



The City of Seattle

## International Special Review District

Mailing Address: PO Box 94649, Seattle WA 98124-4649  
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ISR 98/17

### MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF TUESDAY, April 25, 2017

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

#### **Board Members Present**

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

#### **Staff**

Rebecca Frestedt  
Melinda Bloom

#### **Absent**

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

#### **042517.1 CERTIFICATES OF APPROVAL**

042517.11 Right-of-Way at 12<sup>th</sup> & Jackson  
*Applicant: An Huynh, SCIDPDA*

Ms. Chan recused herself.

Ms. Frestedt explained the application for proposed installation of decorative crosswalks featuring three main components (turtle, lotus plants and water) within the right-of-way at the intersection of 12<sup>th</sup> Ave. S. & S. Jackson St. Exhibits included photographs, renderings and plans. She noted that the site is located east of I-5, in Little Saigon, on the border of the ISR boundaries. She confirmed that the Board only has jurisdiction over the SW corner of the intersection.

An Huynh, SCIDPDA, provided the context of the site and said the crosswalks will provide safety, visibility and will reflect the Vietnamese culture. She said it will mark the area as a social and cultural hub of Little Saigon.

**Administered by The Historic Preservation Program  
The Seattle Department of Neighborhoods**

"Printed on Recycled Paper"

*Ms. Leong arrived at 4:33 pm.*

Ms. Huynh provided photo of current conditions and said that the four existing crosswalks at this site will be changed. She went through the community involvement process and said a Citizen's Action Committee (CAC) was formed and met multiple times. She said that the desire is to identify identity and character of the neighborhood. She went through timeline.

Duy Vo, artist, went through the design progression of meetings with community, SDOT feedback, multiple revisions that led to the final design. He said the final design features a turtle, lotus and water motif.

Referring to renderings, Ms. Huynh said the blue color works with the turtle and lotus and the water element is reflective of the water around Vietnam. She said the 8" white strips on either side are required by SDOT. She said the final design will be turned over to SDOT who will determine the exact placement on the current footprint. She said the rendering is close to the color chips.

Mr. Vo said that he used pure colors. He said the design will be printed on thermo-plastic material and applied with a blow torch. He said the durability is 3 – 7 years.

Howard Wu, SDOT, said the installation will take 10 hours.

There was discussion about best time to do work and community members in the audience said the best time is on a week night; Tuesday night being best.

Ms. Leong asked about re-application process.

Ms. Huynh said they would apply for a new round of funding and go through the process again.

Ms. Leong asked what happens if there is no funding, if the colors would just fade away.

Mr. Wu said that the process is new for Seattle and still experimental and they are still learning. He said SDOT would still maintain the white stripe but the rest would just fade away.

Ms. Tran appreciated all the iterations that were undertaken in the design selection.

Mr. Martin said it is a good example of co-design process with the community and sets a good precedent. He said cultural placemaking is good in all niches.

A community recommended publishing the construction schedule in the Vietnamese and Chinese newspapers for greater awareness.

Ms. Tran noted that August is peak festival time.

Ms. Huynh said that they are aiming to have it finished to celebrate it at the festivals, including Celebrate Little Saigon.

Action: I move that the International Special Review District Board recommend approval of a Certificate of Approval for street use, 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 April 25, 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 District Design Guidelines:**

**SMC 23.66.030 – Certificates of approval – Application, review and appeals**  
**SMC 23.66.334 – Streets and Sidewalks**

**Secretary of the Interior’s Standards:**

**#10.** New additions and adjacent or related new construction shall be undertaken in such a manner that if removed in the future, the essential form and integrity of the historic property and its environment would be unimpaired.

MM/SC/HS/CL            5:0:1    Motion carried. Ms. Chan recused herself.

042517.22

705 5<sup>th</sup> Ave. S. – 705 Union Station  
*Applicant:* Amy Colby, JPC Architects

Ms. Frestedt explained the application for proposed installation of a flag pole (56’ high) mounted on the roof, to fly the 12<sup>th</sup> Man/Seahawks flag. Exhibits included plans, photographs and structural calculations. The 705 Union Station building was constructed in 2000-2001. It is located outside the Asian Design Character District and retail core.

