

Committee on Rules
October 19, 2020

COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA
COMMITTEE ON RULES

Remote location using Microsoft® Teams
Monday, October 19, 2020
9:30 a.m.

PRESENT:

COUNCILMAN KENYATTA JOHNSON, CHAIR
COUNCILMAN MARK SQUILLA, VICE-CHAIR
COUNCILWOMAN CINDY BASS
COUNCILWOMAN KATHERINE GILMORE RICHARDSON
COUNCILMAN BOBBY HENON
COUNCILMAN CURTIS JONES, JR.
COUNCILMAN DAVID OH
COUNCILMAN BRIAN O'NEILL
COUNCILWOMAN MARIA D. QUINONES-SANCHEZ

BILLS: 200389, 200416, 200417

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2 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: I
3 understand that state law currently
4 requires that the following announcement
5 be made at the beginning of every remote
6 public hearing as follows: Due to the
7 current public health emergency, City
8 Council Committees are currently meeting
9 remotely. We are using Microsoft Teams
10 to make these remote hearings possible.

11 Instructions for how the public
12 may view and offer public testimony are
13 included in the public hearing notices
14 that are published in the Daily News,
15 Inquirer and Legal Intelligencer prior
16 to the hearings and can also be found on
17 phlcouncil.com.

18 Will the Clerk please call the
19 roll to take attendance.

20 Members that are in attendance
21 will please indicate that they are
22 present when their names are called.
23 Also, please say a few brief words when
24 responding so that your image will be
25 displayed on screen when you speak.

1 THE CLERK: Mark Squilla.

2 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA: Present.

3 Here today for the Rules hearing.

4 THE CLERK: Cindy Bass.

5 COUNCILWOMAN BASS: Good
6 morning, Mr. Chairman and colleagues.
7 Looking forward to today's hearing.

8 THE CLERK: Katherine Gilmore
9 Richardson. Katherine Gilmore
10 Richardson.

11 Bobby Henon.

12 COUNCILMAN HENON: Good
13 morning, Mr. Chairman. And good
14 morning, colleagues.

15 THE CLERK: Maria Quinones-
16 Sanchez.

17 COUNCILWOMAN QUINONES-SANCHEZ:
18 Good morning. Good morning. Buenos
19 dias.

20 THE CLERK: And that is it for
21 the roll, Mr. Chairman.

22 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Thank you.
23 A quorum of the Committee is present and
24 this hearing is now called to order.
25 Good morning, everyone. This is the

1 public hearing of Committee on Rules
2 regarding Bill Nos. 200389, 200416 and
3 200417.

4 Will the Clerk please read the
5 titles of the bills.

6 THE CLERK: Bill No. 200389,
7 continue the Mayfair Business
8 Improvement District beyond its
9 termination date, in an area that
10 generally includes both sides of
11 Frankford Avenue from the north side of
12 Harbison Avenue to the south side of
13 Sheffield Street and certain blocks of
14 streets that intersect that portion of
15 Frankford Avenue and for which the
16 Mayfair Business Improvement District,
17 Inc., a Pennsylvania nonprofit
18 corporation, is the Neighborhood
19 Improvement District Management
20 Association for the District; approving
21 a plan for the District, including a
22 list of proposed improvements and their
23 estimated cost, and providing for
24 assessment fees to be levied on property
25 owners within the District; authorizing

1 the Director of Commerce, on behalf of
2 the City, to execute an agreement with
3 Mayfair Business Improvement District,
4 relating to the District; and
5 authorizing Mayfair Business Improvement
6 District, Inc. to assess property owners
7 within the District a special property
8 assessment fee to be used in accordance
9 with the approved plan; all in
10 accordance with the provisions of the
11 Community and Economic Improvement Act,
12 and under certain terms and conditions.

13 200416, to amend the
14 Philadelphia Zoning Maps by changing the
15 zoning designation of certain areas of
16 land located within an area bounded by
17 Buckius Street, the Delaware River,
18 Orthodox Street and Richmond Street.

19 And Bill No. 200417, amending
20 Title 4 of the Philadelphia Code,
21 entitled "The Building Construction and
22 Occupancy Code," and Title 14 of the
23 Philadelphia Code, entitled "Zoning and
24 Planning," by adding disclosure
25 requirements with respect to certain

1 applications, permits and notices, all
2 under certain terms and conditions.

3 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Thank you,
4 Brett.

5 Before we begin to hear
6 testimony from witnesses we have for
7 today, everyone who has been invited to
8 the meeting to testify should be aware
9 that this public hearing is being
10 recorded. Because the hearing is
11 public, participants and viewers have no
12 reasonable expectation of privacy. By
13 continuing to be in the meeting, you are
14 consenting to being recorded.

