

Streetscape Taskforce Minutes

Tuesday, November 14, 2016
7:05 pm – 10:10 PM



Attendance

Taskforce Member	Present
Bill Ackerman	No
Rachelle Barimany	Yes
Kathy Philpott Costa	No
Barb Cram	Yes
Kwafo Djan	No
Diane Duggan	Yes
Steve Knight	Yes
Anne Norloff	No
Mike Novotny	No
Andrew Painter	Yes
Ruth Rodgers	Yes
Tim Stevens	Yes
Dan Sze	Yes
Dennis Szymanski	Yes
Dave Tarter	Yes
Keith Thurston	Yes
Bob Young	Yes
Cory Firestone Weiss	Yes

Staff Member	Present
Carly Aubrey	Yes
Paul Stoddard	Yes

Others Present

none

Agenda

1. **Administration**
 - a. Approval of October 11, 2016 minutes
2. **Review Changes from October 11, 2016 meeting**
 - a. Side-street cross section
 - b. Side-street map
 - c. Crosswalk guidance
3. **Review Comments from Referral and Incorporate Feedback**
 - a. Comments from Boards and Commissions
 - b. Comments from Development Review Comments
4. **Review Draft Referral to Council**
 - a. Recommendations to Council
 - b. List of Items for Future Review
5. **Correspondence**

1. Administration

The group made several corrections to the minutes. The minutes were approved as amended.

2. Review Changes from October 11, 2016 meeting

The group discussed the following items.

16' Typical Cross Section

- The typical 16' cross section actually shows 17' of space.
- The group agreed to a typical spacing of 5' amenity, 6' pedestrian, and 5' building
- The group agreed that the tables should be shown as 2-tops instead of 4-tops due to space limitations

20' Typical Cross Section

- The group referred several options to Boards and Commissions for review and comment
- A point was raised that an existing Council policy calls for 10' of clear pedestrian space
- The group agreed to use a spacing of 6' amenity, 10' pedestrian, and 4' building. This is shown on page 3 or 8 in the materials distributed to boards and commissions for flush planters and on page 7 of 8 for raised planters if the raised edge is moved into the planting space

25' Typical Cross Section

- The group agreed that the typical 25' cross section should be changed to remove the fencing, add building face articulation, and add 2nd story overhangs
- The group agreed that including the 25' section in the main document is confusing and should be included in an appendix of things discussed but not agreed to. The 25' section could be moved into the main body once/if the proposed zoning change regarding building articulation is adopted.

Zoning Changes

- The group agreed that proposed zoning changes should be included in an appendix of things recommended
- The group discussed whether a minimum percentage of building face to be set back should be included

Side Street Setbacks

- The group agreed that recommendations to the side-street setbacks should be added to the list of zoning recommendations

Park Avenue

- The group tabled the discussion of a Park Avenue standard until Taskforce Members reviewed the Park Avenue report

Raised Edge Planters

- There was confusion amongst the group regarding previous straw polls taken by the group. Some members believed the group had agreed to use flush planters on all streets. Some members believed the group had agreed to use raised planters on Broad Street.
- A question was raised about using other protections, such as fencing
- Group agreed that if raised edges are used they should be placed in amenity space versus pedestrian space

Sidewalk Dining

- The group expressed a desire to develop sidewalk dining standards and apply them to existing areas

De-icing Material

- The group discussed options to switch from traditional rock salt to Calcium Magnesium Acetate (CMA) as a de-icing agent. Several members reported that CMA is less damaging to trees and aquatic health
- Questions were raised about cost, availability, and any potential downsides
- The group agreed to include language recommending CMA be declared the only allowable de-icing agent citywide and that actions be taken to ensure the materials are available locally

Broad and Washington Standards

- The group opened the discussion of whether Broad Street and Washington Street should have different design standards
- The group agreed that different standards should be used and that the Broad Street design should continue one block north and south along Washington Street
- Some group members asked for more information prior to taking an action on that suggestion, specifically photos of the areas in question

Passable and Impassable Space

- Including language that site specific conditions may require judgment on amenities placement was discussed
- The group agreed to remove the language “as a rule of thumb” when stating that half of the space between planters should remain clear

Crosswalks

- The group agreed that language regarding special treatments should be changed to ‘should’ (instead of ‘can’), ‘and/or’ (instead of ‘and’) and that the word ‘explored’ should be replaced with ‘incorporated’ for midblock crossings.

Title

- The group agreed to one of the following, that the words “Branding the City” should be removed from the title or that the title and subtitle should be reversed

Ordinance or Resolution

- The question of whether the standards should carry to force of law was raised and whether the standards should be adopted by ordinance or resolution
- No decision was reached

Backflow Preventers

- The group agreed to augment the language regarding cases by stating, “Any new cases should be dark green or used as canvases for public art.”

Electrical Transformers

- A Taskforce Member stressed that the photo should show the desired state, so the photo of the transformer with the public art should be replaced with a photo of an underground vault or a landscape-screened transformer.

Fire Hydrants

- The group agreed that the typical cross sections should only show hydrants at corners, not midblock

Storm Water Catch Basins

- The group agreed that storm water catch basins should be designed as they are along Broad Street so that the concrete slab is half the usual depth from the curb

Traffic Signal Control Boxes

- The group agreed that language regarding traffic signal control boxes and landscape screening should be added

ADA Ramps

- A Taskforce Member presented a diagram on how 45 degree ADA ramps can leave sufficient space for ADA landing areas in crosswalks and outside of travel lanes
- Time for discussion was limited, and the group did not reach a decision on the issue

Street Light Spacing

- A Taskforce Member requested that the lighting spacing be changed from approximately 50 foot spacing to 110 foot spacing
- Time for discussion was limited, and the group did not reach a decision on the issue

3. Review Comments from Referral and Incorporate Feedback

Taskforce Members presented and annotated the comments from their respective groups.

On account of time, the meeting was closed before the group could discuss how to incorporate the comments.

4. Review Draft Referral to Council

On account of time, the meeting was closed before the group reviewed the draft referral.

5. Correspondence

On account of time, the meeting was closed before the group reviewed the correspondence item.