



Minutes of November 12, 2025, Meeting of the Philadelphia Art Commission

Room 18-029, 1515 Arch Street, with remote option on Zoom

Raed Nasser, Chairperson

Katherine Liss, Acting Director

The Philadelphia Art Commission

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Carmen Febo San Miguel
Vice Chairperson

Matthew Kenyatta
James Lowe
Pepón Osorio
Rebecca Segall

Octavia Howell
Deputy Director for Planning and Zoning, Department of Planning and Development

CALL TO ORDER				
START TIME:	(00:06:04)			
COMMISSIONER	ROLE	PRESENT	ABSENT	COMMENT
Raed Nasser, Chairperson	Member of the Board of Parks and Recreation	✓		
Carmen Febo San Miguel, Vice Chairperson	Businessperson	✓		
Matthew Jordan- Miller Kenyatta	Member of a School of Art or Architecture	✓		virtual
James Lowe	Designee of the Commissioner of Public Property	✓		
Pepón Osorio	Member of a School of Art or Architecture	✓		
Rebecca Segall	Painter	✓		
Vacant	Architect			
Vacant	Landscape Architect			
Vacant	Sculptor			

Agenda Items

REPORT OF THE SIGN AND STREETERY COMMITTEE (Consensus Vote)				
DATE	START TIME	MOTION	SECOND	COMMENT
October 29, 2025	(00:06:25)	Segall	Febo San Miguel	Consensus vote in favor carries, no nays

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Minutes prepared and reviewed by Art Commission staff Cassandra Perry and Katherine Liss.



4 Items Presented for Administrative Review

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1 st ITEM: 270-25 OTIS BUS SHELTER LOCATIONS	
APPLICANT	Office of Transportation and Infrastructure Systems (OTIS)
LOCATION	Various locations (4)
PROJECT TYPE	Encroachments located within city right-of-way
VISUAL IMPACT	<i>Describe if other than low.</i>
TREE IMPACT	<i>Describe if other than none.</i>
PERCENT FOR ART	<i>Note if triggered by budget.</i>
OTHER REVIEWS	<i>Note additional coordination if known.</i>
DESCRIPTION	Four new bus shelter installations
RECOMMENDATION	<i>Director's recommendation is for administrative approval.</i>

PROJECT DETAILS:

*The Office of Transportation and Infrastructure Systems (OTIS), in partnership with Intersection, has submitted a series of bus shelter upgrades as part of their on-going shelter improvement program. The Art Commission typically reviews new or replacement bus shelter locations several times a year as administrative items. Today's proposal is for four (4) new bus shelters at various locations around the city. **These new shelters are the original size, not the narrow shelters approved earlier this fall. All the locations are proposing new shelters where currently no shelter exists.** For each location, the shelter's surrounding sidewalks are being improved if necessary, and each is also being reviewed by the Streets Department for compliance with Complete Street and dimensional standards. Art Commission staff have also reviewed and recommend for approval.*

1. 22nd Street and Tioga Street NW
2. 20th Street and Race Street SE
3. Allegheny Avenue and Front Street SW
4. Chew Avenue and Chelten Avenue FS NE

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS (00:07:59)

- *Commissioner Lowe expressed/asked the conflict with ADA regulations – at Allegheny Location*

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- *Commissioner Osorio expressed there is no room between bicyclic rack and door at 20th and Race location*
- *Katherine Liss explained that OTIS does review all ADA guidelines for the bus shelter locations.*
- *Seeing no questions or comments from the Commission or the Public, Chair Nasser asked for a motion to approve (00:25:50)*
- *The vote was taken by consensus. The Commission voted unanimously to approve the administrative item.*

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

- *None Received*

2nd ITEM: INDEGO IKE SMART CITY KIOSKS	
APPLICANT	Bicycle Transit Systems (BTS) (on behalf of the Office of Transportation and Infrastructure Systems (OTIS))
LOCATION	Various locations (5)
PROJECT TYPE	Encroachments located within City Right-of-Way
VISUAL IMPACT	<i>Describe if other than low.</i>
TREE IMPACT	<i>Describe if other than none.</i>
PERCENT FOR ART	<i>Note if triggered by budget.</i>
OTHER REVIEWS	<i>Note additional coordination if known.</i>
DESCRIPTION	Five new Indego IKE Smart City Kiosk installations
RECOMMENDATION	<i>Director's recommendation is for administrative approval.</i>

PROJECT DETAILS:

Bicycle Transit Systems (BTS) on behalf of the Indego and the Office of Transportation and Infrastructure Systems is seeking administrative approval for five (5) new IKE Smart City kiosks at the intersections of:

1. 9th and Lombard
2. 23rd and Chestnut
3. 41st and Walnut
4. 8th and Chestnut
5. 16th and Arch

At the February 2024 Art Commission meeting, the applicant team received final approval for the overall IKE Kiosk system, and it was agreed by the Commission that specific locations would be reviewed as administrative items moving forward. Additional information related to the community engagement process was approved in early 2025.