15 Additionally, prior to
16 recognizing Members for the questions or
17 comments they have for witnesses, I will
18 note for the record at this time that we
19 will use the chat feature available in
20 Microsoft Teams to allow Members to
21 signify that they wish to be recognized.
22 In order to comply with the Sunshine
23 Act, the chat feature must be used only
24 for this purpose.

25 Will the Clerk please call the

1 first panel for Bill No. 200389.

2 COUNCILMAN JONES:

3 Mr. Chairman? Just to --

4 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Yes,
5 Councilman.

6 COUNCILMAN JONES: I am here.
7 Curtis Jones, Jr.

8 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: It is duly
9 noted that Councilman Curtis Jones is
10 present.

11 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Councilman
12 Brian O'Neill. Good morning.

13 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: It is duly
14 noted that Councilman Brian O'Neill is
15 present for the record.

16 THE CLERK: And, Councilmember,
17 I believe that Councilmember Henon would
18 like to be recognized.

19 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Councilman
20 Bobby Henon.

21 COUNCILMAN HENON: Thank you,
22 Mr. Chair.

23 Before you call the panel, I
24 just wanted to speak briefly on behalf
25 of Bill No. 200389, which is the

1 reauthorization of the Mayfair BID. We
2 have testifying here today, we have
3 Executive Director Donny Smith and the
4 Chairman of the Mayfair BID, Mike
5 Scotese, both who are in very critical
6 roles with the successes over the first
7 five years and continued success as we
8 move forward, especially during these
9 times.

10 I just want to thank them for
11 coming here and testifying. We
12 submitted also 11 other business owners
13 that are in the geographic service
14 territory in support of reauthorizing of
15 the BID. We created -- the BID was
16 created by legislation five, six years
17 ago through a long and public process
18 with the founders, everybody who had
19 served on the Board voted by members of
20 the service area and continue to serve,
21 and new members have done an incredible
22 job with marketing our businesses in the
23 Mayfair corridor, who have done an
24 incredible job with making sure that the
25 service area is clean and also hosting

1 events throughout the year, throughout
2 all times of the year over the years,
3 encouraging people to shop local, to buy
4 local and to promote local.

5 So I believe that this BID has
6 been a huge success and the
7 sustainability when our small businesses
8 needed it the most. And the
9 reauthorization through this legislation
10 and final passage eventually is
11 extremely important and near and dear to
12 the Mayfair and the surrounding
13 community. So I just want to thank you
14 for the opportunity and I want to thank
15 our Executive Director and Chair and
16 those who are testifying here today. As
17 far as written testimony, we appreciate
18 their service and commitment to the
19 community, so thank you.

20 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Thank you,
21 Councilman Henon. Hard work as always,
22 hard work as usual on behalf of your
23 constituents.

24 Lonnie, do you need time to set
25 up for the witnesses to testify?

1 COUNCIL TECH SUPPORT: No, we
2 don't, Councilman. We have two
3 scheduled for testimony, so we can bring
4 them into the meeting.

5 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Great.
6 Will the Clerk please call the first
7 panel for Bill No. 200389.

8 THE CLERK: Dennis Murphy.

9 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Good
10 morning, Dennis.

11 MR. MURPHY: Good morning.

12 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: You are
13 connected and you can proceed. Just
14 state your first and last name and begin
15 your testimony.

16 MR. MURPHY: Good morning,
17 Chairman Johnson and members of City
18 Council. I'm Dennis Murphy, the Senior
19 Director of Corridor Development within
20 the Commerce Department. I'm testifying
21 today in support of Bill No. 200389,
22 reauthorizing the Mayfair Business
23 Improvement District.

24 In 2016, property owners and
25 business people in Mayfair created a BID

1 to pay for supplemental services. BID
2 assessments paid for marketing
3 promotions, special events, cleaning and
4 beautification, support and promotion of
5 businesses and other activities within
6 Mayfair. The City has supported these
7 efforts through business grants such as
8 the Storefront Improvement Program and
9 support of the BID's operations through
10 the CDC Tax Credit program.

11 As Councilman Henon mentioned,
12 the BID's work doing cleaning and
13 beautification and special events is
14 something that I think everyone in
15 Mayfair has noticed. In addition to
16 those services, I want to call out the
17 work that the BID has done recently in
18 reaching out to businesses. Over the
19 last five years, we've noticed that
20 Mayfair businesses are much more aware
21 of the Commerce Department's services.
22 We've had much more interest in all of
23 our programs, and this has been
24 especially important during COVID when
25 we've been promoting different relief

1 programs. So Donny, his ward and
2 supporters of the BID have done a great
3 job making sure that all of their
4 businesses within their large district
5 know about all of these programs.

