

Public Comment for
4238-40 Chester Ave

FRIENDS OF
CLARK PARK



Philadelphia Historical Commission
Architectural Committee

Re: 4238–40 Chester Ave

Dear Chair Frankel and Committee members,

I'm writing on behalf of Friends of Clark Park (Registered Community Organization for Clark Park), and the 501(c)(3) that works alongside Parks & Rec to maintain and improve the park.

We share the concerns others have expressed about architectural style matching the historic character of the neighborhood. What I want to add is narrower and specific to the park: the curb cuts.

The proposal puts a garage on the ground floor of each duplex, which on this block means roughly four new driveways carved out of continuous on-street parking. That public parking is important for Clark Park. It's how families with strollers, older visitors, and folks coming from outside the neighborhood including throughout West and Southwest Philadelphia reach the park on Saturday Market mornings, during large events, and on most sunny days. Each curb cut also precludes the presence of nearby street trees on the sidewalks around the development, altering the character of the neighborhood's tree-lined streets.

We'd ask the Committee to recommend that the applicant consolidate access to a single shared entry point and to flag, for the record, that streetscape continuity matters.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ben Strolly', written in a cursive, flowing style.

Benjamin Strolly
President
Friends of Clark Park