Amy Colby provided context of the building in the neighborhood. She indicated on the photo where the flagpole is proposed to go and noted it will mount adjacent to the mechanical screen. The flagpole is 56’ high. They want to fly Seahawks flag and the American flag as well.

Ms. Hsie asked about visibility from street.

Ms. Colby said it will mostly be visible from the stadium side of the street.

Nick Martus, Unico (property owner), said they also want approval to fly American flag as well as the Seahawks flags.

Ms. Frestedt read through the Code section for rooftop features, cited Secretary of the Interior Standard 9, and commented that the work is reversible. She said the airport overlay applies and the Seattle Department of Construction and Inspections (SDCI) will require a permit and need to review wind load.

Ms. Colby said they City has approved the pole and permit is pending Certificate of Approval.

Responding to clarifying question Ms. Frestedt said flags showing team support are allowed in Pioneer Square as long as they do not include advertising.

Public Comment: There was no public comment.

Board Discussion:

Ms. Leong said this is walking a fine line with the advertising component and said she would support the 12 flag for those who support the team but not the Seahawks franchise. She said this is outside the Asian Character Design District but should complement the historic nature of the district.

Mr. Martin clarified that the 12 flag is the least aligned with the business side.

Ms. Leong agreed.

Ms. Frestedt said this not expressly noted in the Code; she cited 23.66.338 D. She said it leaves discretion to the board.

Ms. Hsie said she had no problem with the flags but said she was concerned about the flagpole and seeing a proliferation of them. She expressed concern about revolving flags that may not be reviewed.

Ms. Frestedt said there are a number of contributing buildings in the district that have flagpoles now; they are not a new feature in the district.

Mr. Martin agreed with Ms. Hsie; but he didn't think proliferation of flag-flying will happen. He said this is a living, modern district and sports teams are part of residents' and business's lives. He said Seahawk support signs are already in the neighborhood; he was Ok with all six flags presented as well as the American flag.

Ms. Hsie said she had no problem approving the application but said since it is a larger scale building the height is more appropriate here; scale should be mentioned in the motion.

Ms. Tran agreed with Ms. Leong and said it is brand versus team. She preferred the 12 sign.

Ms. Chan agreed with Mmes. Leong and Hsie and said 12 sign supports fans more than the team. She noted there is lots of Seahawks stuff in the neighborhood.

Mr. Setijono had no problem with the application and said flagpoles are expensive and it is not likely to be on all rooftops.

Sue Kay, member of the public, said when she sees the flags, she see advertising.

A straw poll was conducted; five members to one preferred the "12" man sign without Seahawk logo or wording.

Action: I move that the International Special Review District Board recommend approval of a Certificate of Approval for use and signage, for a 12 man flag (with no Seahawk logo or wording) or an American Flag; flagpole proportionate to the scale of building.

The Board directs staff to prepare a written recommendation of approval, based on consideration of the application submittal and Board discussion at the April 25, 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 District Design Guidelines:**

**SMC 23.66.030 – Certificates of approval – Application, review and appeals**  
**SMC 23.66.332 – Height and Rooftop Features**

**Secretary of the Interior’s Standards:**

**#9.** New additions, exterior alterations, or related new construction shall not destroy historic materials that characterize the property. The new work shall be differentiated from the old and shall be compatible with the massing, size, scale, and architectural features to protect the historic integrity of the property and its environment.

**#10.** New additions and adjacent or related new construction shall be undertaken in such a manner that if removed in the future, the essential form and integrity of the historic property and its environment would be unimpaired

MM/SC/CL/HS 5:0:1 Motion carried. Mr. Martin abstained.

Ms. Frestedt said the district was formed as response to the construction of the Kingdome impact.

Ms. Leong said the board has to be clear about its mission especially looking into the future.

Mr. Martus said Unico wants to be a good fit here.

Ms. Frestedt said that if any other flags are proposed to provide context photos of other flags present in the district.

**042517.2 BOARD BUSINESS**

Ms. Frestedt gave an update about the appointment of the new member.

**Adjourn** 5:35 pm.

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