6 The leadership and the services
7 that the BID provides will be critical
8 to this important neighborhood corridor
9 as it recovers from COVID-19, and as
10 Mayfair continues to adapt and change.
11 The Mayfair BID's five-year plan is
12 sensitive to the financial challenges
13 that businesses are facing right now.
14 Their budget includes the lowest
15 possible BID rate while still providing
16 the services that the district needs.
17 The BID's efforts deserve the support of
18 the City. Thanks so much for your
19 consideration. I'll be happy to answer
20 any questions you may have.

21 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Thank you
22 very much, Dennis.

23 Are there any questions or
24 comments from members of the Committee?

25 COUNCILMAN HENON:

1 Mr. Chairman, this is Bobby Henon. I
2 just have a quick comment.

3 Just adding and I will be
4 remiss if I didn't mention the
5 cooperation and the involvement from our
6 Commerce Department in their commercial
7 corridor programs that they have. When
8 you hear a BID, some may think that,
9 well, they're just paying for services.
10 Well, the services that a BID offers to
11 the community and its core mission is
12 exactly the quality of life that our
13 neighborhoods and our corridors desire
14 and try to achieve. The Commerce has
15 been a critical part of its success,
16 their communication, their
17 collaboration, their openness and their
18 willingness to talk things through. The
19 BID in some of their events has been
20 historic right up here in Mayfair.

21 We together brought to
22 Northeast Philadelphia the first Arts
23 Festival. We've had it two years in a
24 row. Obviously, we didn't have it this
25 year. We announced a mural mile, where

1 there's going to be in the pipeline
2 seven murals within a mile stretch of
3 the commercial corridor, hosting many
4 multiple cultural events and many more
5 other events, and that is all in
6 collaboration with Dennis' support and
7 our Commerce Department's support. So I
8 want to thank Dennis for his commitment
9 to the success of the Mayfair BID.

10 That's all I had, Chairman.

11 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Thank you,
12 Councilman Henon.

13 Is there anyone else from the
14 Committee that would like to ask a
15 question?

16 (No response.)

17 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Okay.
18 Thank you very much for your testimony.

19 Will the Clerk please call the
20 next witness on the panel.

21 THE CLERK: Mr. Chairman, are
22 we going to do public comment or would
23 you like to call the next panel for the
24 next bill?

25 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Call the

1 next panel for the next bill, and we'll
2 do public comment all at one time.

3 THE CLERK: Thank you.

4 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: You're
5 welcome.

6 THE CLERK: For Bill No.
7 200416, Paula Brumbelow Burns.

8 MS. BRUMBELOW BURNS: Good
9 morning.

10 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Good
11 afternoon, Paula.

12 MS. BRUMBELOW BURNS: Good
13 morning. I am Paula Brumbelow Burns,
14 City Planner with the Development
15 Division of the Philadelphia City
16 Planning Commission. I am here to
17 testify on Bill No. 200416, which was
18 introduced into City Council on
19 September 10, 2020 by Councilmember
20 Henon.

21 Bill No. 200416 amends the
22 Philadelphia Zoning Maps by changing the
23 zoning designation of a portion of land
24 located within an area bounded by
25 Buckius Street, extended the Delaware

1 River, Orthodox Street extended and
2 Richmond Street. The proposed bill will
3 change the zoning designation for a
4 portion of land from RMX-2, Residential
5 Mixed-Use to SP-PO-A, which is Parks and
6 Open Space Active.

7 So Department of Parks and
8 Recreation requests a new designation to
9 accommodate the new Riverfront north
10 park. The rezoning will conform to the
11 recommendations in the City's
12 comprehensive plan. The zoning will
13 facilitate a new \$9 million park on 10
14 acres of vacant land and connect the
15 residents of Bridesburg to the Delaware
16 Riverfront for the first time.

17 The Philadelphia City Planning
18 Commission will consider Bill No. 200416
19 at its meeting of October 20, 2020,
20 where the staff recommendation will be
21 for approval. I will be happy to answer
22 any questions at this time.

23 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Thank you
24 very much, Paula.

25 Any questions from members of

1 the Committee?

2 (No response.)

3 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Hearing
4 none, thank you very much, Paula.

5 Will the Clerk please call the
6 panel for the next bill.

7 THE CLERK: For Bill No.
8 200417, Paula Brumbelow Burns.

9 MS. BRUMBELOW BURNS: Good
10 morning, again. I'm still Paula
11 Brumbelow Burns, City Planner with the
12 Development Division of the Philadelphia
13 City Planning Commission. I am here to
14 testify on Bill No. 200417, which was
15 introduced into City Council on
16 September 10, 2020 by Councilmember
17 Johnson for Council President Clarke.

