



Minutes of July 8, 2026, Meeting of the Philadelphia Art Commission

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

Raed Nasser, Chairperson

Katherine Liss, Director

**The Philadelphia Art
Commission**
Established 1911

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Carmen Febo San Miguel
Vice Chairperson

Marni Burns, RLA, ASLA
Matthew Kenyatta
Troy Leonard, AIA
James Lowe
Raed Nasser
Rebecca Segall

Katherine C. Liss, AIA,
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Director

CALL TO ORDER				
START TIME:	9:36am			
COMMISSIONER	ROLE	PRESENT	ABSENT	COMMENT
Raed Nasser, Chairperson	Member of the Board of Parks and Recreation	x		
Carmen Febo San Miguel, Vice Chairperson	Businessperson	x		
Marni Burns	Landscape Architect	x		
Matthew Jordan-Miller Kenyatta	Member of a School of Art or Architecture	x		
Troy C. Leonard	Architect	x		
James Lowe	Designee of the Commissioner of Public Property		x	Roy Conard sits in for Commissioner Lowe
Rebecca Segall	Painter	x		
Vacant	Member of a School of Art or Architecture			
Vacant	Sculptor			

Staff Members Present:

Katherine Liss, Director of the Philadelphia Art Commission

Sydney Conaway, Henry Feldsman, Cindy LaRue

Individuals Attending via Zoom platform:

Members of the public: David Ade, Julia Guerrero

Applicant Teams: Jake DellaValle, Danial Kline, Sam Thompson, Jennifer Gajewski-Heon

City of Philadelphia Employees: Rebekah Grimes, Paige Phillips, Marguerite Anglin, Stephanie Pennypacker

Agenda Items

REPORT OF THE SIGN AND STREETERY COMMITTEE (Consensus Vote)				
DATE	START TIME	MOTION	SECOND	COMMENT
June 26, 2026	9:36am	Consensus		

One Parkway Building
1515 Arch St., 13th Floor
Philadelphia, PA 19102

215-683-4613

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Items Presented for Administrative Review

Administrative Item 1: Indego IKE Smart City Kiosks- 9 new locations	
APPLICANT	Office of Transportation and Infrastructure systems (OTIS), Bicycle Transit Systems (BTS)
LOCATION	Various
PROJECT TYPE	Encroachment
DESCRIPTION	Installation of Indego IKE Smart City Kiosks
RECOMMENDATION	<i>Director's recommendation is for administrative approval.</i>

Bicycle Transit Systems (BTS), contracted by the City of Philadelphia's Office of Transportation and Infrastructure Systems (OTIS) is seeking administrative approval to deploy IKE Smart City kiosks at ten locations. The Art Commission provided final approval for the deployment of IKE Smart City Kiosks on Indego bike share stations, with the understanding that the locations be reviewed administratively.

The IKE Smart City Kiosk is an interactive digital kiosk that will be attached to the Indego bikeshare station. The kiosks generate advertising revenue to support the operations and expansion of Indego while also delivering public service information, resources, and local art.

(9) New Stations are proposed in this submission.

*We recommend one location, at **22nd and Cecil B. Moore**, to be disapproved at this time – the new location across the street from the existing is significantly less desirable.*

We recommend the other eight stations submitted for approval, including:

- 1. Grays Ferry & Pemberton – existing, new docks to be added*
- 2. Pennsylvania & Fairmount*
- 3. 2nd & Lombard – existing to be moved in partnership with South Street District*
- 4. 43rd & Powelton*
- 5. Broad & Snyder*
- 6. Belmont & Georges Hill (new installation)*
- 7. Kelly & Calumet (new installation)*
- 8. Ridge & Ripka (new installation)*

The location recommended for disapproval can be resubmitted with revisions.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS (09:37:57)

- Carmen asks if the station at Kelly and Calumet has enough space between the existing bike docks, the Indego Station, and the sidewalk.
- Kacie notes that each location will be reviewed by the Streets Department for complete street standards, access, and utilities.
- Troy notes that there are dimensions between the edge of grass and the bike stand, 6'5".
- Nate Bulman Johnson with BTS notes that they do go through reviews with Steets Department. These installations must meet all ADA standards and be compliant.

