

Documenters

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City Planning Commission

Documenter name: Kellie Morris

Agency: [Cleveland City Planning Commission](#)

Date: April 4, 2025

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Summary

- Community members are actively protesting the expansion plans at the Cleveland Clinic Fairview Campus.
- Public art is being planned for various Cleveland communities.

Follow-Up Questions

- Were community members pleased with the commission's decision to postpone giving schematic approval of the Cleveland Clinic Fairview expansion and demolition proposal?

Notes

The meeting of the City Planning Commission opened at 9:15 a.m. New City Planning Director Calley Mersmann read the rules and regulations governing the [hybrid meeting](#). Public comment was permitted, and those giving [presentations](#) were sworn in by the commission chair ahead of discussing each [agenda](#) item.

All commissioners were in attendance for the meeting with the exception of Isabella McKnight. Kuri left roughly an hour before the meeting ended so she could make a flight. Commission members present:

- Lillian Kuri, chair
- August Fluker, vice chair
- Charles Slife, Ward 17 City Council member
- Denise McCray-Scott
- Andrew Sargeant
- Erika Anthony

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved with corrections regarding attendance. Sargeant was not present for the previous meeting. Fluker chaired that meeting in the absence of Kuri.

ZONING MAP AMENDMENTS

Chief Zoning Administrator Shannan Leonard and another co-worker presented proposed zoning changes in three areas. Two proposals (the first and third below) included “Institutional Research” zones. Leonard explained [Institutional Research zoning](#) as a proactive zoning measure in response to areas that are home to anchor institutions (for example, St. Ignatius School, MetroHealth and the West Side Market). The first two sets of changes below were approved unanimously with the goal of promoting walkability.

1. Map Change 2670: Changing the use, area, and height districts of “parcels of land north and south of Lorain Avenue between Columbus Road and West 32nd Street” in Ward 3 (Ohio City).
2. Map Change 2688: “parcels of land south of Interstate 90 between West 117th Street and West 140th” in Ward 16 were changed to Multi-family from Semi-industry.
3. Map Change 2679 affects “parcels of land north and south of Lorain Avenue between Rocky River Drive and Valley Parkway” in Ward 17. Board members voted 5 to 1 in favor of changing the zoning to Institutional Research. McCray-Scott voted no.

FAR WEST DESIGN REVIEW

Decisions on two requests regarding [Cleveland Clinic Fairview](#) Hospital Expansion (FW2024-14 and FW2025-05 on the [agenda](#)) were both postponed. One is a new construction plan; the other involves demolition. Several residents gave public comments in person and online. They shared concerns about decreasing property values, helicopter noise, increased traffic, and lack of access for cancer patients. The residents opposed the plan to build a new parking garage as proposed. Commissioner Anthony said she heard that residents recognize the value of services provided by the hospital but want to maintain a quality of life for their neighborhood. They are seeking a contract that limits the boundaries of further expansions and knowledge of them.

CONDITIONAL USES

A Ward 12 townhomes project from Fox & Mound Townhomes was approved by a vote of five in favor. There was no public comment. Presenter Chad Summe from LDA Architects

reported on the issues previously identified, such as space for snow removal.

CENTRAL SOUTHEAST DESIGN REVIEW

CSE2024-019 – Fox & Mound Townhome Development

This project was also approved with conditions by a vote of five. It's related to the approval under "Conditional Uses."

The following projects were approved for demolition as presented by Jillian Bolino from Cleveland's demolition bureau. The properties were said to be located in Ward 5 along the Opportunity Corridor. They are as follows:

CSE2025-020 – 8017 Rawlings Ave. demolition

CSE2025-021 – 2796 E. 73rd St. demolition

CSE2025-022 – 2804 E. 73rd St. demolition

The vote was unanimous in favor by a vote of five.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS – PUBLIC ART

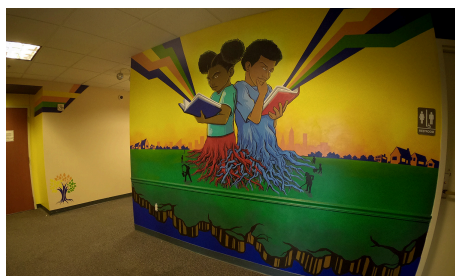
There were two presentations for final approval.

The Inspire Your City 2025 Mural for Ward 4 was approved by a vote of four commissioners. The artist [Kevin "Mr. Soul" Harp](#) was present to introduce the fourth mural in a series funded by the [St. Luke's Foundation](#). He explained that the series of murals promotes literacy. Each mural shows children with books. The project is not located in a design review district and therefore went straight to the commission for consideration, according to Tarra Seifullah Petras, public art coordinator at the City of Cleveland.



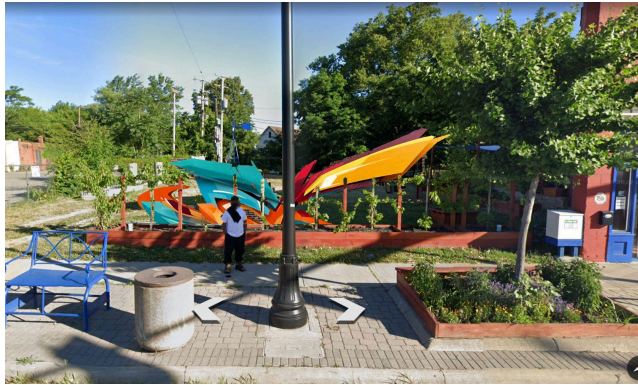
Proposed Mural in Ward 4

Other work by Mr. Soul:



The Line of Sight Temporary Sculpture Installation (NE2025-007) for Ward 8 at [Maria Neil Gallery](#) was approved by a vote of five commissioners. The artist [Bob Peck](#) was online to present the project. A letter of support was read from the ward's council member, Michael Polensek.