18 Bill No. 200417 amends Title 4
19 of the Philadelphia Code, entitled "The
20 Building Construction and Occupancy
21 Code," and Title 14 of the Philadelphia
22 Code, entitled "Zoning and Planning," by
23 adding disclosure requirements with
24 respect to certain applications, permits
25 and notices, all under certain terms and

1 conditions. The bill seeks to require a
2 permit applicant that is not a person,
3 for example an LLC, to provide the full
4 names and addresses of the entity's
5 responsible officers and principal
6 beneficial owners. This information
7 would be listed in the application and
8 posted permit.

9 The proposed amendments to this
10 bill will now only be applied to
11 building permits, demolition permits and
12 zoning permits, but will exclude the
13 trade permits that include plumbing and
14 mechanical. There will only be two
15 names collected for the LLC.
16 Additionally, the names will be needed
17 to be posted on the permit, the RCO
18 notification letter, the ZBA poster and
19 the worksite signage.

20 The proposed change is
21 significant, and upgrades to the eCLIPSE
22 L&I's permitting system do come at a
23 substantial cost while this proposed --
24 sorry. The way that the amendment is
25 drafted, the ZBA poster must include

1 this information immediately. This
2 poster, however, is a report generated
3 by eCLIPSE and will not be able to be
4 updated immediately, leaving the
5 responsibility to the applicant which
6 could create compliance issues if it is
7 not provided.

8 The City Planning Commission
9 will hear this at its meeting of October
10 20, 2020, where the staff recommendation
11 will be that Bill No. 200417 be amended,
12 additionally to not go into effect until
13 the necessary eCLIPSE changes are
14 complete so that our staff can actually
15 add those into the system of the RCO
16 notification and ZBA posters. I will be
17 happy to answer any questions at this
18 time.

19 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Thank you
20 very much, Paula.

21 Before we entertain questions
22 from the Committee, here's a statement
23 on behalf of the sponsor Council
24 President Darrell Clarke that I would
25 like to read: The reason for this

1 legislation is for folks to be able to
2 identify the active human beings who are
3 the principal equity owners of
4 properties that are being developed,
5 especially when a variance is being
6 sought. I will point out that the bill
7 as amended will give you until January
8 1, 2022 to comply with most of the
9 bill's new requirements solely because
10 we've been advised that the necessary
11 modifications to eCLIPSE will take a
12 long time to get in place.

13 As you know however, there are
14 three exceptions that will take effect
15 immediately: Your tax only refers to
16 one of them, the ZBA poster which
17 applicants for variances must post at
18 the effective property. And mind you,
19 those posters are often the first and
20 best way that people in the neighborhood
21 learn about projects that could change
22 the character of their blocks. Frankly,
23 waiting a year for eCLIPSE to be
24 reprogrammed before those posters to get
25 updated is simply not acceptable.

1 With that in mind, the
2 amendment recognizes the challenge we
3 face by requiring the applicant, not the
4 Planning Commission or the ZBA, to add
5 their additional disclosures to the
6 poster at least until eCLIPSE is
7 eventually updated. I will hope that
8 the ZBA or Planning Commission can
9 figure out a way to let applicants know
10 that they have this responsibility. I
11 don't think that's too much to expect.

12 Now having said that, I have a
13 couple of questions concerning eCLIPSE:
14 First, why does it take so long to
15 modify eCLIPSE and why are modifications
16 so expensive?

17 Second, focusing only on the
18 ZBA poster issue, if you were to make
19 this a priority for eCLIPSE, what is the
20 minimum amount of time that would be
21 required so that eCLIPSE could generate
22 a ZBA poster that included the new
23 information this bill requires, that is,
24 the names and preferred addresses of the
25 one or two human beings with the largest

1 equity interest in the property.

2 Paula, would you like to
3 respond?

4 And that's a statement from
5 Council President Darrell Clarke, who
6 also would like to move forward with his
7 legislation.

8 MS. BRUMBELOW BURNS: I can
9 simply answer that I actually don't know
10 a single one of those because that is an
11 L&I process. I'm with the Planning
12 Commission so I'm a user of eCLIPSE, but
13 I don't know the contractual agreements.
14 I cannot speak for them.

15 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Are there
16 any questions or comments from members
17 of the Committee?

18 (No response.)

19 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Okay.
20 Hearing none, thank you very much,
21 Paula.

22 Is there anyone else who would
23 like to testify --

24 MS. BRUMBELOW BURNS: Excuse
25 me, Councilmember Johnson.

1 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Yes,
2 Paula.

3 MS. BRUMBELOW BURNS: In case
4 you're interested, Sarah Adamo is
5 available. I don't know if she knows
6 the answers from Licenses and
7 Inspections, but she is on today.

