

DENVER UNION STATION PROJECT AUTHORITY
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
December 17, 2009
MINUTES

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Elbra Wedgeworth
Michael West
Tom Gougeon
Don Hunt
Claude Pumilia
Marla Lien
Terry Howerter
Robin Kneich
Jennifer Schaufele
Mario Carrera
Jerry Glick
Judy Montero
Russell George

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Meeting of the Board of Directors of DUSPA was called to order at 1:32 p.m. by Elbra Wedgeworth, DUSPA Board President.

II. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

Elbra Wedgeworth welcomed the Board Members and Guests.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

Elbra Wedgeworth asked for public comment.

Mr. Levi Reeves, Union Station Advocates (USA) Board Member introduced himself and stated that, on behalf of Dana Crawford, Anne Hayes and others with USA that he has provided copies of two letters to the DUSPA Board. He stated that the first letter is in support of the progression of the design of the Project with comments on the open space designs. He suggested that comments in the first letter are that USA believes that the 17th Street gardens are over

programmed and frenetic, that the paving patterns to not reflect the LoDo historic significance and that the materials are not high enough quality.

Mr. Reeves also reported that USA prefers 17th and Wewatta for the location of the Mizpah Arch and that no size preference for the Arch has been decided upon by USA.

Mr. Reeves stated that the second letter pertains to maintenance and governance of the historic building and expresses concern that the budget for historic building has been reduced.

IV. ROLL CALL

Dawn Bookhardt called roll. Please see above.

V. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Elbra Wedgeworth asked for comments to the December 3, 2009 meeting minutes. There was one comment that George Merritt had accepted a position with the Governor's office, not the Mayor's office. Jerry Glick moved to approve the December 3, 2009 meeting minutes as amended. Mario Carrera seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously¹.

VI. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. TIFIA/RRIF Progress Report and Update

Chad Fuller reported that DUSPA is working through details with TIFIA and RRIF and that the process is moving along well. He stated that a January 11, 2010 working group meeting is scheduled and that the full credit council meeting will be the following week. He reported that most of the big issues have been resolved and that they are now looking at details.

Mr. Fuller reported that RRIF wants a site visit and that he is trying to coordinate a visit with RRIF, TIFIA and Scully all at the same time.

Alex Brown reported that he has compiled a to-do list and has scheduled a meeting with Dawn Bookhardt to set a schedule for completing the list of tasks.

Jerry Glick requested that Mr. Brown provide a copy of the list.

Mr. Brown also reported that he is preparing cash flow models and focusing on documentation required for credit council.

¹ Claude Pumilia, Tom Gougeon and Judy Montero arrived after this vote.

B. Owner's Representative Report

i) Update Regarding Project Progress

Bill Mosher reported that the design is continuing to advance and that there will be a presentation today by the design team. He also reported that negotiations with Amtrak are still moving forward and that the design and Amtrak are the two major issues he has been working on.

Mr. Mosher introduced Ann Mullins from the design peer group and reported that Tyler Gibbs and Ellen Ittleson have also been working with the peer group. Mr. Mosher stated that representatives from AECOM and Hargreaves are also at today's meeting.

Mr. Mosher reported that this group will make a presentation to the Planning Board on January 20, 2010.

ii) Design Presentation

Kristopher Takacs and Ken Haines alternated presenting the slides as follows:

1) The Public Spaces.

Mr. Haines stated that these public spaces include the areas in front (east) of DUS including the east plazas and the area that includes 17th Street from DUS to the CML. He suggested that these spaces constitute a series of outdoor rooms as the slides were presented.

2) The Historic Station and Surrounding Space.

Mr. Takacs showed design slides and reported that the team has been working with USNC to develop the themes of the spaces. The area south of DUS will be a lively open space with a possible water feature while the plaza to the north will be a relatively quiet and calm space.

3) The Train Shed.

Mr. Takacs stated that this iconic structure will provide a space that is a celebration of Colorado, particularly the great weather and blue sky. He reported that over the last few months the canopy has evolved with the input of the peer panel including the parallel technology trusses and the oval opening in the canopy.

4) The Pedestrian Bridge.

Mr. Takacs suggested that the pedestrian bridge/deck may connect to the Block B building and that the Block B building could also be L shaped to include a leg over the rails to the north of the train shed.

Bill Mosher requested that the presenters return to the peer group input and process.

Mr. Takacs reported that the peer group process resulted in the reshaping of the canopy over the train room which has been a huge improvement visually and structurally. The entire structure is thinner.

5) The 17th and Wewatta Public Space and Corridor.

Mr. Haines stated that the 17th and Wewatta Plaza edges will likely be active retail. He suggested that the 17th Street alignment goal is to stitch together six blocks between the DUS and the LRT with a 160 foot wide corridor. The current option is to place the roadway on the south side of the corridor and have a grand concourse on the north (sunny) side. This grand concourse will include the skylights and egress stair for the bus facility as well as a 25 foot wide fire lane. The tectonics of the skylights set the stage for plantings and gardens which may include grasses and evergreens. Other features of the gardens include game tables and a water feature.

