



The City of Seattle

International Special Review District

Mailing Address: PO Box 94649, Seattle WA 98124-4649
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ISRD 223/17

MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF TUESDAY, November 14, 2017

Time: 4:30pm
Place: Bush Asia Center
409 Maynard Avenue S.
Basement meeting room

Board Members Present

Eliza Chan
Carol Leong
Tiernan Martin, Chair
Herman Setijono
Valerie Tran

Staff

Rebecca Frestedt
Melinda Bloom

Absent

Stephanie Hsie, Vice Chair
Sergio Legon-Talamoni

Chair Tiernan Martin called the meeting to order at 4:30 pm.

111417.1 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

September 12, 2017

MM/SC/CL/HS 3:0:2 Mss. Chan and Tran abstained.

September 26, 2017

MM/SC/EC/VT 3:0:2 Ms. Chan and Mr. Setijono abstained.

111417.2 CERTIFICATES OF APPROVAL

111417.21 409B Maynard Ave. S. – Bush Hotel
Applicant: Rachtha Danh, SCIDPDA

Ms. Chan recused herself.

Ms. Frestedt explained that this is an application for proposed installation of window treatments-shades in Hing Hay Coworks. Exhibits reviewed included photographs, plans and samples. This building was constructed in 1915. As a result, it is a contributing building, located within the Retail Core and the Asian Design Character District.

Applicant Comment:

Rachtha Danh, SCIDPDA, explained interior shades are needed and will only be used to alleviate sun glare. He said that shades will be up most of the time.

Ms. Leong asked if another color was considered.

Mr. Danh said they looked at others but thought the black would be less distracting. They felt that the color was in harmony with the windows.

Mr. Martin cited 23.66.366 B4; he said this is above street level and asked staff if that still applies.

Ms. Frestedt said this is above street level so that isn't applicable but that she thought it was appropriate to review because of the space's prominence over the park.

Mr. Martin asked if there is visibility in.

Mr. Danh said that the shade is not too revealing nor does it hide too much.

Mr. Setijono said this type shade allows visibility but it still blocks the sun and prevents heat gain.

Ms. Leong said the board reviewed an application for shades last year but the board determined there was a transparency issue.

Ms. Frestedt said that was in the Addison; it was approved with the condition that they leave the door exposed.

Mr. Danh said the shades will be used sparingly.

Public Comment: There was no public comment.

Board Discussion:

Ms. Frestedt said the percentage of visibility is higher than shades proposed elsewhere. When the sun is hitting windows it look dark anyway; this will blend in.

Ms. Leong said the black doesn't go with the building – it is too dark.

Mr. Martin asked the color of window frames.

Mr. Danh said they are maroon.

Ms. Tran said the windows already look black from the park.

Mr. Martin said the shades present a conundrum because applicants voice an intention to have the blinds remain up, but many stay down all the time. He said shades change the pedestrian experience; a long-term view is needed. He noted that in this instance the frontage is not immediately on the street. He said it is nice to see Hing Hay CoWorks as an active space – it is important to public safety. He hoped the shades would not be down in the evening and that they would be used only when needed for sun glare.

Mr. Setijono said this type of shade allows visibility in even at night.

Mr. Martin said it would have been helpful to see other design options to understand the decisions made compared to the alternatives.

Ms. Leong said in this instance it is straightforward, but is concerned about abuse by other applicants.

Mr. Danh said they will add raising the shades to closing duties.

Mr. Martin said that behavior matters – it affects the public realm. He noted Mr. Setijono’s comment that there is visibility through the blinds.

Ms. Frestedt said that each application is reviewed on a case-by-case basis. Approval here doesn’t mean that another applicant could install elsewhere. Transparency at ground level is required, but not applicable to upper stories.

Action: I move that the International Special Review District Board recommend approval of a Certificate of Approval for design, as proposed.

The Board directs staff to prepare a written recommendation of approval, based on consideration of the application submittal and Board discussion at the November 14, 2017 public meeting, and forward this written recommendation to the Department of Neighborhoods Director.

The proposed window treatment meets the following sections of the **International Special Review District Ordinance and applicable Design Guidelines:**

SMC 23.66.336 – Exterior building finishes

A. General Requirements

B. Asian Design Character District

Secretary of the Interior Standard #10

MM/SC/HS/VT 3:0:1 Motion carried. Ms. Leong abstained.

111417.22

Right-of-Way adjacent to 674 S. King St.- Milwaukee

Applicant: Jason Verduzco, mobilite

Ms. Frestedt explained the proposed installation of minor communication utilities on one (1) City Light utility pole within the right-of-way. The existing 33’ tall pole will be replaced with a new ~38’ tall pole to accommodate the equipment. Exhibits reviewed included photographs and plans. She confirmed that this project is categorically exempt from SEPA.

Applicant Comment:

Jason Verduzco, mobilite, explained the need to augment existing service. He said they will use existing infrastructure where possible with the least visible impact as possible. He said they will install a cabinet, antenna, and side arm; all will be painted to match the pole. The existing wood pole will be replaced with a new, taller wood pole. He said no trenching is needed and there will be no disruptions. He said installation will be a 3 – 5-day process. Responding to clarifying questions he said that the equipment will supplement existing service.

Ms. Leong asked what equipment does and why some equipment is on building roofs and some is installed on utility poles.

Mr. Verduzco said that small cell (on poles) is the next generation. The small cells help “densify” services. He said to think of it like a “hot spot”.

Mr. Martin asked if the paint is graffiti-resistant.

Mr. Verduzco said that it is above public reach but that mobilite would provide maintenance - there is a number posted on the pole. He provided photos of distribution transformers and said they are heftier than the equipment that they are proposing.