8 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Okay.
9 Sarah, would you like to make a
10 statement for the record in regards to a
11 response to the questions that were
12 posed?

13 MS. ADAMO: Sure. Good
14 morning --

15 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Please
16 state your -- go ahead.

17 MS. ADAMO: My name is Sarah
18 Adamo. I'm the Legislative Affairs
19 Manager and Zoning Administrator at L&I.
20 It's hard to give an exact answer to a
21 lot of those questions. However, I just
22 want to explain, the amount of changes
23 that we have to make for eCLIPSE, some
24 of these are to fix bugs, some are
25 related to legislation that's already

1 passed. We're required to prioritize
2 these, and a lot of them are in response
3 to legislation that's already passed.

4 So I think right now we have
5 about 18 initiatives that we're working
6 on so regarding the amount of time that
7 it takes to update eCLIPSE, it's simply
8 because we have other initiatives ahead
9 of us. Also, a change like this
10 requires us to not only update the
11 information that's taken in during the
12 application process, so we need to add a
13 table that the applicant will actually
14 fill out.

15 In addition, we have to update
16 several of our reports that eCLIPSE
17 runs. The reports would be the permit
18 itself. We need to change the template
19 of what that will look like and the
20 zoning poster. So there are significant
21 changes that our staff is not able to
22 make, that the vendor who we work with
23 to make updates with eCLIPSE, they're
24 the ones that actually have to make the
25 update. So those are just a couple of

1 reasons why these changes cost money and
2 do take time.

3 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Okay.

4 Thank you very much, Sarah.

5 Are there any other questions
6 or comments from members of the
7 Committee?

8 (No response.)

9 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Is there
10 anyone else here to testify on this bill
11 whose name has not yet been called?

12 (No response.)

13 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Thank you
14 very much, Paula.

15 Hearing none, the Committee
16 will take a brief break to allow members
17 of the public who have registered for
18 public comment to join us for this
19 virtual meeting.

20 Modesto.

21 COUNCIL TECH SUPPORT: Yes.

22 We're going to call them into the
23 meeting now. Thank you.

24 (Brief recess.)

25 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Thank you

1 very much. We will now hear the
2 testimony of those who have signed up
3 for public comment. The Clerk will call
4 your name and you will unmute yourself
5 using star 6. Once called, please state
6 your name for the record and for the
7 sake of time if you have written
8 testimony for individuals not present,
9 please send it to my office and we will
10 distribute it to the Committee members.
11 It can be sent to
12 brett.nedelkoff@phila.gov.

13 Will the Clerk please call the
14 first witness.

15 COUNCILWOMAN GILMORE

16 RICHARDSON: Mr. Chair?

17 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Good
18 morning.

19 COUNCILWOMAN GILMORE

20 RICHARDSON: This is Councilmember
21 Katherine Gilmore Richardson. Good
22 morning, Chair. I just wanted to note
23 for the record that I'm here.

24 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Good
25 morning, Councilwoman Katherine Gilmore

1 Richardson. Noted present for the
2 record. Thank you very much.

3 THE CLERK: Donny Smith,
4 commenting on Bill No. Number 200389.

5 MR. SMITH: Thank you. Good
6 morning, Chairman Johnson and members of
7 the Rules Committee. Thank you for
8 giving me the opportunity to speak to
9 you on behalf of the Mayfair Business
10 Improvement District. My name is Donny
11 Smith. And I'm the Executive Director
12 for the Mayfair Business Improvement
13 District. Currently, I'm the only
14 employee of the Mayfair BID.

15 The Mayfair BID was formed in
16 January of 2016 and is tasked with
17 improving the overall look and feel of
18 our commercial corridor, for our
19 residents, future businesses and
20 visitors alike. The Mayfair BID works
21 closely with the Mayfair Community
22 Development Corporation as well as the
23 Mayfair Civic Association who oversees
24 zoning matters in Mayfair. I'm a
25 lifelong resident of Mayfair and I'm

1 passionate about my neighborhood.

2 I served as a Board member of
3 Mayfair Civic Association since 2009
4 serving as their President from 2013
5 until September of this year. I
6 currently sit on the Board of the
7 Mayfair CDC, the Mayfair Holmesburg
8 Thanksgiving Parade, Pennypack Music
9 Festival and I remain a lifetime member
10 of the Mayfair Civic Association. When
11 it comes to my commitment to Mayfair,
12 I'm indeed all in. It's for this reason
13 that when the Mayfair BID sought to find
14 a new Executive Director, that I left my
15 25-year career in animal (inaudible) to
16 take on the position to better focus my
17 time and attention to my neighborhood.

