



Urban Design Committee

2021 Annual Report

The Urban Design Committee was established by ordinance in 1981 to advise city government on enhancing the physical environment of our city to increase enjoyment of living in and visiting Lincoln. By Section 4.36 of the Lincoln Municipal Code, the Committee has seven appointed citizen members serving three year terms. The Committee meets as necessary on the first Tuesday of the month at 3 p.m.

Urban Design Committee members at the beginning of 2021 included Michelle Penn (chair), Gill Peace (vice-chair), Peter Hind, Emily Deeker, Tammy Eagle Bull, Tom Huston, and Mark Canney. Ms. Eagle Bull resigned during the year and Jill Grasso was appointed. The Committee is staffed by Stacey Hageman, supported by Teresa McKinstry.

UDC was asked to review three sidewalk cafés in December at The Hot Mess (408 S. 11th St), Gravity (1140 O St), and Itsumo Ramen (1451 O St). The Committee also reviewed one street art project at the 11th & B Street intersection. Other projects reviewed by UDC in 2021 are described in further detail below.

Terminal Building Redevelopment (10th & O Streets)

Although improvements to the building were reviewed by Historic Preservation Commission because the property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places, the Urban Design Committee reviewed the Terminal Building Redevelopment's streetscape design and associated waivers to the Downtown Design Standards in January and May. Plans included a canopy structure and drive-through lanes in the parking lot south of the building. A waiver to the Downtown Design Standards was needed to allow the drive-through between the building and the street.

Wyuka Housing Redevelopment (36th & S Streets)

Urban Design Committee reviewed the proposal for a housing development along the east side of North 36th Street and adjacent to Wyuka Cemetery. Designs were reviewed by the Committee in January and February.



Multi-Family Redevelopments (25th & Vine, 23rd & Y, 22nd & P)

UDC reviewed two proposals for multi-family developments by the same developer. Plans for 25th & Vine were reviewed by the Committee in April and May, and plans for 23rd & Y were reviewed in July and September. UDC also reviewed a multi-family redevelopment project in the Antelope Valley area on the block bounded by 22nd, 23rd, P, and Q Streets in June and August.



Tabitha Redvelopment (48th & L Streets)

UDC reviewed the proposed Tabitha Redevelopment in September.



Other Redevelopment Projects

Several small-scale redevelopment projects were reviewed by the Committee as well.

- Revolution Wraps Redevelopment was reviewed in January.
- 1645 Washington Street Redevelopment was reviewed in January and February.
- Meadowland Redevelopment was reviewed in June.
- Atrium Building Redevelopment was reviewed in July.
- Central Lumber Redevelopment was reviewed in September.
- Phase 2 of the Instinct Pet Foods Redevelopment was reviewed in December.

Public Projects

Several public projects came to the Committee for their advice. Center Park Garage streetscape improvements in February; LES substation landscaping at 57th & Garland and 40th & Bennet Road in March; placement of a digital kiosk at 14th & P Streets in August; and Haymarket South Streetscape enhancements between 6th and 7th Streets under Rosa Parks Way in November. Although a private project, improvements were reviewed for the public right-of-way at the Post Lofts (14th & P Streets) entry in February.

Larry Enersen Urban Design Award

The Committee has annually recognized significant urban design enhancements to the City through the Larry Enersen Urban Design Award, which was initiated in 1984. Beginning in 2013, the Committee strengthened the award process by enlisting a “jury” of former UDC members and other design professionals to nominate award-worthy projects to the Committee for endorsement. The 2021 jury was chaired by Peter Hind with Gordon Scholz, Margaret Berry, Tom Laging, Robert Ripley, Ed Zimmer, and Planning staff support.

The 2020 winners—announced in 2021—were:

The **Adele Coryell Hall Learning Commons** project activated previously under-used spaces on the University of Nebraska campus. Inside Love Library, it created an inviting study space with amenities. It flows outside to provide an open-air extension of the study space and a well-landscaped classroom.

The **Kindler Hotel & Lincoln Commercial Club** redevelopment project renovated former office buildings into a luxury boutique hotel and adjoining event space. The hotel project activated the adjacent streetscape on 11th Street with outdoor seating areas. The third-floor ballroom in the Lincoln Commercial Club (LCC) building was restored and is now available for events. Furthermore, a well-proportioned cornice replaced a long-missing feature of LCC, and the huge arched windows of the LCC ballroom make its beautiful, coffered ceiling visible from the street and sidewalks below.

<https://linclanc.sharepoint.com/sites/PlanningDept-Boards/Shared Documents/Boards/UDC/REPORTS/Annual Reports/UDC2021.docx>