



Streetscapes & Public Realm Advisory Committee Meeting

Thursday, November 7, 2024 - 9:30 – 11:00 a.m.
Via Zoom and at the Alliance office 291 Geary St.

Minutes

In attendance

Committee members and guests: Manuela King (Chair), Jim Chappel, Rick Laubscher, Russ Keil III, Yann Taylor, Evan Kaizer, Tammy Brock, and Thomas Brock.

Staff members: Ken Rich (Director of Policy and Economic Development), Eva Schouten (Public Realm & Events Manager), and AnaKatrina Cortado (Intern).

1. Call to Order & Roll Call

Manuela King called the meeting to order at 9:32 a.m.

2. Public Comment

None.

3. Action to approve the September 2024 meeting minutes of the Committee

Action: The Committee unanimously approved the September 2024 meeting minutes, as motioned by Evan Kaizer and seconded by Russ Keil III.

4. Powell Street Promenade Redesign discussion and possible action to move forward with contract negotiations for the full Development Design phase, for recommendation to the Board of Directors

Eva reported a pause in the Powell Street Promenade redesign due to the anticipated GO Bond which could potentially fund the full project budgeted around \$30mil. Other downtown areas are competing for a share of the GO Bond funds. The committee discussed various strategies to secure the necessary funding, including exploring unused funds from past projects and the potential for private fundraising.

Action: No action is taken at this time.

5. Project Updates

a. Stage Improvement Project

Eva provided a brief overview of the Union Square Plaza Stage Improvement Project, confirming that the Committee had previously approved moving forward with the installation of a permanent sound system and possible lighting. The



Committee also approved working with Yann Taylor from Field Paoli, who will coordinate with David from *We Are the Kind* on sourcing the sound system. The Alliance is collaborating with Rec and Park to ensure all requirements are met, with an on-site meeting scheduled for that week.

Yann shared a blueprint detailing the planned improvements, including paving, new steps, and additional double-height seating. The potential installation of a shade structure and the placement of new speakers were also discussed. The Committee addressed the ownership and liability of the stage, with Ken suggesting that Rec and Park should own the space, though a memorandum of understanding between the Alliance and Rec and Park could be considered. Ken noted that the sound equipment is covered by a multi-year warranty, and the project is expected to be completed by June 2025.

b. R-Evolution

Eva stated that the R-evolution project is progressing well as the structural engineering report has been approved by Rec & Park. The Alliance is working with Rec & Park to complete the necessary steps to obtain permits, which includes plans related to installation, marketing, and safety. The Alliance aims to have the statue installed in place after the ice rink is removed at the end of January, with the statute remaining in place until the end of May. There is potential for an extension, pending approval from Rec & Park as well as funding.

c. Selle Project

The Selle exhibition has been on display at the Flood Building for three months and has officially concluded its initial run. Karin Flood is currently in discussions with community arts to extend the exhibition through Thanksgiving.

d. Lighting Project

Eva shared that while progress on the lighting project has been slow, steady advancements are being made. Elwood Street has been completed but work on Campton Place is still underway. Additionally, Harlan place has expressed interest in participating in the project. The Alliance has received approval from two property owners.

e. Winter Walk & Holiday Decor

Eva reminded the committee that Winter Walk will run from December 13th to 22nd. While permits are being finalized, planning is on track. Holiday decorations, including snowflakes in Maiden Lane and Hallidie Plaza, will be in place. The Ornament Trail on Powell Street is expected by November 29th, with Winter Walk signage to be installed soon after.

6. Adjournment & Upcoming Meetings and Events:



- Union Square Alliance Board Meeting: November 21, 2024, at 9:00 a.m.
- Streetscapes & Public Realm Committee: January 9, 2025, at 9:30 a.m.

Adjournment: 10:35 a.m.