18 The Mayfair BID runs from
19 Harbison to Sheffield and includes small
20 portions of Cottman Avenue, Ryan Avenue
21 as well as Sackett and Levick Streets.
22 The Mayfair BID is comprised of
23 approximately 370 businesses located on
24 the 347 properties. Mayfair is home to
25 several bars and restaurants that

1 feature an eclectic mix of food and
2 beverage choices.

3 Within two miles of Mayfair,
4 you'll find a wide variety of mom-and-
5 pop type shops, studios, salons and
6 spas. Everything you could ever want or
7 need could be found in Mayfair,
8 including the original Chickie's &
9 Pete's, the original Philly Soft Pretzel
10 Factory and the original Factory Donuts.
11 Since its formation, the Mayfair BID has
12 worked tirelessly to keep our corridor
13 clean and to market our neighborhood for
14 visitors and future businesses alike.
15 Our challenges today aren't much
16 different than what other neighborhoods
17 in Philadelphia are facing, including
18 graffiti, homelessness, drugs, trash and
19 illegal ATV and motorcycle riders. The
20 Mayfair BID has worked closely with our
21 local police department as well as
22 Councilman Henon's office to alleviate
23 these problems and will continue to do
24 so in the future.

25 The Mayfair BID has a projected

1 annual income of \$305,000 a year.
2 Because of the challenges that our
3 business and property owners face in
4 2020 due to COVID-19, the Mayfair BID
5 had decided not to raise the assessments
6 moving forward into 2021. It's the
7 Mayfair BID's intentions to raise the
8 assessments by no more than 3 percent
9 per year beginning in 2022. These fees
10 will be used to continue to fund our
11 staff, clean up marketing and
12 beautification efforts in Mayfair.

13 I'm extremely hopeful that you
14 will continue to see a value in what the
15 Mayfair Business Improvement District
16 has done for our community. Please
17 review the letters submitted from
18 several property and business owners
19 alike. Our Board remains dedicated and
20 I look forward to continuing my work to
21 make Mayfair a great place to visit and
22 awesome place to live. On behalf of the
23 entire Mayfair BID Board, I would like
24 to say that we sincerely appreciate the
25 assistance provided by Councilman

1 Henon's entire staff and I humbly
2 support your request in support of
3 reauthorizing the Mayfair Business
4 Improvement District. Thank you.

5 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Thank you
6 very much, Donny.

7 Any questions Committee
8 members?

9 (No response.)

10 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Thank you,
11 Donny, for your hard work and
12 dedication. We too have a Chickie's &
13 Pete's in South Philly so perhaps I can
14 meet up with you and Bobby Henon one day
15 in the future to grab a bite at the
16 Mayfair Chickie's & Pete's. I had me
17 some crab fries yesterday. Keep up the
18 good work.

19 MR. SMITH: Thank you very
20 much. I appreciate it. I will look
21 forward to that.

22 COUNCILMAN HENON:
23 Mr. Chairman, this is Bobby Henon. I
24 would like to be recognized.

25 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Councilman

1 Henon.

2 COUNCILMAN HENON: Thank you.

3 Donny, I appreciate your
4 testimony here and I'm so glad that you
5 talked about your commitment to the
6 neighborhood that you were born and
7 raised in and continue to live and serve
8 dating back to 2009 in the multiple and
9 various roles in Boards that you serve.
10 We appreciate it.

11 One of the things I wanted to
12 ask you is if you could just let the
13 Committee and the general public know
14 the incredible changes that you have
15 seen in Mayfair due to the BID and its
16 mission. One of them, including the
17 Northeast's first streetwear business in
18 Art History. And Art History has been
19 pretty famous doing a lot of logos and
20 streetwear for our sports teams and
21 other neighborhoods throughout the City.

22 So, Donny, could you just note
23 the changes that you have seen because
24 of the creation of the BID over the
25 years and the commitment to the

1 businesses themselves in putting stake
2 in the game.

3 MR. SMITH: Oh, yeah,
4 absolutely. So the Mayfair BID was
5 formed after several years of Mayfair
6 Business Association. The Mayfair
7 Business Association has been around
8 forever. It was a voluntary program
9 where several of our business owners
10 wanted to see changes in the community.
11 They wanted to see banners and
12 promotional events and things like that,
13 and it was a voluntary buy-in. And
14 unfortunately, we were never able to
15 raise the revenue in order to be able to
16 do that.

17 So the Mayfair community
18 developed a corporation as well as every
19 other Mayfair organization and your
20 staff gathered together and formed the
21 Mayfair BID, which then gave us the
22 revenue we needed in order to do
23 everything that these business owners
24 and property owners wanted to do in
25 Mayfair.

