



## Public Space Committee Meeting

May 14, 2021 at 11am

### I. Introductions – Colleen

### II. Board Update – Patrick

- A. Strategic Plan priorities (attached)
- B. New committee structure and meeting schedule.
- C. Public Space Committee focus
  - 1. Propose and Discuss ideas and initiatives
  - 2. Post-Covid focus on Safety and Security
  - 3. Safety Ambassador
  - 4. Homelessness

### III. Dupont Plaza Update - Colleen

- A. Status update
- B. Review of Design
  - 1. Columbia Road
    - a) Existing bike lane on Columbia Road, separate traffic signal phase for bikes at the Columbia Road intersection.
    - b) Closure of Median on Columbia Road: Came out of high-crash analysis last year.
  - 2. T Street to Florida Ave
    - a) Green Infrastructure within the treebox (improve drainage in the area)
    - b) Bike Racks
  - 3. Florida Ave Intersection
    - a) Removing right turn ramp (in front of Rite Aid)
    - b) Curved bump-outs (pulling out sidewalk into the intersection, shorter distance for pedestrians to walk)
  - 4. S Street to R Street (1700 block)
    - a) Off peak parking continued
    - b) There will be a new bus stop
    - c) Protected bike lane featured at either side of the street (5 ft in width)
  - 5. R Street and 20th Street (1600 Block)
    - a) (Current bus stop)

- b) Addition of parking
- c) High-crash safety study results showed that vehicles coming out of the circle and weaving to the right to take 20th street. So if you're coming out, there will be a barrier so that you can't get on the 20th street
- d) Full lane of parking, full travel lane, option to continue northbound on Ct Ave, or go up to 20th Street
- e) Change in protected bike lane - it becomes a cycle track to connect to the 20th Street Bike lane.

6. Q Street and Plaza

- a) Bike lane has been taken off CT Ave and 20th Street
- b) Plaza will be a shared street
- c) Pavement will be level to the sidewalk (better for accessibility and operationalizing the plaza) In talks with DDOT about getting a permit to shut down the service lanes for events.
- d) Does this plan allow us to take that step, if (two service lanes will eventually close and be pedestrian space?) Nothing here precludes that from happening in the future.
- e) BID is considering asking to remove the planters. When we saw them, they took up more than  $\frac{2}{3}$  of the space.
- f) BID is also still interested in public art for ventilation hole

C. Update on timing and funding for plaza

- 1. 95% complete (finalizing quantities and estimates, and ADA approvals)
- 2. Construction ready Winter 2021/2022
- 3. Funding: Local - discussions with Concilmember Mendelson. Federal - discussions with DDOT (CARES Act)
- 4. 35 million dollar projects (8 million left in budget) Nothing is set in stone

D. Management and Programming of Dupont Plaza

**IV. Strategic Plan Priorities – Colleen + Open Discussion**

**A. Clean & Safe Conditions**

- 1. Clean Team update, Banner & Trash Can wraps, Power Washing, Light poles
  - a) Suggestion: Sell the banners, we have a wide variety of well-designed banners
- 2. Activating the Circle
- 3. Landscaping, maintenance, events
- 4. Revitalize Streetscape ideas

- a) Public Art Installations, Landscaping and tree box plantings
- b) Neighborhood Gateways
- c) Outdoor seating and planters
- d) Streateries
- e) Update & long term plan

**V. Other Business**

- A. Action Items for the next 3 months
- B. Next meeting
- C. Other business

Comments

Chris: Anywhere there is potential for a vehicle/ped conflict, should be biased towards safety of pedestrians.

Public Art on the ventilation space so it can be celebrated.

Reston Town Center with pavillion

Will connect BID with Dan Beaterman an urban park designer and operator (Clive Warren Park and Bryant Park) discuss financials, management and aesthetics.

Consider for stimulus funding

Coordination with local partners including Phillips Collection

Question: Who has responsibility with maintenance for the tree boxes? Answer: The BID has responsibility for maintenance of the tree boxes (in the past we've done planting in the median, mulching tree boxes, etc.).

Ruth: Regarding the safety improvements at Ct Ave, 20<sup>th</sup> and R intersection. Need to inform and educate people of the new operations when the delineators separating the service lane from the tunnel lanes are installed. Materials should be attractive.

Robin Nixon, NPS: Update on the Dupont Circle rehabilitation: complete replacement of plumbing in Fountain. Currently in contracting phase, should be awarded this Summer - estimated completion date is late Fall 2021. Landscaping work is budgeted for 2023. Possibly going to include be bench replacement.

Patrick: Overall, let's think of big ideas and share at the next meeting.

Colleen: The BID will organize working groups for public art in public space and operations/management structures for the Plaza. Asked for volunteers.

Colleen: Proposed date of next Public Space Committee Meeting August 17<sup>th</sup>.

## 2020 STRATEGIC PLAN and FOCUS AREAS

### Dupont Circle BID Values

The BID adopted the following set of core values to guide the Dupont Circle BID's activities:

- **Environmental responsibility**
- **Valuing local arts and culture**
- **Programming that brings people together across difference**
- **Healthy and unique small and local business ecosystem**

### Strategic Priorities / Focus Areas

Guided by the adopted Values, the DCBID approved 4 strategic priority areas:

1. Continuously **produce compelling messaging** for the Dupont Circle neighborhood.
2. **Revive Dupont Circle Park (The Circle)** as a world class park and cultural and social gathering place.
3. **Revitalize Dupont Circle's streetscapes** and public realm.
4. **Reinvigorate Dupont Circle's economy** to support a thriving business climate and strong community.