Robin Kneich inquired as to whether the water features represent the sustainable goals of the project with respect to cost, water use and energy use.

Mike Sullivan responded that the team is looking at sustainability issues and that the technology for low maintenance water features has improved over the last few years. He stated that the concerns are valid and appreciated.

Elbra Wedgeworth also suggested that the team has included public safety representatives to provide input on the safety of the space including evaluation of sight lines to make sure the space is a safe environment.

6) The LRT Plaza.

Mr. Haines stated that circulation is the major consideration for this space during the morning and evening commutes. He described the concept of the space is to connect everything from the Millennium bridge to the 18th Street bridge as well as light rail, the 17th Street Corridor and the bus facility.

Mr. Takacs stated that the peer review group has also been instrumental with input to this space regarding the canopies and the ventilation system for the bus facility.

Mario Carrera inquired about bicycle traffic.

Mr. Takacs responded that they have planned several routes with the planning department that provide access to the project, but the public spaces will be dismount zones similar to the 16th Street mall. He also stated that there are several bike rack locations including three racks at the

LRT, one rack at 18th & Wynkoop and racks at the location of the old tail tracks south of 16th Street.

7) Below Grade Bus Terminal.

Mr. Takacs showed slides of the bus terminal and stated that the central concourse will be climate controlled and described the vertical movement elements including:

- Five stair locations
- Three elevators
- Three escalators and
- Two emergency exit stairs

Mr. Takacs stated that it is estimated that less than five percent of the commuter trips through the project will be people going directly from the LRT to the CRT and that less than ten percent of the trips are to the bus terminal indicating that the majority of the commuter trips will be to one of the rail transit platforms followed by shuttle or walking. He suggested that, because of the use estimates, it is the opinion of the design team that the moving walkways should be removed from the bus facility.

Bill Mosher stated that the moving walkways are in the current plans and that DUSPA has until about March / April 2010 to determine whether they should be removed. He further reported that the peer group has unanimously recommended making the concourse in the bus facility more open and more pedestrian friendly. He stated that both the design team and the peer group recommend that the moving walkways be removed to open the space up for movement. He added that if the walkways were to break down during a peak period, an inconvenient bottleneck would result.

Mr. Mosher suggested that the recommendation to remove the Travelators is not based on financial reasons, but that the recommendation is for pedestrian comfort.

Marla Lien reiterated that the RTD Board must approve the removal of the moving walkways and suggested that Ms. Kneich and the design team make this presentation to the Board. She stated that she will attempt to schedule a presentation for the Board for January 26th.

Judy Montero inquired as to whether the design team has worked with accessibility consultants.

Bill Mosher responded that both SOM and the City have worked with these consultants.

Councilwoman Montero inquired as to how people with limited mobility will get around the bus facility.

Terry with AECOM responded that the 18th Street circulator is already planned to go end-to-end through the bus facility, which will accommodate people with limited mobility traveling in either direction.

Jerry Glick asked whether there are any other approvals or timelines that the Board should know about.

Bill Mosher responded that no other approvals or timelines are pending and added that March or April 2010 is the timeline and RTD is the only other decision maker regarding the moving walkways.

Don Hunt suggested that DUSPA wants to make sure that any stakeholders and advocacy groups are aware of the decision and participate in the process.

Bill Mosher stated that tonight is a public meeting and that there will be another one in January.

Don Hunt requested that Mr. Mosher bring any comments from the public meetings to the Board.

Robin Kneich and Don Hunt requested that the presenters go back to slides that show pedestrians and the 18th Street circulator.

Mr. Takacs displayed the slides and described the route of the 18th Street circulator through the bus facility. He showed that the circulator shuttle enters from the east end of bus facility and makes three stops as it loops around the west end of the facility and exits again at the east end.

C. Public Outreach Report.

Mario Carrera reported that no comments have been received regarding the Public Information Plan and the Media Protocol Plan.

Jerry Glick moved to approve the CRL Public Information Plan for DUSPA as originally drafted and submitted at the last meeting. Don Hunt seconded the motion. The vote in favor of the motion was unanimous.

Jerry Glick moved to approve the CRL Media Protocol Plan for DUSPA. Don Hunt seconded the motion. The vote in favor of the motion was unanimous.

VII. ACTION ITEMS

Approval of the Public Information and Media Protocol Plans prepared by CRL.

VIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Elbra Wedgeworth read the following language for a motion to enter executive session: The Board will now enter into executive session to discuss certain matters as permitted under the

Colorado Open Meetings Law (C.R.S. § 24-6-402 et. seq.) related to financial and contract negotiations.

Jerry Glick made the motion to enter into an executive session. Mario Carrera seconded the motion. The vote in favor was unanimous.

The Board entered into executive session at 2:48 p.m.

Jerry Glick made the motion to exit executive session. Mario Carrera seconded the motion. The vote in favor was unanimous. The Board exited from executive session at 3:51 p.m.

XI. ACTION ITEMS RESULTING FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

None.

X. CARRYOVER AND FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Please look forward to an update of the RRIF and TIFIA application process.

Mr. Mosher will have an update regarding:

- i) Project progress and;
- ii) AMTRAK issues.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:51 p.m.