

MEETING OF THE CIVIC DESIGN REVIEW COMMITTEE

Monday, February 26, 2024

2:00 p.m.

Hybrid Meeting

Draft Minutes

Chair Kimberlee Stryker called the meeting to order at 2:02 p.m.

1. Roll Call

(00:53)

Commissioners Present: Kimberlee Stryker (Chair); Seth Brenzel, Patrick Carney, Jessica Rothschild, Abby Schnair, Janine Shiota

Staff Present: Ralph Remington, Director of Cultural Affairs; Lex Leifheit, Deputy Director of Programs; Manraj Dhaliwal, Commission Secretary

Chair Stryker announced the hybrid meeting instructions.

Program Associate Paris Cotz announced public comment instructions.

Chair Stryker began the meeting reading the Arts Commission's land acknowledgement statement.

2. General Public Comment

(6:47)

There was no public comment.

3. San Francisco International Airport (SFO) Terminal 3 West Modernization: Conceptual Review

(7:27)

Commissioner Rothschild recused themselves since they are an architect at Gensler, the firm working on this project. Commissioner Rothschild is not working on the SFO Terminal 3 West Modernization Project.

The project team shared the project goals which are: seismic retrofitting,

upgrading building systems, replace baggage screening equipment, provide world-class experience and optimize revenue generation, enable international operations, increase checkpoint capacity, enhance circulation, mitigate curbside congestion, and advance climate action & employee well-being.

The team discussed the terminal identity and its context among the airport campus. The team shared what was previously reviewed at Terminal 3, and what the scope will be for this review, including the façade.

Commissioners expressed support that the curved facades were united in a harmonious design, encouraging that this new terminal be of the same glass as Harvey Milk Terminal 1.

Commissioners wanted to know how the updated security checkpoint would allay congestion and how the new façade would ease the impact of direct sunlight.

Commissioners suggested attention to curb continuity and consistency along the rooftop, emphasizing that it is the curve of the airport terminals that holds the entire airport all together.

There was no public comment.

4. Southeast Plant: Operations, Engineering, Maintenance Buildings: Phase 1 Review

(38:30)

The team reminded commissioners of where the site is located, within the larger Southeast Plant campus, at the intersection of Phelps Street and Jerrold Avenue. The project goal is to create a central hub for employees of the plant.

The team shared a more detailed floor plan, and their challenges around balancing daylight and privacy, and will utilize solar control where there is direct sun. The building materials will include terra cotta metal panels, poured in place concrete, fiber cement, and architectural precast. The ground floor features human-scale fenestrations, and the roof is sloped to express the building entry.

The team shared their plans for landscape design, going into further detail about the 'shared street' concept, which uses trees and vegetation to distinguish between vehicular access and pedestrian access. The front courtyard will feature a raised planter to feature a specimen tree, along with additional trees in tree-wells lining the sidewalk and entrance and vibrant, fragrant plantings.

Commissioners recommended further addressing at the street level, specifically in regards to the poured concrete on the street level, and the team assured that the human scale windows would have translucent glazing and have reveals to provide variation to the façade. Commissioners wanted to ensure there was a balance on the street level.

Commissioners asked if there was mechanical equipment on the roof, and the team said that it will be located in the center of the roof.

Commissioners wanted to see the overall design be better built for human use and neighborhood use in mind. The team explained that neighborhood amenity investments and art enrichment on the campus were mainly focused at the Southeast Community Center for maximum public benefit.

Commissioners wanted to know about the UV resistance of the solar protection, and the team answered that the slats will be powder coated and will last for decades.

There was no public comment.

Commissioner Brenzel, seconded by Commissioner Schnair, moved to approve Phase 1 of the Southeast Plant: Operations, Engineering, Maintenance Buildings.

The motion was unanimously approved by the following vote:

Ayes: Stryker, Brenzel, Carney, Rothschild, Schnair, Shiota

5. Chinatown Public Health Center Renovation: Phase 3 Review

(1:19:50)

The team explained why there was a gap between Phase 2 and Phase 3 approvals and that the project is currently in permitting phase. From Phase 2, the contingencies were as follows: study placement of Dragon Relief Sculpture and create signage that is more human scale and on street level that will feature English and Chinese.

The new design presented features the removed Dragon Relief Sculpture, and exterior signage that reflects the signage contingency from Phase 2. The planter wall has been removed to reduce ongoing maintenance costs and proposed as a

site for future public artwork on the exterior of the building on Mason Street. The team shared their plans for lettering and signage.

Commissioners advised that signage should have adequate contrast with the building for visibility, and the team explained that it's just the nature of the rendering and display on the projector screen. Commissioners inquired about the branding of the heart within a circle, and the team explained that it is the logo of the Department of Public Health.

There was no public comment.

Commissioner Schnair, seconded by Commissioner Shiota, moved to approve Phase 3 of the Chinatown Public Health Center Renovation.

The motion was unanimously approved by the following vote:

Ayes: Stryker, Brenzel, Carney, Rothschild, Schnair, Shiota

6. Southeast Health Center – Behavioral Health Clinic Renovation: Small Project Review *(1:34:02)*

The team gave context for the building, which was built in 1976 and is one of the first health care service buildings in the neighborhood along Armstrong Avenue. The façade of the building is split-faced masonry and redwood and needs to be upgraded as well as seismic upgrades, by September 2025. The redwood siding needs to be replaced, and has recently been determined as a historic building, meaning that the original look needs to be maintained. The current entryway is not original, so the initial entry way design can be restored, as well.