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- Carmen, "Good".
- Raed requests that the design team shares the feedback from the Streets Department.
- Nate notes that the process for their approvals are required to go through Art Commission prior to being reviewed by Streets Department.
- Carmen says she has no problems so long as someone makes an appropriate assessment.
- Raed requests a report for how the community can submit announcements for summer events. He says his submissions were not responded to and wants to know the appropriate way of communication so he and the broader communities can utilize the Indego Kiosks appropriately.
- Nate says they will provide that and that the organization has a new form for Community members to fill out. He notes that it is in the submission package.
- Mathew asks if this is the appropriate venue for reviewing the material in question. He notes that these criteria include that community groups require City collaboration. This process feels onerous to ask community members to get a department's endorsement. Can someone shine some light on these standards?
- The Commissioners would like more transparency about how long the process takes to use the screens and who to contact.
- All content must be approved by City because it's in the public right-of-way.
- The team wasn't aware of this requirement until after they started receiving submissions. This is likely a question for OTIS.

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Administrative Item 2: John C. Anderson Cultural Center				
APPLICANT	Philadelphia Parks and Recreation / SMP Architects			
LOCATION	5301 Overbrook Avenue			
CITY-OWNED LAND?	YES		NO	
PROJECT TYPE	Construction project on City owned land			
DESCRIPTION	Building renovations and ADA upgrades			
RECOMMENDATION	<i>Director's recommendation is for administrative approval.</i>			

Philadelphia Parks and Recreation, with SMP Architects, is requesting Administrative Approval of renovations to the John C. Anderson Cultural Center, located at 5301 Overbrook Ave. The project includes replacement in-kind of select windows at the exterior and new rooftop HVAC unit to replace the existing. At the interior there are ductwork renovations associated with the new rooftop HVAC unit, stair replacement, replacement of a sanitary line, replacement sump pumps, ADA upgrade to an existing restroom, new LED lighting, and new finishes associated with the scope of those renovations. The scope will have a minimal visual impact on the existing building. The construction budget for the project is approximately \$3,000,000. Creative Philadelphia has determined the project will not trigger a percent for art obligation at this time.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS (09:53:10)

- Raed is glad this project is happening, especially the bathrooms.
- Matt asks a question to legal – is there a distinction about how much money goes for what type of improvement before it triggers Percent for Art?

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- Law confirms that this project has been evaluated to not include Percent for Art.
- There is a discussion about why certain projects require Percent for Art and others don't. Kacie notes that due to the combination of the budget and scope that Creative Philadelphia determined it was not required.
- Rebecca notes the Carousel house, but Carmen notes that came in as a larger design project.
- Carmen notes that these repairs are very needed.
- There is a continued discussion about redesign vs repair.
- Marguerite Anglin from Creative Philadelphia clarifies that for any project in the guidelines spells out what is an eligible project. This project is largely repair based (HVAC, windows, water proofing). She explains that scope and budget determines eligibility.

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Vote Summary

ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW (Consensus Vote)				
ITEM	START TIME	MOTION	SECOND	COMMENT
Indego IKE Smart City Kiosks- 9 new locations	9:36			Approval
John C. Anderson Cultural Center	9:45			Approval

Items Presented for Final Review

ITEM: Avenue of the Arts Median Project - Sculptures

ADDRESS: S Broad & Spruce/Pine Streets

DATE(S) OF PRIOR REVIEW: June 10, 2026

START TIME: 10:01:45

APPLICANT: Avenue of the Arts Inc.

PRESENTER (if different from applicant): Miguel Horn (artist)

REVIEW TYPE: Public Art

PROJECT DETAILS: Sculptures proposed to be installed on a median on South Broad Street.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS:

- Raed he notes that there is already graffiti on the median.
- A member of the Ave Arts Team notes that the graffiti has already been removed.
- Raed also asks if we can have a similar maintenance approach if this artwork gets tagged.
- Miguel says he placed the sculptures with his assistant and as soon as they put it in place, a member of the public exclaimed, "That looks nice!"
- Raed asks if the piece can be repaired from damage?
- Miguel says Peacock Industries has a lacquer finish that will be applied.
- Miguel says a conservation plan that will connect them to local outlets and conservators that would give a maintenance plan for how to approach cleaning the sculpture.
- Rebecca asks at the view "South End Looking West" rendering. She asks if there is more relief on the sculpture in comparison to the mock up that Miguel brought.