For each location, the kiosk location is also being reviewed by the Streets Department for compliance with Complete Street and dimensional standards. Additional

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information has been provided by the applicant team regarding ridership info based on previous requests from the Commission.

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COMMISSIONER COMMENTS (00:12:55)

- Seeing no questions or comments from the Commission or the Public, Chair Nasser asked for a motion to approve (00:13:06)*
- The vote was taken by consensus. The Commission voted unanimously to approve the administrative item.*

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PUBLIC COMMENTS:

- None Received*

3rd ITEM: 272-25 NEW MARKET HEADHOUSE & SHAMBLES RESTORATION	
APPLICANT	John Milner Architects on behalf of New Market and Head House Conservancy, Department of Public Property
LOCATION	151 Lombard Street
PROJECT TYPE	Construction project located on city property
VISUAL IMPACT	<i>Describe if other than low.</i>
TREE IMPACT	<i>Describe if other than none.</i>
PERCENT FOR ART	<i>Note if triggered by budget.</i>
OTHER REVIEWS	<i>Note additional coordination if known.</i>
DESCRIPTION	Interior and exterior renovation and restoration work
RECOMMENDATION	<i>Director's recommendation is for administrative approval.</i>

PROJECT DETAILS:

John Milner Architects, working in partnership with the New Market and Head House Conservancy and the Department of Public Property, is seeking administrative approval for renovation and restoration proposed for the New Market Headhouse and Shambles. The site is a National Historic Landmark. The improvements proposed will address needed maintenance and accessibility, restoring existing elements or replacing elements in-kind where needed. A first-floor interior storage room will be adapted to allow for the installation of an accessible restroom.

The work is being coordinated with review of the Philadelphia Historical Commission. Creative Philadelphia confirmed that there will not be a percent for art obligation associated with this work.

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COMMISSIONER COMMENTS (00:14:30)

- Commissioner Nasser asked if the improvement would include the pavement. Mrs. Liss stated that there will be improvements for pavers and masonry work.*

Minutes prepared and reviewed by Art Commission staff Cassandra Perry and Katherine Liss.



- *Seeing no questions or comments from the Commission or the Public, Chair Nasser asked for consensus vote (00:15:45)*
- *The vote was taken by consensus. The Commission voted unanimously to approve the administrative item.*

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

- *None Received*

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4th ITEM: 273-25 BARRY PLAYGROUND	
APPLICANT	Philadelphia Parks and Recreation (PPR)
LOCATION	1800 Johnston Street, Philadelphia, PA 19125
PROJECT TYPE	Construction project located on city property
VISUAL IMPACT	<i>Describe if other than low.</i>
TREE IMPACT	<i>Describe if other than none.</i>
PERCENT FOR ART	<i>Note if triggered by budget.</i>
OTHER REVIEWS	<i>Note additional coordination if known.</i>
DESCRIPTION	Playground improvements
RECOMMENDATION	<i>Director's recommendation is for administrative approval.</i>

PROJECT DETAILS:

- *Removal of existing safety surface and play equipment*
- *Replacement with new play equipment and safety surface*
- *New site furnishing included which are per PPR Standards*
- *No trees are being added or removed*
- *Improvements occupy the same footprint as the existing playground*
- *The estimated project budget is \$600,000.00*

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS (00:17:35)

- *Seeing no questions or comments from the Commission or the Public, Chair Nasser asked for consensus vote (00:17:55).*
- *The vote was taken by consensus. The Commission voted unanimously to approve the administrative item.*

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

- *None received*

Vote Summary

ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW (Consensus Vote)				
ITEM	START TIME	MOTION	SECOND	COMMENT
OTIS Bus Shelter Locations	(00:06:45)			Consensus vote carries with no nays

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Indego IKE Smart City Kiosks	(00:13:06)			Consensus vote carries with no nays
272-25 New Market Headhouse and Shambles	(00:15:45)			Consensus vote carries with no nays
273-25 Barry Playground	(00:17:55)			Consensus vote carries with no nays

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1 Item Presented for Final Review

337-24 Lardner's Point Sewer Maintenance Facility

START TIME: (00:19:03)

ADDRESS: 3899 Richmond Street

APPLICANT: Philadelphia Water Department (PWD)

PRESENTER (if different from applicant): Brown & Caldwell and Kelly Maiello Architects