The scope of the project includes new signage, lighting, paint, and new cladding. The new signage will return to its original location on the façade of the building rather than over the entryway, the redwood siding will be replaced with a faux-wood material, and new trees will be planted. Since redwood is not an approved material, the team is considering reclaimed redwood, wood metal panels, and acetylated wood, which is a pickled wood product and has a fifty-year life span. The signage will be adjusted to be more human-scale and placed to the right of the entrance as seen in the original building drawings.

The new landscaping will include a narrow planter along Armstrong Avenue and

retain healthy trees as well as planting new trees. The new plantings will include Sweetshade, drought-resistant plantings.

Commissioners also wanted to know where the address of the building was going to be since it was not shown on the new façade. The team answered that it will be placed on the glass doors.

Commissioners had questions about the color of the masonry. The team answered that the color depends on the sunlight, and that they are going to clean the existing masonry but do not plan on re-coloring it.

Commissioners had questions about whether the pickled wood had to be re-stained, and the team answered that it would not have to be re-stained.

Commissioners felt that whichever option was determined to be the most cost-effective, easy to maintain and had the most longevity was the best option.

There was no public comment.

Commissioner Schnair, seconded by Commissioner Brenzel, moved to approve Small Project Review of the Southeast Health Center – Behavioral Health Clinis Renovation.

The motion was unanimously approved by the following vote:

Ayes: Stryker, Brenzel, Carney, Rothschild, Schnair, Shiota

7. Harding Park Pump Station: Small Project Review

(1:55:30)

The team gave background information on the project, which consists of a buried reservoir and an above ground pump station. This facility distributes recycled water from the city of Daly City to the Harding Park Golf Course.

The team explained that there is corrosion of electrical equipment, which needs a permanent solution. Excessive moisture caused the corrosion, and the existing equipment was found to be out of compliance with current codes, relating to clearance surrounding the equipment.

In addition to the new electrical building, the pump station will be modernized, including upgrading the ventilation system. The new design of the electrical building will relate in design to the existing pump station, and constructed of concrete masonry, and glass blocks, which are all durable and sustainable materials. The new building will also be the same height and massing as the pump station and have an accessible path connecting both buildings. The north elevation and the east elevation will be visible to the public on Lake Merced Boulevard.

Commissioners asked why the team requested a Phase 1 and 2 review instead of a Small Project Review. The team explained that they asked for this because of the footprint of the building, and the visibility of the new building. Commissioners suggested that this project be approved as a Small Project Review.

Commissioners asked what the design of the glass blocks on the east façade was for. The team answered that they did not want to include windows for security reasons, so the glass block provides light into the building. Commissioners asked whether the design was in the formation of an electrical plug, to match the H2O design on the pump building, and the team answered that was the design intention.

Commissioners had questions about the cost of the building, and why it was so high for such a small building. The team explained that the cost was so high due to the need for replacement of electrical equipment inside the pump station, as well as the construction of the new building.

Commissioners wanted to know what was going to happen with the art enrichment budget and the team explained that the funds would be pooled for use at another site. Commissioners commended the elegant design.

There was no public comment.

Commissioner Schnair, seconded by Commissioner Brenzel, moved to approve Small Project Review of the Southeast Health Center – Behavioral Health Clinics Renovation.

The motion was unanimously approved by the following vote:

Ayes: Stryker, Brenzel, Carney, Rothschild, Schnair, Shiota

8. San Francisco Little Italy Honor Walk: Plaque Review

(2:12:05)

The team gave background on the project and shared the mission, founders, and staff. The goal is to elevate the neighborhood and communicate the history of the neighborhood to all of the visitors that travel through Little Italy. The plaques will convey the many contributions by Italian Americans.

The team will be using Artworks Foundry, which was the same foundry used for plaques on the Rainbow Walk in the Castro. There will be an app that will be developed in association with the plaque walk to give additional information. The team explained that this was a public history project. The path of the plaques will follow the core of the neighborhood, along Columbus Street and Broadway Street.

The first two plaques will feature George Moscone, Mayor of San Francisco, and Mariana Bertola, a doctor who championed women and children in San Francisco. The team shared the list of the incoming plaque characters. The plaque will be produced in bronze and finished with a matte brushed coating to aid in non-slip, and be 36 x 32 inches.

Commissioners commended the inclusion of a woman in the first round of plaques. The team explained that this project is an occasion to celebrate and uplift people. The team also noted that this project is privately funded.

Commissioners wondered whether other contributors to the neighborhood who are not Italian or Italian American might be honored in this series. The team answered that for now they are focusing on Italian and Italian Americans since there were already existing projects in the neighborhood and surrounding areas that were doing the same.

Commissioners asked whether the geographic location of each plaque resonate with the plaque character, and the team answered that this is the plan to connect the place to the person. Commissioners suggested placing a symbol of some kind on each plaque to characterize the work or contribution the person made.

Commissioners asked what the timeline was, and the team answered that they are aiming to have the first two plaques installed by the summer for Festa della

Repubblica.

There was no public comment.

Commissioner Schnair, seconded by Commissioner Shiota, moved to approve Plaque Review of the San Francisco Little Italy Honor Walk: Plaque Review.

The motion was unanimously approved by the following vote:

Ayes: Stryker, Brenzel, Carney, Rothschild, Schnair, Shiota

9. Staff Report

(2:37:10)

Deputy Director of Programs Leifheit reminded Commissioners about the Cultural Services Allocation Plan survey, which is open until March 11, and the several town halls being held.

Leifheit also shared with Commissioners about the Department of Public Works new legislation, Love Our Neighborhood which allows for some waiver encroachment fees, more flexibility and streamlining for community amenities, including plaques.

There was no public comment.

10. New Business and Announcements

(2:39:00)

Commissioners expressed concern about the palm trees due for removal at Gene Friend Recreation Center.

There was no public comment.

11. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:42pm.