Petras said the project will be sent to the Northeast Design Review Committee for feedback. She explained that projects generally go to design review before being presented to the commission, but she had missed an email regarding this project, so they're working backward. Aspects of the project regarding placement are still to be determined (for example, if the project can be placed in front of or behind the existing flower beds).



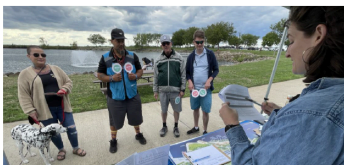
SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

The [Cleveland Moves](#) Project was presented by Sarah Davis, a transportation planner with the city. She explained that the plan must be reviewed every five years. The current project declares, “Clevelanders deserve safe streets.” Community engagement on the project occurred from June 2024 to February 2025. She said community surveys reflected that Clevelanders want more speed tables and raised crossings, and some see the benefit of dedicated bike lanes. Some goals are to reset light signals, repaint street lines, improve lighting, and create more mini roundabouts.

Some slides from the [presentation](#):

Key Community Engagement Themes

- More protected and high comfort infrastructure
- Sidewalks are in poor condition
- Driver behavior and vehicle speed
- Concerns around personal safety
- People want:
 - More speed tables and raised crossings
 - Traffic calming
 - Trees and shade
 - Better ADA accessibility
 - Better street maintenance
 - Streetlights that work
 - Secure bike parking



 Cleveland MOVES

CITY OF CLEVELAND
MAYOR JUSTIN M. BIBB

We have two types of infrastructure recommendations

■ Network:

- 3-year rapid implementation (short-term)
- Vision (long-term)
- **Focus:** Bicycles
- **Safety benefits for all users** (e.g. slower speeds of vehicles, shorter crossing distances for pedestrians)
- Street specific



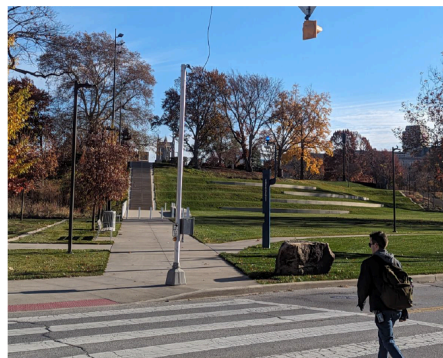
■ Systemic Practices:

- Citywide approaches to planning, engineering, construction, and maintenance. These are not tied to a specific street project.
- **Focus:** Varies by practice



Over the next 3 years, we will:

- **Build 50 miles of high comfort bikeways, including:**
 - adding protection to existing wide bike lanes,
 - restriping and adding new separated bike lanes, and
 - installing neighborhood greenways signage and markings; strategically complement with speed tables or other traffic calming.
- **Modify signal timing and prioritize improvements for crosswalks on 5 corridors or zones a year.**
- **Install centerline hardening at 10 intersections in 2025.**
- **Continue with speed table installation citywide, starting with over 100 more in 2025.**
- **Include systemic safety improvements in bikeways and street projects.**
- **Purchase bike lane specific maintenance equipment for regular plowing and sweeping.**



What will the next 3 years look like?

3-year goal: 50 miles of AAA bikeways

■ 2025 may include:

- Upgrades: Union, Miles, W 65th south of Lorain, Fulton Road bridge
- Separated bike lanes: Payne Ave, Prospect/Huron
- Neighborhood greenways: West Park and Old Brooklyn
- Centerline hardening at 10 intersections



- **Convert at least 150 parking meter poles to bike racks**
- **Install over 70 shared mobility hubs in 2025**
- **Host quarterly meetings with advocates, CDCs, and community partners**



MANDATORY REFERRALS

Three City Council ordinances were approved by a vote of four.

- Ord. No. 327-2025, summarized by Commissioner and Council Member Slife as permission for the sewer district to pump sewage out of the Flats
- Ord. No. 328-2025 for permission to install an Ohio Historical Marker on the street. Rick Switalski, engineering and construction administrative manager for the city, said that, in 1865, the city became among the first in America to allow patrons in the stacks to select their own books at the library. On May 10, the 100th anniversary of the building on Superior Avenue – built in 1925 and home to the main branch of the Cleveland Public Library – will be commemorated. The building was also one of the first to have reading rooms.
- Ord. No. 329-2025 was to issue a permit to Nautica Entertainment, LLC to add a new “egress stairway and entry canopy.”

ADMINISTRATIVE APPROVALS

Ord. No. 288-2025 and Ord. No. 434-2025 were approved regarding [Tax Increment Financing Agreements \(TIF\)](#) for the [African Town Plaza Project](#) and to provide for payments to the Cleveland Metropolitan School District by a vote of four.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mersmann reported that open positions in the department have been posted and applications are being accepted. She also announced that the office is currently under renovation. Her final comment was that the city has joined the National Association of City Transportation Officials (NACTO).

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:15 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: Friday, April 25, at 9:15 a.m.

If you believe anything in these notes is inaccurate, please email us at cleDOCUMENTERS@gmail.com with "Correction Request" in the subject line.