submitted comments through email, staff will read those emails out loud at the appropriate time. Thank you.*

Commission Chairperson Roesch called the meeting to order and announced a quorum at the minute mark in video (00:02:41).

REPORT OF THE SIGN & STREETERY COMMITTEE – AUGUST 28, 2024

Sign Applications

Second Reviews:

1. **26-24**
SEPTA Metro Signage – 15th Street / City Hall
15th & Market Streets
2. **29-24**
SEPTA Metro Signage – Broad & Spring Garden
N Broad and Spring Garden Streets
3. **30-24**
SEPTA Metro Signage – Race & Vine
N Broad & Race/Vine Streets
4. **32-24**
SEPTA Metro Signage – Walnut & Locust
S Broad & Walnut/Locust Streets

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First Reviews:

1. **213-24**
Cobbs Creek Golf Course
7400 Lansdowne Avenue
2. **194-24**
La Jefa
1602 Locust Street
3. **214-24**
Public Health Management Corporation (PHMC)
1200 Callowhill Street
4. **216-24**
New Balance
1619-1621 Walnut Street
5. **225-24**
Taco Bell Cantina
1614 Chestnut Street
6. **217-24**
Starbucks
1524-30 Walnut Street
7. **218-24**
School District of Philadelphia
440 N Broad Street
8. **219-24**
Mastery Charter – Grover Cleveland Elementary School
3715-33 N 19th Street

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Seeing no questions or comments from the Commission or the public, Chairperson Roesch asked for a motion to approve the recommendations of the Sign Committee and Streetery Committee from August 28, 2024 (00:03:38).

Upon the motion made by Commissioner Febo San Miguel and seconded by Commissioner Almiñana.

The vote was taken by consensus.

The Commission voted unanimously to approve the recommendations of the Sign Committee and Streetery Committee from August 28, 2024.

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**RECONSIDERATION OF THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE SIGN & STREETERY
COMMITTEE – JUNE 26, 2024**

**1. 163-24
The Mark
3615 Chestnut Street**

Eileen Quigley presented four building identification signs that stand alone (00:05:20). Members of the project team included Phillip Henry and Cyle Cox.

Questions and comments from the Commission (00:14:08).

Commissioner Almiñana clarified the direction of the signs, location, and size, which was addressed by Ms. Quigley. Regarding the size of the building, Mr. Cox responded. The discussion continued about affordable units and the tower (00:18:05).

Commissioner Febo San Miguel asked if the Commission could receive a summary of the objections from the Sign Committee for the project.

Katherine Liss provided the Commission with the requested information from the June 2024 Sign and Streeterly Committee Meeting (00:19:38).

Commissioner Nasser added that there were too many signs and there was no need for them, and the community expressed the same sentiments. Commissioner Almiñana expressed concerns about the amount of traffic with the hospitals and helicopters and asked if there were any considerations or related regulations regarding the signs, which Ms. Quigley responded to. The discussion continued between Commissioner Almiñana and Phillip Henry about the light output and regulation (00:22:57).

Ms. Quigley continued the presentation at the minute mark in video (00:25:01).

Questions and comments from the Commission (00:28:09).

Chairperson Roesch brought up the sign and asked about the night view. Ms. Quigley mentioned internal illumination followed by Matthew McClure, who addressed the Commission (00:27:38). The discussion continued between members of the Commission and presenters about illuminating the signage, the design, street views of the signs and façades, comments regarding the north and south elevations and requested removal to reduce the amount of signage, the intent of the design package, identification and marketing, and the impact of skyline signage (00:28:49).

Chairperson Roesch confirmed that Ms. Quigley requested a continuance, allowing the team to come back with additional renderings and more information (00:42:22).

Commissioner Febo San Miguel made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Almiñana to provide a continuance requesting the additional information perspectives (00:42:44 – 00:43:14).

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Before moving on with the motion, Ms. Liss stated that they do have street level renderings in the earlier submission that may inform the conversation if the Commission would like to look at them (00:43:25). Ms. Quigley asked for the ability to supplement.

Additional comments about the rooftop were made by Mr. Henry (00:44:11).

Members of the Commission requested to see the additional views.

Ms. Liss restated the motion, which was the following: a motion to continue the reconsideration of The Mark building ID signage (00:46:11).

Ms. Liss polled the Commission: Commissioner Almiñana Commissioner Febo San Miguel, Commissioner Lowe, Commissioner Nasser, Commissioner Osorio, Commissioner Segall, and Commission Chair Roesch.

Motion carried unanimously to approve The Mark Building ID Signage to continue the reconsideration (7-0).