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- Troy says that the concept is great. He sees it in his mind and can imagine moving around the sculpture. He wants to point out that he starts to see the segmented quality of the model becomes clear in some of his renderings but he does not see it in the models. Is Miguel aware of this?
- Miguel notes that doing a full scale mock-up would not be a viable option which is why he created a singular mock up. However, the smaller scale is difficult to show the laminated construction without being a massive endeavor. The small scale shows the form.
- There is a discussion about whether Miguel can bring up comparable artworks to show but it is not possible.
- Matt clarifies, are the striations occurring in the slide can actually translate into physical form? Matt talks about the materiality differences between the sample and the actual built artwork. He notes that he's seen other Miguel artworks and know it translates.
- There is a discussion about the various forms of the sculptures and his past work.
- Troy says he wasn't criticizing the idea but he wasn't quite clear about what he is seeing the model and what he's talking about. The movement around the image in the slides is demonstrated very nicely.
- Miguel says he would've cut it out of metal but the plywood weighs a lot less.
- Miguel discusses the articulation of the sculptures as they go through the animation.
- Rebecca says she thinks this installation is going to be very popular and asks about people wanting to take pictures with the forms? How will they plan to keep people away?
- There is a discussion about the circulation of the vehicle and pedestrian traffic and how the vehicular barriers will serve to deter the public from hopefully coming into the median.
- Rebecca notes that people go into the median all the time to take photos already.
- There is a discussion about adding more sculptures on the sidewalk.
- Marni says that the sense is that they're going to be so cool but you can't get there. People are going to want to be close. She recommends that the second phase could include more.
- Roy asks if these pieces go through Creative Philadelphia's Percent for Art Process?
- Kacie notes that they are going to be part of the City's collection. There is a discussion about the project.
- Roy asks about the temporary pots. They were noted to be used as a reference for where the sculptures will go.
- Matt asks when Phase 2 will begin. He says the temptation to get close is real. We need some deterrents to protect the piece and pedestrians.
- Ave Arts member says they are working on Phase 2 which will include deterring people to cross into the median. There are conversations that are happening with the city and the commonwealth.
- Signage is discussed. Both temporary and permanent.
- Ave Arts member urges the Committee to approve so they can get on with the fabrication and installation.
- Committee expects to see more information once Phase 2 design begins.
- Matt asks about a stewardship plan.



- Carmen moves to do a final approval. Matt seconds. With clarification that there is ID of the sculpture on the signage and will be installed temporarily if Phase 2 permanent signage isn't installed at the same time.

ACTION (Roll Call Vote) 10:41:00						
ITEM:	Avenue of the Arts Median Project - Sculptures					
MOTION:	Approval					
MOVED BY:	Carmen					
SECONDED BY:	Matt					
VOTE						
COMMISSIONER	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	RECUSE	ABSENT	
NASSER	x					
FEBO SAN MIGUEL	x					
KENYATTA	x					
LOWE /CONARD	x					
BURNS	x					
SEGALL	x					
LEONARD	x					
VACANT						
VACANT						
TOTAL:	7					
REMARKS:						
OUTCOME:	Approved.					

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Items Presented for Concept Review

ITEM: Bainbridge Green – Plaza Redesign
ADDRESS: Bainbridge & 3rd/5th Streets

START TIME: 10:42:07

APPLICANT: Queen Village Neighbors Association

REVIEW TYPE: Construction on City Property

PROJECT DETAILS: Renovations to pocket park between 3rd and 5th Streets on Bainbridge Street.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS:

- Marni says she has a lot to say. She's glad to see the project and states she tried to help previously. She notes that keeping the shade trees is important. Urges to maintain the existing trees and make sure that the new trees have appropriate soil volume. She notes that the design team should look at where shade is in relation to benches and that she's glad the fence is removed. She wants to see the details of the boardwalk.
- The Application says an architect would do the shop drawings and discusses the various methods of constructions and cost. It's acknowledged that costs have changed since the proposal was first introduced.