1 We have some spectacular events
2 up here. We have the Mayfair Fallen
3 Heroes Run. The Mayfair Mayfair, the
4 Mayfair Auto Show. We brought that back
5 to Frankford Avenue. We used to have
6 that for years back when I was a kid
7 growing up during Father's Day weekend.
8 We brought the Mayfair Auto Show back.
9 We have the Mayfair Christmas decoration
10 contest, tree lighting, Halloween
11 decoration contest. Last year we added
12 the Mayfair trolley ride to Frankford
13 Avenue, Christmas trolley tour.

14 It's just been spectacular the
15 amount of work that we've been able to
16 do here in Mayfair since the formation
17 of the BID. And unfortunately, a lot of
18 these events, events specifically, had
19 to be cut back because of COVID-19.
20 However, we definitely got these things
21 on our list to do to expand upon moving
22 forward in 2021, and I'm really looking
23 forward to that.

24 COUNCILMAN HENON: Thank you
25 for your service, Don. I have no

1 further questions.

2 MR. SMITH: Thank you. I
3 appreciate it.

4 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Thank you,
5 Councilman Henon.

6 Thank you very much for your
7 testimony, Donny.

8 MR. SMITH: Thank you. I
9 appreciate it.

10 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: You're
11 welcome.

12 Will the Clerk please call the
13 next witness.

14 THE CLERK: Mike Scotese
15 commenting on Bill No. 200389.

16 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Excuse me
17 just for one second, Mike, before you
18 get started.

19 I want to take a moment to
20 acknowledge my good friend Councilman
21 David Oh is present.

22 COUNCILMAN OH: Thank you very
23 much, Chairman.

24 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: You're
25 welcome.

1 Mike, you can proceed. Just
2 state your first name and your last name
3 for the record and you can proceed.

4 MR. SCOTESE: Okay. Thank you.
5 My name is Mike Scotese. I'm Chairman
6 of the BID. I've been Chairman since
7 day 1. I'm very proud of what we've
8 been able to do. We've been able to
9 work together to do all the basic things
10 that BIDs should do, cleaning up and
11 signage, and we've also done
12 out-of-the-box things also.

13 Donny and Councilman Henon
14 summarized a lot of what I would have
15 said. So I just want to say thank you
16 and it's been a great experience and we
17 don't have any dissension that I've
18 heard of about five more years for the
19 BID. Thank you.

20 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Thank you,
21 Mike. Thank you for your testimony. We
22 appreciate your hard work and your
23 dedication to your neighborhood.

24 Councilman Henon, would you
25 like to be acknowledged to say a few

1 remarks to Mike?

2 COUNCILMAN HENON: I would,
3 Mr. Chairman, and thank you for
4 recognizing me.

5 Mike, thank you for your
6 commitment as Chair. As you well know
7 and most others don't, you have been one
8 of the longstanding businesses in this
9 corridor for many, many years. As a
10 matter of fact, most people don't know
11 as a business owner in the service area
12 Craft Beer before it was bagged was
13 brought to you by the Grey Lodge in
14 restaurant in which Mike was a pioneer
15 within our commercial corridor. But
16 Mike transcended several of the Business
17 Boards in a couple of neighborhoods, but
18 mostly Mayfair in your commitment.

19 So, Mike, I just want to thank
20 you for believing in Mayfair, believing
21 that a community can come together and
22 take on the role as a Chairperson on the
23 Mayfair BID and still staying involved
24 with all of your other neighborhood
25 activities. So, Mike, I appreciate your

1 time here today and look forward to
2 working with you in the future. Thank
3 you.

4 MR. SCOTese: Thank you.

5 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Thank you
6 very much, Mike.

7 Any questions or comments from
8 members of the Committee?

9 (No response.)

10 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Hearing
11 none, thank you, Mike. You have a good
12 day.

13 MR. SCOTese: Thank you.

14 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: You're
15 welcome.

16 This concludes the public
17 hearing of the Committee. We will now
18 go into a public meeting to consider the
19 action to be taken on the bills before
20 this Committee today.

21 We will now convene the public
22 meeting. Will the Clerk please call the
23 roll to take attendance.

24 Members that are in attendance
25 will please indicate that they are

1 present when their names are called.

2 Also, please say a few brief words when
3 responding so that your image will be
4 displayed on screen when you speak.

5 THE CLERK: Mark Squilla.

6 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA: Present.

7 THE CLERK: David Oh.

8 COUNCILMAN OH: Present. Thank
9 you very much. I had a little technical
10 difficulty joining, but I was able to
11 join so thank you.