ADMINISTRATIVE AGENDA

1. 229-24

Bus Shelter Upgrades Various Locations (5)

Review Type: Encroachment located within City Right-of-Way

Project Details: Five new bus shelter installations

Applicant: Office of Transportation and Infrastructure Systems (OTIS)

Ms. Liss presented five administrative items beginning, with Bus Shelter Upgrades (00:47:21).

The Office of Transportation and Infrastructure Systems (OTIS), in partnership with Intersection, has submitted a series of bus shelter upgrades as part of their on-going shelter improvement program. The Art Commission typically reviews new or replacement bus shelter locations several times a year as administrative items. Today's proposal is for five new bus shelters at various locations around the city.

All the locations are proposing new shelters where currently no shelter exists. For each location, the shelter locations are also being reviewed by the Streets Department for compliance, with Complete Streets and dimensional standards.

The locations are:

- Lehigh Avenue & 21st Street SW
- 29th Street & Allegheny NW
- Aramingo Avenue & Castor Avenue SE
- Erie Avenue & Rising Sun Avenue NW
- Roosevelt Boulevard & 9th Street SE

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Questions and comments from the Commission (00:49:02).

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Commissioner Febo San Miguel inquired about their size and Commissioner Almiñana and Ms. Liss clarified. Neil Garry provided further clarification.

Seeing no further questions or comments from the Commission or the public, Chairperson Roesch asked for a motion to approve (00:52:03).

Upon the motion made by Commissioner Nasser and seconded by Commissioner Segall.

The vote was taken by consensus. The Commission voted unanimously to approve the administrative item.

2. 230-24

Indego IKE Smart City Kiosks Various Locations (9)

Review Type: Encroachment located within City Right-of-Way

Project Details: New Indego IKE Smart City Kiosk installations

Applicant: Bicycle Transit Systems (BTS) (on behalf of the Office of Transportation and Infrastructure Systems (OTIS))

Bicycle Transit Systems (BTS) on behalf of the Indego and the Office of Transportation and Infrastructure Systems is seeking administrative approval for five new IKE Smart City kiosks at the intersection of:

- Temple University Station
- Point Breeze Avenue & Tasker Street
- South Broad Street & Pattison Avenue
- Spruce & 15th
- North 11th Street & Market Street
- 5th and Wolf St
- South 24th Street & Sansom Street
- Hamilton and N 22nd
- Pennsylvania Ave and 24th Street

At the February 2024 Art Commission meeting, the applicant team received final approval for the overall IKE Kiosk system, and it was agreed by the Commission that specific locations would be reviewed as administrative items moving forward. As a quick reminder - the IKE Smart City Kiosk is an interactive digital kiosk that will be attached to an Indego bikeshare station, providing public service information, advertising, and neighborhood information.

For each location, the kiosk location is also being reviewed by the Streets Department for compliance with Complete Street and dimensional standards. Additional information has been provided by the applicant team regarding ridership info based on previous requests from the Commission.

Seeing no questions or comments from the Commission or the public, Chairperson Roesch asked for a motion to approve (00:54:32).

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Upon the motion made by Commissioner Osorio and seconded by Commissioner Almiñana.

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The vote was taken by consensus. The Commission voted unanimously to approve the administrative item.

Robert Roesch
Chair

3. 231-24

**Curran-Fromhold Correctional Facility – Roof Replacement
7901 State Road**

Review Type: Construction repair project on City property

Project Details: Roof replacement

Applicant: Department of Public Property

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The Department of Public Property, with Consultants JMT are seeking administrative approval for the roof replacement project at Curran-Fromhold Correction Facility in Northeast Philadelphia. The project requires approximately 250,000 square feet of existing SBS roofing to be replaced. The roof replacement project provides minimal visual impact and is associated with needed repairs to replace the roof which is original to the 1990's and much of which is beyond the life expectancy. The applicant team have confirmed that as a maintenance project, this work is not considered as part of the % for Art Process.

Alex M. Smith
Director

Seeing no questions or comments from the Commission or the public, Chairperson Roesch asked for a motion (00:56:22).

Upon the motion made by Commissioner Nasser and seconded by Commissioner Lowe.

The vote was taken by consensus. The Commission voted unanimously to approve the administrative item.

4. 232-24

**30th Street Viaduct Rehabilitation
30th & Chestnut Streets**

Review Type: Construction repair project on City Right-of-Way

Project Details: Viaduct rehabilitation and associated streetscape improvements

Applicant: Department of Streets

The Philadelphia Streets Department, with consultants HDR and Sowinski Sullivan Architects are seeking administrative approval for structural rehabilitation and upgrades to the 30th Street Viaduct in University City.