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- The approach is to start with addressing the footprint, demo, and circulations and then incorporate other furnishings and material design decisions once funding is available.
- The applicant notes there will be a real focus on caring for the trees.
- There is a discussion about the maintenance and volunteers that maintain the space.
- Brian, an applicant, notes it's removing 9 cherry trees and replacing them with 17 appropriately sized trees.
- Marni asks for a removals plan.
- The applicant notes they have not engaged an architect of record yet. Once they bring on an LA the details will become much more specific.
- Marni asks about the bollard lighting.
- The applicant notes that there is existing street lighting and there will be studies about what type of lighting is needed. The idea is that the lighting will help make the space safe.
- Marni asks about cut throughs between the fencing since people will likely want to cut through the linear park.
- There is discussion about circulation and making sure there are cut throughs so that people don't trample the plants.
- Roy notes this is exciting. He wants to make sure that the community gets a good investment out of this. He encourages the team to show all existing crosswalks and other circulation routes.
- There is a discussion about the fountain and if it's part of the scope.
- It's been determined it is part of the scope but that it is non-functional. There is a concern about water; however, a robust watering plan will be incorporated into the plan. A contractor will be consulted about whether it is possible to repair it.
- Roy notes there are some "questionable planters" and wants to know what's happening.
- Applicant says there is attachment to them, but there is more to determine what will be replaced.
- Roy asks about the relocated Indego Station.
- Applicant notes it'll move to the 5th Street plaza.
- Roy asks to indicate where rendered views are on the plan.
- Roy is concerned about the 90-degree angles on the paths. Be aware of desire lines.
- He asks about the boardwalk and expresses concerns.
- There is a discussion about materiality of proposed boardwalks and the sustainable nature of the various woods.
- The applicant notes she does not want to make the pathway concrete but that they do need to do more exploration into materials given cost and maintenance.
- Roy asks about an end area that is rendered a little unclear. He suggests they do more studies about these spaces.
- The team notes these are conceptual and that there is a lot that still needs to be determined.
- The team notes there are budget constraints but they're hoping to fundraise. These slides were developed for fundraising and making sure they're on the right direction.
- Carmen wants to know what the Committee is supposed to approval? There is a discussion about the various levels of approval and what the renovations are.

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- Carmen continues saying this would only be a concept approval, and applicants would need to come back with more detail.
- Raed asks about parking removal.
- No. Number of spaces will not change.
- There is likely to be disruptions to parking during construction.
- Raed asks them to bring tree and plant palette so they can review.
- The applicant is trying to make the best design they can with the money they have.
- The applicant notes their reluctance to use concrete is due to the fact they're trying to be kind to the trees.
- Matt asks a clarifying question about concept approval.
- Rebecca thinks any inside right angles on the path should be filled in so they're not hard angles.

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ACTION (Roll Call Vote) 11:11:01						
ITEM:	Bainbridge Green – Plaza Redesign					
MOTION:	Concept Approval					
MOVED BY:	Marni					
SECONDED BY:	Carmen					
VOTE						
COMMISSIONER	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	RECUSE	ABSENT	
NASSER	x					
FEBO SAN MIGUEL	x					
BURNS	x					
KENYATTA	x					
LEONARD/CONARD	x					
LOWE	x					
SEGALL	x					
VACANT						
VACANT						
TOTAL:	7					
REMARKS:	Desire for more developed construction documents: detailed planting palette, full details on the installation method of pathway, more details on ped circulation, and more details on proposed lighting.					
OUTCOME:	Concept Approval granted					

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Items Included for Record

Report of the Sign and Streetery Committee
Wednesday, June 24, 2026 - 9:30 AM

Returning Reviews:

1. 61-26

The Josephine

1608-34 Sansom Street

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

Recommendation for APPROVAL.

The proposal is for a total of five (5) signs, including: a 29'-2" X 3'-3" illuminated wall sign; a 3'-6" X 2' wall sign identifying the resident parking garage; a 5'-11" X 11' wall sign on the parking garage door; a set of two (2) wall signs each measuring 2' X 16' and identifying loading zones; and window vinyl. Notes: The Committee appreciated the revision to the resident parking sign on the Sansom St. façade. Large, illuminated sign expected to require ZBA approval due to location above 2nd story windowsill.

Remarks: The Committee appreciates the updated placement of the parking signage.

