

MINUTES
DESIGN COMMITTEE OF THE BOSTON CIVIC DESIGN COMMISSION

February 23, 2021
Held virtually via Zoom

5:00pm

Project: **Bunker Hill Redevelopment, Buildings F & M**, Charlestown
Present: Commissioner Deneen Crosby, Commissioner Linda Eastley, Commissioner Jonathan Evans, Commissioner David Hacin

DISCUSSION: This was the fourth design committee meeting for the project. The design team simplified Building F's facades and improved the entrances into Building M by changing the designs of the canopies and bays. They described how the project will add a greater diversity of trees to the site. The design team also discussed adjustments to the ground floor plans of Buildings F and M.

Commissioners complemented the new materiality and massing forms of Building F, as well as their framing of the courtyard. They suggested adding more of an emphasis to the entrance of Building F on Decatur Street, and further investigating access to the building via the courtyard. Commissioners asked for greater specificity on ways to maintain the current canopy.

Members of the public had comments regarding the number of trees that will be removed from the site, and the viability of existing trees. They also asked for the creation of a tree replacement fund and for the team to consider a dog park.

The project will continue in design committee.

6:00pm

Project: **Fenway Center Phase 2**, Fenway
Present: Commissioner Deneen Crosby, Commissioner Linda Eastley, Commissioner Jonathan Evans, Commissioner David Hacin, Commissioner William Rawn

DISCUSSION: The design team presented plans and sections showing stepbacks at the building "zippers." They presented a series of views and an investigation of the façade systems and wall types. They discussed opportunities for public art at certain moments along the ground level.

Commissioners suggested including changes to make the sidewalks around the buildings feel more gracious, and to include green elements to soften the harder elements of the public realm. They wanted to see more creative visual features along the ground level of the podium, and more variation in the building's overall depth. Commissioners made gestures to artwork in concourses in the Chicago O'Hare and LAX Airport as sources of inspiration.

Members of the public asked to see more renderings of the north elevation from Cambridge, recommended adding a pedestrian crossing on Beacon Street, and expressed concern with the incongruity of the façade materiality. They also asked that the team explore ways to improve the experience along Beacon Street.

The project will continue in design committee.