REVIEW TYPE: Construction project located on city property

PROJECT DETAILS: New building construction, rehabilitation of existing buildings and exterior site improvements

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS (00:31:06)

- *Commissioner Segal stated that the project looks great- GO BIRDS!*
- *Seeing no further questions or comments from the Commission or the public, Chair Nasser asked for a motion to approve (00:31:27)*
- *Mrs. Liss polled the Commission: Commissioner Kenyatta, Commissioner Febo San Miguel, Commissioner Lowe, Commissioner Osorio, Commissioner Nasser, and Commissioner Segall*

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

- *None received*

ACTION (Roll Call Vote)					
ITEM:	337-24 Lardner's Point Sewer Maintenance Facility				
MOTION:	Final Approval				
MOVED BY:	Lowe				
SECONDED BY:	Segall				
VOTE					
COMMISSIONER	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	RECUSE	ABSENT
NASSER	✓				
FEBO SAN MIGUEL	✓				
KENYATTA	✓				
LOWE	✓				
OSORIO	✓				
SEGALL	✓				

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VACANT					
VACANT					
VACANT					
TOTAL:	6				
REMARKS:					
OUTCOME:	Final Approval granted unanimously				

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2 Items Presented for Concept Review

274-25 Franklin Square Playground Improvements

START TIME: (00:32:56)

ADDRESS: 200 N 6th Street

APPLICANT: Historic Philadelphia Inc.

PRESENTER (if different from applicant): Studio Bryan Hanes

REVIEW TYPE: Construction project located on city property

PROJECT DETAILS: Exterior site and playground improvements

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS (00:42:50)

- *Commissioner Segall asked if there is any consideration to the tunnel slide to be seen through as thinking of the safety of the children playing in the tunnel- adults would be able to see inside if there was an issue. Applicant is currently reviewing materials for the slide*
- *Commissioner Nasser confirmed that this project would have a percent for art.*
- *Commissioner Osorio asked about lighting plan. Applicant stated that they will be using the existing lighting.*
- *Commissioner Nasser asked for the existing lighting plan to be provided.*
- *Commissioner Osorio asked what the intent is on having one entrance in and out. Applicant stated that they are conserving the existing layout, however they are open to considering other entrances.*
- *Commissioner Lowe expressed his many concerns about the tunnel. He asked what would happen if child got trapped on the top level? How could an adult reach them to get them out? What happens if the netting gets a hole? Also is the tunnel design original or is it already manufactured and being used around the world? Who is monitor the regulations - Applicant stated that the park is monitored by L&I regulations*
- *Commissioner Segall asked about the zipline*
- *Bryan Haynes stated the tower is being designed by a playground manufacturer and all concerns about safety will be addressed.*
- *Commissioner Nasser asked for documentation of the structure of design when they come back for Final review*

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- Commissioner Lowe asked how wheelchair slides work. Applicant explained the process. Commissioner Lowes asked to see more information on this slide concept.
- Commissioner Osorio asked what age group is this designed for? Applicant showed areas and provided the age ranges.
- Seeing no further questions or comments from the Commission or the public, Chair
- Nasser asked for a motion to approve the concept. (01:04:26)
- Mrs. Liss polled the Commission: Commissioner Kenyatta, Commissioner Febo San Miguel, Commissioner Lowe, Commissioner Osorio, Commissioner Chair Nasser, and Commissioner Segall

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PUBLIC COMMENTS:

- None received

ACTION (Roll Call Vote)					
ITEM:	274-25 Franklin Square Playground Improvements				
MOTION:	Concept Approval				
MOVED BY:	Lowe				
SECONDED BY:	Osorio				
VOTE					
COMMISSIONER	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	RECUSE	ABSENT
NASSER	✓				
FEBO SAN MIGUEL	✓				
KENYATTA	✓				
LOWE	✓				
OSORIO	✓				
SEGALL	✓				
VACANT					
VACANT					
VACANT					
TOTAL:	6				
REMARKS:	Provide documents detailing the regulatory, design characteristics, precedent studies, and further details on play equipment (the slides, tower, and zipline). Additionally, provide details on community engagement activities.				
OUTCOME:	Concept Approval granted unanimously				

275-25 59th Street Bridge over Amtrak

START TIME: (01:09:28)

ADDRESS: 59th Street and Lancaster Avenue

APPLICANT: Streets Department

PRESENTER (if different from applicant): GFT Infrastructure, Inc., Matthew Ward

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REVIEW TYPE: Construction project located on city property
PROJECT DETAILS: Bridge replacement

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COMMISSIONER COMMENTS (01:26:03)