2. 286-23

UPS

1735 Market Street

Zoning: CMX-5; Signage Encroachment in the Right-of-Way

Recommendation for APPROVAL.

The proposal is for a 40" X 12" double-faced projecting sign elevated 9'-4" above grade. The sign includes internally illuminated white LED letters reading "THE UPS STORE" against a gray background panel. Notes: The Committee appreciated the revision to the color to better complement the building façade. The Committee encouraged the applicant to attach the screws into the mortar joints. Existing light fixture above sign is to remain.

Remarks: The Committee requests that mortar joints be utilized for mounting purposes to lessen the extent of drilling on the façade of the building.

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3. 134-24

Community College of Philadelphia

1700 Spring Garden Street

Zoning: SP-INS; /CTR Center City Overlay District – Vine Street Area

Recommendation for APPROVAL.

The proposal is for four (4) building ID signs, including: three (3) logo signs; and one (1) 18'-10" X 40 1/2" illuminated sign reading "LION'S DEN" with mascot graphics. The logo signs include: two (2) 101" X 90" non-illuminated signs on opposite faces of a parking garage; and one (1) illuminated 20'-11" X 18'-6" wall sign on the rear façade of the West Building.

Remarks: Applicant confirmed all signs have received ZBA approval. The Committee requested in July 2024 that the applicant return following the ZBA process to continue the review of the larger illuminated logo sign, deeming the other three (3) signs conditionally approved pending ZBA approval. The Committee appreciated the coordination with the community throughout the ZBA process and the resulting revisions, including the reduction in size and limitation on nighttime illumination hours.

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First Reviews:

1. 124-26

Cinnaholic

58 N 2nd Street

Zoning: CMX-3; Signage Encroachment in the Right-of-Way

Recommendation for APPROVAL.

This proposal is for one (1) projecting sign sized thirty-six and one half inch by twenty-one and one half inch (36.5" x 21.5") and mounted ninety-six inches (96") from grade level. This sign will display a primarily purple background with black and white graphics to identify the business entrance.

Remarks: The Committee suggests that the metal fasteners that attach the sign to the armature be painted black to match the sign's background.

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2. 125-26

Neighborhood Bar



222 S 15th Street
Zoning: CMX-5; /CTR Center City Overlay District – Center City
Commercial Area

Recommendation for APPROVAL.

The proposal is for a 14'-6" X 1'-2" illuminated channel letter wall sign reading "NEIGHBORHOOD BAR" in bronze letters mounted to a new aluminum awning. The awning will have a matte black powder-coated aluminum finish, incorporate horizontal bronze-painted accent strips, and feature rounded edges at the corners.

Remarks: The Committee requested additional details about the awning and channel letters, which were provided following the meeting on June 30, 2026 and consistent with Committee requests. The awning will be elevated 8'-5" above grade and project 18" from the building. Its purpose, in addition to aesthetics, is to provide weather protection and allow for the possible installation of downlighting in the future.

3. 126-26

Blank Street Café

1801 Spruce Street
Zoning: CMX-2; /CTR Center City Overlay District – Rittenhouse
Square

Recommendation for APPROVAL.

This proposal is for three (3) signs for a corner property located on Spruce Street at 18th Street. There are two (2) wall signs, each five feet, eight and one half inches by six inches (5'- 8 ½" x 6") and one (1) projecting sign sized two feet square (2'- 0" x 2'- 0") mounted 10'-0" above grade. All signage will display a pale olive-green background and white lettering stating, "Blank Street".

Remarks:

4. 133-26

Camellia

118 N 3rd Street
Zoning: CMX-3; Signage Encroachment in the Right-of-Way

Recommendation for APPROVAL.

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This proposal includes the refacing of one (1) double-sided blade sign measuring eighteen inches square (18"x18"). The total amount of projection over the public right-of-way is twenty-one inches (21") and it will be installed ninety-four inches (94") from grade to the bottom of the sign. The sign will feature a black background and white lettering within a white circle reading "Camellia Nail Spa & Cafe" below a flower icon.

Remarks: The Committee suggests that the size of Camellia within the blade sign could be scaled down to allow for more appropriate spacing between the text and the white circle that embraces the salon's name.

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