

I-195 REDEVELOPMENT DISTRICT COMMISSION

MEETING OF PARKS DESIGN SUBCOMMITTEE

July 9, 2014

The Parks Design Subcommittee of the I-195 Redevelopment District Commission (the "Subcommittee") met on Wednesday, July 9, 2014 beginning at 5:00 PM, at the offices of the Rhode Island Economic Development Corporation, located at 315 Iron Horse Way, Suite 101, Providence, Rhode Island.

The following Subcommittee members were present and participated throughout the meeting: Ms. Barbara Hunger, Ms. Diana Johnson, and Mr. John Kelly.

Also present was Ms. Jan Brodie, District Executive Director.

The meeting was called to order by Commissioner John Kelly at 5:00 PM.

1. PAVILION: DISCUSSION AND RECOMMENDATION FOR PROGRAM OF USES FOR THE BUILT STRUCTURE IN THE WEST SIDE PARK AND PROPOSED DESIGN OF THE STRUCTURE

There was a discussion surrounding the program of uses for the built pavilion structure in the west side park and the proposed design of said structure. It was stated that the top priority for programming for the pavilion is as an outdoor performance space, but that it should be flexible enough to accommodate other uses. Its programming should not necessarily include concession or storage purposes. It was discussed that more alternatives should be presented by the park designers on how to deal with the bathrooms and how to promote the outdoor event area. The Subcommittee expressed the desire to follow a process for advancing any park or pavilion design, that included first meeting with designers to share an overview of intentions, look and feel concepts and insure that appropriate directions are set.

2. EAST SIDE PARK: DISCUSSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR INTERACTIVE FEATURES AND OVERALL PROPOSED DESIGN

There was a discussion regarding interactive features and the overall proposed design for the east side park. The discussion included the complexity of the east side park design and materials, whether or not to include play features in the east side park, or how perhaps the play features should be a part of the west side park design instead. There were concerns surrounding the maintenance of the walkway surfaces and many diverse plantings, and whether the surfaces and plantings could be simplified. It was suggested the park furniture for both the east and west side parks be selected through a competition or RFP. A future connection to Harbor Walk at the eastern end of the park and implementing infrastructure to support WaterFire was also discussed.

3. WEST SIDE PARK AND PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE: DISCUSSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR DESIGN PLAN

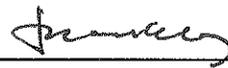
There was a discussion surrounding the overall design of the west side park, and the desire to meet with the designers to share ideas as soon as possible was mentioned again. A pedestal infrastructure for a sculpture center, perhaps including the Children's Museum or school children, and a future connection to the Riverwalk and river's edge from the South Street Landing development were also discussed. Security and safety as the park relates to the bridge and lighting were discussed. There was full support for the general concept of a water feature in the west side park in or around the Ship Street triangle but it was suggested that size, complexity and off-season use be discussed first before getting into design specifics.

4. HISTORIC MARKERS: DISCUSSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR DESIGN OF INSET HISTORIC MARKERS AT KEY LOCATIONS IN THE DISTRICT

It was stated that the prototypes suggested by the designer, including five historic marker designs and 28 locations for these markers would be reviewed and discussed at the meeting with the designers, along with the general discussion of both parks and built structure.

Once confirmed with RI DOT, CD Maguire, and the designers, the next Subcommittee Meeting, that would include all designers (except the bridge designer) would take place on July 23, 2014 at 9:30 am, at Commerce RI, 315 Iron Horse Way.

The meeting was opened up to hear comments from the public. The public's suggestions and support of ideas brought up by the Subcommittee are included in the comments above. Overall public input supported an effort for strong programming, including rotating, temporary and on-going uses; the importance of a high standard of maintenance of all aspects of the parks; to use the parks to help promote tourism; and for the parks to be connected to other initiatives, including Water Fire, River Walk, Harbor Walk, City WALK, and biking.



Subcommittee Commissioner John Kelly