12 THE CLERK: Cindy Bass.

13 COUNCILWOMAN BASS: Good
14 morning. I am still present. Thank you
15 very much.

16 THE CLERK: Katherine Gilmore
17 Richardson.

18 COUNCILWOMAN GILMORE

19 RICHARDSON: Good morning. I'm present.

20 THE CLERK: Bobby Henon.

21 COUNCILMAN HENON: Thank you,
22 Mr. Chairman. Present.

23 THE CLERK: Maria Quinones-
24 Sanchez.

25 COUNCILWOMAN QUINONES-SANCHEZ:

1 Present. Thank you.

2 THE CLERK: Curtis Jones, Jr.

3 Brian O'Neill.

4 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Present.

5 Thank you.

6 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Thank you
7 very much. We will now go into our
8 public meeting.

9 The Chair recognizes Councilman
10 Mark Squilla for a motion on Bill
11 No. 200389.

12 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA: Thank you,
13 Mr. Chair.

14 I move that Bill No. 200389 be
15 reported from this Committee with a
16 favorable recommendation and further
17 move that the rules of Council be
18 suspended to permit the first reading of
19 this bill at the next session of
20 Council. Is there a second?

21 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Can I get
22 a second?

23 COUNCILMAN HENON: Second,
24 Bobby Henon.

25 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: The Chair

1 notes for the record that Councilman
2 Bobby Henon seconds the motion. It has
3 been moved and properly seconded that
4 Bill No. 200389 be reported from this
5 Committee with a favorable
6 recommendation and further move that the
7 rules of Council be suspended to permit
8 first reading of this bill at the next
9 session of Council.

10 All those in favor of the
11 motion will signify by saying aye.

12 (Aye.)

13 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Those
14 opposed?

15 (No response.)

16 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: The ayes
17 have it and the motion carries.

18 The Chair recognizes Councilman
19 Squilla for a motion on the amendment to
20 Bill No. 200417.

21 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA: Thank you,
22 Mr. Chair.

23 I offer an amendment to Bill
24 No. 200417. A copy of the amendment has
25 been circulated to all members of the

1 Committee. I move that the amendment to
2 Bill No. 200417 be approved.

3 COUNCILWOMAN BASS: Second.

4 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: The Chair
5 notes for the record that Councilwoman
6 Cindy Bass seconds the motion. It has
7 been moved and properly seconded that
8 the amendment to Bill No. 200417 be
9 approved.

10 All those in favor of the
11 motion will signify by saying aye.

12 (Aye.)

13 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Those
14 opposed?

15 (No response.)

16 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: The ayes
17 have it. The motion carries. And the
18 amendment to Bill No. 200417 has been
19 approved.

20 The Chair recognizes Councilman
21 Squilla for a motion on Bill No. 200417
22 as amended.

23 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA: Thank you,
24 Mr. Chair.

25 I move that Bill No. 200417 as

1 amended be reported from this Committee
2 with a favorable recommendation and
3 further move that the rules of Council
4 be suspended to permit the first reading
5 of this bill at the next session of
6 Council.

7 COUNCILWOMAN GILMORE

8 RICHARDSON: Second, Katherine Gilmore
9 Richardson.

10 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: The Chair
11 notes for the record that Councilwoman
12 Katherine Gilmore Richardson seconds the
13 motion. It has been moved and properly
14 seconded that Bill No. 200417 as amended
15 be reported from this Committee with a
16 favorable recommendation and I further
17 move that the rules of Council be
18 suspended to permit first reading of
19 this bill at the next session of
20 Council.

21 All those in favor of the
22 motion will signify by saying aye.

23 (Aye.)

24 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Those
25 opposed?

1 (No response.)

2 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: The ayes
3 have it and the motion carries.

4 We are holding Bill No. 200416
5 at the request of the bill's sponsor.
6 Before we conclude, please let the
7 record reflect that Bill No. 200416 is
8 being held at the request of the
9 sponsor.

10 This concludes the meeting. If
11 there are no additional remarks, this
12 concludes the business before the Rules
13 Committee today. I want to thank
14 everybody for being on time and your
15 prompt response to this Rules hearing
16 and you have a great day. God bless
17 everyone.

18 COUNCILMAN SQUILLA: Thank you.
19 Great job.

20 COUNCILWOMAN GILMORE

21 RICHARDSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

22 COUNCILWOMAN BASS: Thank you.

23 COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: You're
24 welcome. Good job.

25 (Committee on Rules concluded)

at 10:30 a.m.)

C E R T I F I C A T I O N

I, hereby certify that the
proceedings and evidence noted are contained
fully and accurately in the stenographic
notes taken by me in the foregoing matter,
and this is a correct transcript of the
same.

TANEHA C. CARROLL
Court Reporter - Notary Public

(The foregoing certification of
this transcript does not apply to any
reproduction of the same by any means,
unless under the direct control and/or
supervision of the certifying reporter.)

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