The Viaduct carries Upper 30th Street, over Lower 30th Street. The structure runs north/south and spans from Walnut to Market Streets. The Viaduct is discontinuous at Chestnut Street, which is a bridge structure owned and maintained by PennDOT. Upper 30th Street is part of the city street network. Lower 30th Street provides access to various parking garages and loading docks for the buildings along the corridor.

The proposed scope of work includes replacement or improvements to the existing concrete supports, steel stringers, the deck drainage system, structural repairs, repainting

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and cleaning of the steel, upgraded lighting for both upper and lower 30th Streets and enhancements for vehicular, pedestrian and bicycle circulation on upper 30th Street.

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Questions and comments from the Commission (00:58:18).

Robert Roesch
Chair

Commissioner Lowe requested to see the slides before the vote. Commissioner Febo San Miguel wanted to know about the lighting, and Mark McShea, of HDR responded (01:00:24).

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Matthew Kenyatta
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Raed Nasser
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Rebecca Segall
Mario Zacharjasz

Seeing no further questions or comments from the Commission or the public, Chairperson Roesch asked for a motion (01:01:05).

Upon the motion made by Commissioner Febo San Miguel and seconded by Commissioner Nasser.

Alex M. Smith
Director

The vote was taken by consensus. The Commission voted unanimously to approve the administrative item.

5. 233-24

Cherokee Street Bridge Rehabilitation

Cherokee Street & Valley Green Road

Review Type: Construction repair project on City Right-of-Way

Project Details: Bridge rehabilitation

Applicant: Department of Streets

The Philadelphia Streets Department, with consultants WSP are seeking administrative approval for rehabilitation work on the Cherokee Street bridge which spans Valley Green Road.

The existing bridge is showing extensive spalling, drainage issues and has a substandard barrier. Both the substructure and superstructure are in poor condition. The planned improvements include a rehabilitation of the substructure, replacement of the superstructure and installing new barriers. The structures form and geometry will be minimally altered compared to the existing conditions and the bridge will be brought up to achieve modern safety standards.

Questions and comments from the Commission (01:03:00).

Commissioner Almiñana mentioned concerns of the material appearances and finishes, as it pertains to rails and safety, which was addressed by Ryan Sen, of the Streets Department.

The discussion continued between Mr. Sen, Commissioner Almiñana, and Chairperson Roesch regarding feedback from the community and stakeholders, color of the cement, and specification requirements for concrete structure (01:04:55).

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Seeing no further questions or comments from the Commission or the public, Chairperson Roesch asked for a motion (01:08:48).

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Upon the motion made by Commissioner Almiñana and seconded by Commissioner Nasser to approve continuance for further.

Robert Roesch
Chair

The vote was taken by consensus. The Commission voted unanimously to approve the administrative item.

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At the minute mark in video (01:09:19), Ms. Liss asked for the expectation for the applicant and suggested administrative approval noting that engagement with the community is ongoing and that their support is expected. Members of the Commission agreed with Ms. Liss recommendation – a letter of support.

Alex M. Smith
Director

PRESENTATIONS FOR CONCEPT REVIEW

Pursuant to the Commission's Regulations, projects listed on this agenda for Concept Review may receive Final Approval at this meeting if the Commission, at its discretion, deems it sufficiently developed.

1. 234-24

Philadelphia Zoo - Murals

3400 W Girard Avenue

Review Type: Public Art located on City property

Project Details: Exterior site mural

Applicant: Mural Arts Philadelphia

Presenter: Mural Arts Philadelphia

Kate Jacobi began the presentation at the minute mark in video (01:10:49).

Questions and comments from the Commission (01:32:39).

Chairperson Roesch inquired about the material being used. Ms. Jacobi responded, then explained the texture and process of the material, and protection, including anti-graffiti measures. Commissioner Osorio asked about pedestrian traffic regarding the QR Code. The discussion continued with Ms. Jacobi and members of the Commission (01:37:42).

Questions and comments from the public (01:41:07).

Ms. Liss read a public comment for the record: member of the public requested additional context photos of the neighborhood, more information about the engagement process, and if RCO's were contacted. Ms. Jacobi responded to the public comment.

Chairperson Roesch asked Ms. Jacobi to draft an email and send it to the staff so that it'll be on file (01:43:04).

Seeing no further questions or comments from the Commission or the public, Chairperson Roesch asked for a motion to approve as final approval (01:43:15).

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Upon the motion made by Commissioner Nasser and seconded by Commissioner Febo San Miguel to approve.

Ms. Liss polled the Commission: Commissioner Almiñana, Commissioner Febo San Miguel, Commissioner Lowe, Commissioner Nasser, Commissioner Osorio, Commissioner Segall, and Commission Chair Roesch.