In response to a question, Ms. Frestedt confirmed that only one carrier can use an individual pole.

Public Comment: There was no public comment.

Board Discussion: There was no further Board discussion.

Action: I move that the International Special Review District Board recommend approval of a Certificate of Approval for Street Use in the right-of-way for installation of minor communication utilities on a utility pole.

The Board directs staff to prepare a written recommendation of approval, based on consideration of the application submittal and Board discussion at the November 14, 2017 public meeting, and forward this written recommendation to the Department of Neighborhoods Director.

This action is based on the **following applicable sections of the International Special Review District Ordinance and Design Guidelines:**

SMC 23.66.334- Streets and sidewalks
Secretary of Interior’s Standard #10

MM/SC/CL/EC 5:0:0 Motion carried.

111417.23

Right-of-Way (6th & Lane St. and 4th Ave. S. at Yesler and Washington)

Applicant: Cameron Owens, MD7 (for Verizon)

Ms. Frestedt explained the proposed installation of low-powered wireless equipment on two (2) utility poles:

- Node 7 (pole ID 1319113) on 4th Ave. S. between Yesler and S. Washington St. The pole will be replaced to accommodate equipment.
- Node 13 (pole ID 1313242) on 6th Ave. S. & S. Lane St. Exhibits reviewed included photographs, plans and paint sample. This project is categorically exempt from SEPA.

Applicant Comment:

Cameron Owens, MD7, explained that for the first location (Node 13), near Uwajimaya, they are not proposing new equipment; they are relocating equipment from what had been previously approved. In the other location (Node 7), by the Emergency Operations Center, he said Chief Seattle base will be transferred to new pole. He clarified that the conduit will be inside the pole. He showed two possible options for the Fire Department installation. Their preferred option is shown on A3.

Public Comment: There was no public comment.

Board Discussion:

Board members determined that approval should be conditional on receipt of cut sheets and documents with accurate information for the final proposal for the location at Yesler and Washington.

Action: I move that the International Special Review District Board recommend approval of a Certificate of Approval for Street Use in the right-of-way for installation of minor communication utilities on utility poles. The Board supports both options presented for the Yesler and Washington location and conditions approval on the applicant submitting to staff consistent renderings and / or plans showing the final configuration of the selected option.

The Board directs staff to prepare a written recommendation of approval, based on consideration of the application submittal and Board discussion at the November 14, 2017 public meeting, and forward this written recommendation to the Department of Neighborhoods Director.

This action is based on the **following applicable sections of the International Special Review District Ordinance and Design Guidelines:**

SMC 23.66.334- Streets and sidewalks
Secretary of Interior's Standard #10

MM/SC/CL/HS 5:0:0 Motion carried.

111417.24

Right-of-Way adjacent to 521 S. Washington St.

Applicant: Gibran Hashmi, MasTec Network Solutions (for AT&T)

Ms. Frestedt explained the proposed installation Proposed installation of wireless communications equipment to be installed on a utility pole (pole ID #1313090). The existing 33' tall pole will be replaced with a 38' 6" tall pole to accommodate equipment.

Exhibits reviewed included attached photographs, plans and paint samples. This project is categorically exempt from SEPA.

Applicant Comment:

Gibran Hashmi, MasTec Network Solutions, explained five locations were looked at and this one chosen. He said that they will remove existing wood pole and install a new one. He said they will add the equipment at the Seattle City Light site and SCL will install. He said the canister is 10" diameter and 2' tall; he said it is smaller than many transformers. He said the antenna, hardware and conduit will be painted to match per SCL standards. He said that AT&T will maintain the equipment; there is an SCL pole number on the pole for reference if there are issues to report.

Ms. Chan asked how this site was chosen.

Mr. Hashmi said the radio frequency engineers selected the location. He said that there is high demand here especially on game days and during special events. Sometimes SCL rejects a proposed site. He noted that they can't use a pole already used by other carriers.

Ms. Frestedt shared a letter that came with the application that refers to the site selection criteria.

Mr. Setijono asked how long the installation will take.

Mr. Hashmi said 5 – 7 days. He said it will hopefully be within the month but it will be done within SCL schedule.

Mr. Martin noted the two maps show different locations.

Mr. Hashmi corrected the location on the map and noted the 5th and Washington location is a little east from where shown on map.

Action: I move that the International Special Review District Board recommend approval of a Certificate of Approval for Street Use in the right-of-way for installation of minor communication utilities one (1) utility pole, conditional upon submission of corrected site map(s) to staff.

The Board directs staff to prepare a written recommendation of approval, based on consideration of the application submittal and Board discussion at the November 14, 2017 public meeting, and forward this written recommendation to the Department of Neighborhoods Director.

This action is based on the **following applicable sections of the International Special Review District Ordinance and Design Guidelines:**

**SMC 23.66.334- Streets and sidewalks
Secretary of Interior's Standard #10**

MM/SC/CL/HS 5:0:0 Motion carried.

111417.3 BOARD BUSINESS

Ms. Frestedt reported that the board election is next week and that the final meeting for outgoing members will be November 28th.

She explained that Chinatown ID Advisory Committee planning session facilitated by the Office of Planning and Community Development (OPCD) and Department of Neighborhoods (DON) will be 11/27, from 3:00 – 4:45 pm at Hirabayashi Place in the Donnie Chin Community Room. She said a consultant will be hired to help with writing of the Guidelines along, with community liaisons who will be providing interpretation and translation assistance.

She noted that a historical property report has been received on the Bush Garden building. She said the owner has requested a determination about the building's contributing status. That has not been determined, since it is outside of the National Register District.

Mr. Martin asked about absentee voting. Ms. Frestedt said voting must be done in person.

Adjourn 5:43 pm.

Rebecca Frestedt, Board Coordinator
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