

Memo

To: David Mann, Plan Commission Chairperson
From: Bill Greffin, Public Art Advisory Commission Chairperson
Date: June 29, 2015
Re: Public Art Installation at Oak Park Station

In preparation for the July 2, 2015 Plan Commission hearing on the proposed mixed use development at Lake & Westgate, Oak Park Station, the project developers Andy Stein, Clark Street Developers, and Jon Kubow, Lennar Multi-Family Development met with the Public Art Advisory Commission on December 3, 2014, and again on February 4, 2015 to discuss their public art concepts for their project.

December 3, 2014

The following three alternatives were presented to the commission:

- 1) North Blvd: Utilizing a blank wall on the South Façade of the South structure install a mural or mosaic piece
- 2) North Maple Avenue Bridge: Install a lighting element that enhances the pedestrian experience from the Multi-Model Station to Westgate.
- 3) Mini Mural Project: Donate funding for additionally mini-murals to be installed along the Union Pacific embankment.

The Commission was generally not in favor of approving funds for additional mini-murals, they recognized that both option 1 & 2 had merit. It was generally agreed that option 1 would provide North Blvd with an enhanced look that would be visible from the CTA and Metra, and that option 2 would provide a more interactive environment for pedestrians and vehicles along North Maple.

An informal vote was taken with a slight majority favoring the lighting element along North Maple. The Commission requested that Mr. Stein return with additional detail about either option 1 or 2.

February 4, 2015

Andy Stein and Jon Kubow re-introduced two public art concepts for the development site at Westgate and Lake Street based on the initial discussion with the PAAC in December:

- 1) Metal screening along the public parking facility at North Blvd that would be capable of holding art.
- 2) A lighting element running along the bridge connecting the North and South structures. The element could have an interactive element with a pedestrian panel to change the light color or pattern.

After a detailed discussion the Commission voted to approve the lighting concept as put forward but wanted to note the following concerns for the developer to take into consideration:

- Ongoing maintenance needs to be carefully structured as technological advances need to be anticipated and constant care will need to be applied.
- The lighting feature will have to be carefully constructed to take into consideration the pedestrian and residential nature of the area.

Motion: Bill Greffin

Second: Rick Piwowarczyk

VOTE: Aye – David Sokol, Bill Greffin, Linda Carlisle, Rick Piwowarczyk, Simona Merchen, Elaine Miller, Ava Bjornson

Abstain: Lauren Cooper

It should be noted that the final design of the public art feature for this project should be reviewed by the Public Art Advisory Commission for input and approval.