



## Streetscapes & Public Realm Advisory Committee Meeting

Thursday, January 9, 2025 - 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, Rick Laubscher, Evan Kaizer, Darcy Brown, Jim Chappell, Russell Keil III, Patrick Otellini, Scott Forster, Grace Choung, Tammy Brock, William O'Daly, and Yann Taylor

Staff members: Ken Rich (Director of Economic Development & Policy), Daniela Vasile (COO), and AnaKatrina Cortado (Intern).

#### **1. Call to Order & Roll Call**

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

#### **2. Public Comment**

None.

#### **3. Action to approve the November 2024 meeting minutes of the Committees**

Ken directed the Committee to review the minutes of the November 7, 2024, meeting. He encouraged the Committee to comment on any necessary revisions needed.

**Action:** The Committee unanimously approved the November 2024 meeting minutes, as motioned by Evan Kaizer and seconded by Rick Laubscher.

#### **4. Action to approve the 2025 Meeting Calendar**

Ken presented the 2025 meeting schedule to the Committee, which will be held on the second Thursday of every other month, beginning on this January meeting. The November meeting will be held on the second Tuesday due to scheduling conflicts with other committees and the Thanksgiving holiday. The Committee accepted the schedule, and Ken encouraged members to notify the Alliance team of any scheduling conflicts.

**Action:** No action was taken.

#### **5. 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**



Ken presented the cost breakdown for the Design Development phase of the Powell Street Promenade Redesign. He and Eva will begin outreach to property owners and stakeholders. The committee discussed possible cost negotiations. Ken reminded the Committee that Mayor Lurie will decide how to allocate the \$41M from the GO Bond for public realm projects. The Powell Street project requires approximately \$30M to complete. Strategies were discussed to prioritize Powell Street, given its blighted status.

Ken also mentioned the upcoming meeting between the Alliance, Field Operations, and MTA to review the Powell Street design and ensure alignment with MTA's Safety Project. Concerns were raised regarding potential clashes between the two projects. Ken assured the Committee that coordination efforts will continue among all parties to prevent conflicts and ensure alignment.

Manuela raised the topic of bollards, which will be added to the next meeting's agenda. Ken reminded the Committee of the previous mayor's commitment to support bollard installation and funding for Union Square. The Alliance will continue to work with other establishments to design the bollards.

**Action:** The Committee unanimously approved to move forward with contract negotiations for the full Development Design phase, for recommendation to the Board of Directors, as motioned by Rick Laubscher and seconded by Evan Kaizer.

## 6. Project Updates

### a. Stage Improvement Project

Ken confirmed that the Union Square Stage project is moving forward, with plans to work with Yann on the full drawings. Yann mentioned an upcoming onsite meeting with Rec & Park and presented a markup of what the speaker poles could look like.

### b. R-Evolution

Manuela and Ken stated that R-Evolution is progressing, with an unveiling party scheduled for February. The statue and installation will be funded by an anonymous donor from the East Coast. Ken noted that there may still be some challenges to resolve with Rec & Park.

## 7. Upcoming Meetings and Events:

- Streetscapes & Public Realm Committee: March 13, 2025, at 9:30 a.m.
- Union Square Alliance Board Meeting: March 27, 2025, at 9:00 a.m.

**Adjourned: 10:30 a.m.**