Motion carried unanimously to approve as final approval (6-0).

2. 235-24

Philadelphia Phillies Team Store Expansion 1 Citizens Bank Way

Review Type: Construction project located on City property

Project Details: New building addition

Applicant: The Philadelphia Phillies

Presenter: Ewing Cole

Meredith Trego began the presentation with an introduction of the project team and design team (01:45:34) followed by Kevin Murphy, who presented the project plans (01:48:10).

Questions and comments from the Commission (01:55:35).

Commissioner Almiñana inquired about the shaded terrace and suggested how to create engagement on non-game days.

Chairperson Roesch asked about the seating area on the other side of the ticketed access gates, and the dimensions of the entrance. The questions were addressed by Mr. Murphy and Dave Fock, of The Philadelphia Phillies (01:59:41).

Commissioner Almiñana added that he'd like to see more trees (02:04:06). Commissioner Lowe commented on the storefront line (02:05:36).

Ms. Trego mentioned that the team is looking for where new trees can be added on site, but there are challenges due to the existing security bollards (02:05:43).

Chairperson Roesch stated that he was inclined to give the project final approval (02:07:24).

Following members of the Commission discussion on giving the project final approval, Ms. Liss explained what that would mean (02:10:02). There wouldn't be additional review, but staff could make a request that the final plans take into consideration that the requests for additional trees to be included and shared with the Commissioners.

Seeing no further questions or comments from the Commission or the public, Commissioner Almiñana made a motion (02:08:11), and seconded by Commissioner Nasser to approve as final approval (02:10:26), with Commissioner Almiñana comment to plant additional trees (02:08:15).

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Ms. Liss restated the motion for the following: final approval for Philadelphia Phillies Team Store expansion (02:11:15).

Ms. Liss polled the Commission: Commissioner Febo San Miguel, Commissioner Lowe, Commissioner Nasser, Commissioner Osorio, Commissioner Segall, Commissioner Almiñana and Commission Chair Roesch.

Motion carried unanimously to approve as final approval, with the additional comments from Commissioner Almiñana (7-0).

3. 236-24

Cobbs Creek Golf Course – Bridges and Tunnels 7400 Lansdowne Avenue

Review Type: Construction project located on City property

Project Details: Construction of new bridges and tunnels

Applicant: Philadelphia Parks and Recreation (PPR)

Presenter: Cobbs Creek Foundation

Donald Dissinger began the presentation at the minute mark in video (02:14:08).

Questions and comments from the Commission (02:32:15).

Commissioner Almiñana wanted to know what would prevent a pedestrian from using a cart bridge and Mr. Dissinger responded. Commissioner Osorio asked about operating hours, in terms of golf carts visibility entering the bridges and the tunnels, and Commissioner Febo San Miguel inquired about additional lighting. Additionally, the Commission noted concerns of no railings and people falling, and the impact of the length and height which was addressed by Mr. Dissinger.

Chairperson Roesch asked about the decision not to have railings. Mr. Dissinger explained and responded.

Seeing no further questions or comments from the Commission or the public, Chairperson Roesch asked for a motion to approve as final approval (02:42:26)

Upon the motion made by Commissioner Nasser and seconded by Commissioner Almiñana to approve.

Ms. Liss restated the motion as the following: final approval of the Cobbs Creek Golf Course – Bridges and Tunnels noting the preference for railings, that are code compliant, where possible following coordination with Licenses and Inspection and their review (02:42:42).

Mr. Dissinger made a request for the Commission to rephrase the motion to be in accordance with L&I requirements. Commissioner Almiñana added that the intent was that it has to comply with code, which members of the Commission agreed (02:43:20).

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Ms. Liss polled the Commission: Commissioner Almiñana, Commissioner Febo San Miguel, Commissioner Lowe, Commissioner Nasser, Commissioner Osorio, Commissioner Segall, and Commission Chair Roesch.

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Motion carried unanimously to approve as final approval (7-0).

Seeing no further questions or comments from the Commission, Chairperson Roesch asked for a motion to adjourn (02:44:39).

Commissioner Febo San Miguel asked the Commission about The Mark signage discussion that was made earlier, specifically that The Art Commission couldn't comment on the number of signs, only on the aesthetics of it (02:44:50). Ms. Liss and Commissioner Nasser provided clarification.

Upon the motion made by Commissioner Lowe and seconded by Commissioner Febo San Miguel to adjourn.

Motion carried with no nays to adjourn the September 11, 2024, Philadelphia Art Commission.

The next Art Commission was held on Wednesday, October 9, 2024, at 9:30 a.m. via Zoom.