- *Commissioner Osorio asked about the timeline of the project. Applicant explained that they are looking to be led and awarded by next summer. construction would start in summer of 2027 and would take two years to complete.*
- *Commissioner Segall asked if bollards could be placed to more safety between pedestrians and vehicles.*
- *Commissioner Osorio asked if other materials have been explored other than the acrylic panels? Applicant stated that the panels are a PennDOT standard.*
- *Commissioner Lowe asked what the alternate route during construction is, if the bridge is closed for two years?*
- *He also asked about thoughts regarding graffiti, due to high volume of kids utilizing the bridge. He expressed that lighting should be further explored.*
- *Commissioner Segall asked if a pedestrian bridge has been considered to accommodate bike and pedestrian traffic during closure. Applicant stated that due to location a proximity to rail road's presents conflicts that prohibit a method to safely provide a passage during construction. If an alternative route was provided it would extend the project 18-24 months.*
- *Commissioner Nasser asked if the community has been informed? Suggested to use percent of art is utilized for the walls. Applicants stated that they will put future artwork on the panels as they tried to match construction and art timeline did not sync.*
- *Commission carried out more conversations about structure, safety and how to utilize art with community engagement.*
- *Seeing no further questions or comments from the Commission or the public, Chair Nasser asked for a motion to approve concept I (01:49:47)*
- *Upon the motion made by Commissioner Segall and seconded by Commissioner Lowe*
- *Mrs. Liss polled the Commission: Commissioner Kenyatta, Commissioner Febo San Miguel, Commissioner Lowe, Commissioner Osorio, Commissioner Chair Nasser, and Commissioner Segall*
- *Motion carried unanimously to approve for concept approval (6-0)*

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PUBLIC COMMENTS:

- *None Received*

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SECONDED BY:	Lowe				
VOTE					
COMMISSIONER	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	RECUSE	ABSENT
NASSER	✓				
FEBO SAN MIGUEL	✓				
KENYATTA	✓				
LOWE	✓				
OSORIO	✓				
SEGALL	✓				
VACANT					
VACANT					
VACANT					
TOTAL:	6				
REMARKS:	Address questions about interim pedestrian routes, strategies for pedestrian and bicycle safety, provide information on engagement including potential to inform art through engagement				
OUTCOME:	Concept Approval granted unanimously				

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Commission, Chair Nasser adjourn November 12, 2025, Philadelphia Art Commission.
(02:14:26)

Items Included for Record

Report of the Sign and Streetery Committee

- Meeting held October 29, 2025 at 9:30 am virtually on the Zoom platform

Sign Applications

First Reviews:

1. 254-25

Kline Specter

1525-29 Locust Street

Zoning: CMX-5 within /CTR Center City Overlay District - Locust Street Area

Recommendation for Approval.

2. 255-25

Puff Stop

114 S 15th Street

Zoning: CMX-3 within /CTR Center City Overlay District -

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Center City Commercial Area

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Recommendation for Approval.

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3. 256-25

Papa Johns

701 S Broad Street

Zoning: CMX-3 within /CTR Center City Overlay District –
Center City Commercial Area

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4. 257-25

Salon Republic

210 S 12th Street

Zoning: CMX-5 within /CTR Center City Overlay District –
Center City Commercial Area

Recommendation for Revisions Needed.

The Committee recommended approval for the wall sign. The projecting sign is prohibited due to its location within the Center City Overlay District – Center City Commercial Area; the Committee recommended it be removed from the application, so that the wall sign can move forward without requiring ZBA approval.

5. 258-25

Matcha Panda

2033 Chestnut Street

Zoning: CMX-4 within /CTR Center City Overlay District –
Center City Commercial Area

Recommendation for Approval.

6. 260-25

Uchi

1608-34 Sansom Street

Zoning: CMX-5 within /CTR Center City Overlay District –
Center City Commercial Area

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Recommendation for Revisions Needed.

The Committee had concerns about the low height of the projecting sign, requesting it be elevated and resized such that it meet the standards of Code section 14-904(1)(d) Extensions of Signs Over Public Rights-of-Way, by either: a) elevating the sign more 10'; or b) by elevating it above 8' and reducing the projection to less than 2'.

7. 261-25

Dig Inn

112 S 11th Street

Zoning: CMX-5 within /CTR Center City Overlay District – Center City Commercial Area

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Recommendation for Approval Upon Receipt of Additional Information.

The Committee recommended approval for the window sign. The Committee noted that, while the projecting sign is prohibited due to its location within the Center City Overlay District – Center City Commercial Area, it is replacing an existing projecting sign of similar size in similar location, and on a block with other projecting signs. The projecting sign approval is conditional upon receipt of approval from the ZBA.

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