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COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA
PUBLIC HEARING
COMMITTEE ON STREETS AND SERVICES

- - -

Room 401, City Hall
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Thursday, June 24, 1999
9:20 a.m.

- - -

BILL 990492 - An Ordinance amending Section 9-208 of
the Philadelphia Code, entitled "Sidewalk Cafes," by
permitting sidewalk cafes on the north side of Ridge
Avenue from Lyceum Avenue to Conarroe Street and on
the west side of Conarroe Street from Ridge to
Mitchell Street

- - -

PRESENT:

COUNCILMAN FRANK DI CICCIO, Chairman
COUNCILWOMAN DONNA REED MILLER
COUNCILMAN MICHAEL A. NUTTER
COUNCILMAN ANGEL ORTIZ
COUNCILMAN FRANK RIZZO

- - -

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I N D E X

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BILL 990492	PAGE
JOHN CUNNINGHAM, Dept. of Streets	3
THERESA COYLE	4

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1 BILL 990492

2 THE CHAIRMAN: Good morning. The
3 Committee on Streets and Services public hearing is
4 now in session. Present with me is Councilwoman
5 Miller, Councilman Cohen, Councilman Ortiz and
6 Councilman Rizzo.

7 Bill No. 990492, An Ordinance amending
8 Section 9-208 of the Philadelphia Code, entitled
9 "Sidewalk Cafes," by permitting sidewalk cafes on
10 the north side of Ridge Avenue from Lyceum Avenue to
11 Conarroe Street and on the west side of Conarroe
12 Street from Ridge Avenue to Mitchell Street.

13 Please identify yourself for the record.

14 MR. CUNNINGHAM: Good morning, Mr.
15 Chairman, my name is John Cunningham Right-of-Way
16 Manager for the Department of Streets. With
17 reference to Bill No. 990492, an Ordinance amending
18 Section 9-208 of the Philadelphia Code,
19 entitled "Sidewalk Cafes," by permitting sidewalk
20 cafes on the north side of Ridge Avenue from Lyceum
21 Avenue to Conarroe Street and on the west side of
22 Conarroe Street from Ridge Avenue to Mitchell
23 Street.

24 Ordinarily, the Department would oppose
25 the addition of an entire block to the code, but

1 BILL 990492

2 because in this instance there are no other
3 restaurants on the block, the Department has no
4 objection to the passage of this ordinance.

5 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Any questions
6 for this witness from the Committee.

7 Is there anyone else here who wishes to
8 testify?

9 Please step forward and identify
10 yourself for the record.

11 MS. COYLE: Good morning. I'm Theresa
12 Coyle. I'm the owner of Coyle's Cafe. And other
13 than asking for the ordinance to be passed, we have
14 support from two of the civic associations in
15 Roxborough. So with the Streets Department, we hope
16 to get it passed.

17 THE CHAIRMAN: What kind of food will
18 you be serving?

19 MS. COYLE: We will be serving American
20 fair with specials of Italian, seafood, things like
21 that.

22 THE CHAIRMAN: Seafood, you got a
23 customer. I will be there. I'm a single man so I
24 live in restaurants.

25 Councilmember Nutter, you have anything

1 BILL 990492

2 you wish to say.

3 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Mr. Chairman and
4 Members of the Committee, as Ms. Coyle mentioned,
5 and she's been working with my office for some time,
6 we appreciate the cooperate of the Streets
7 Department. This is somewhat of an unusual
8 situation. But I would ask that if the letters that
9 were sent in support by the Central Roxborough Civic
10 Association and the Roxborough Development
11 Corporation, if they could be included as a part of
12 the record as if they had been read into the record,
13 I would greatly appreciate it.

14 There is neighborhood support for this.
15 And as the gentleman from the Streets Department
16 indicated, there are no other restaurants on this
17 block, and so we don't have to worry about any other
18 businesses trying to take advantage of this
19 particular provision. The Roxborough Development
20 Corporation believes that this kind of sidewalk cafe
21 opportunity on Ridge Avenue will help to revitalize
22 Ridge Avenue. We're working with the Development
23 Corporation and the business corporation on other
24 activities on Ridge Avenue, but we think that this
25 will bring a unique characteristic to the community,

1 BILL 990492

2 and we're very enthusiastic about this bill.

3 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you. And we will
4 make certain that the letters from the civic groups
5 are entered into the record. And I do agree with
6 you, Councilman Nutter, representing a district that
7 has a significant number of restaurants and cafes,
8 one of the nicest things to happen in our City
9 especially in the downtown or uptown from me is the
10 addition of the outdoor cafes. It really does bring
11 a lot of vitality and energy to that community. It
12 actually makes the streets much safer because people
13 are outside and really experiencing the street-scape
14 and all the activity out there.

15 I want to commend you for doing business
16 in Philadelphia and wish you luck. I'll be up for
17 some seafood.

18 Any other questions for these witnesses
19 from the Committee?

20 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Mr. Chairman, if I
21 could only request that there be a suspension of the
22 Rules to allow First Reading at today's Session, I
23 would appreciate it.

24 THE CHAIRMAN: Certainly.

25 Seeing no other questions --

1 BILL 990492

2 MR. CUNNINGHAM: One other minor point
3 from the Streets Department. In reading the
4 location of the cafe, I just want to put on the
5 record that it should read the west side of Ridge
6 Avenue.

7 THE CHAIRMAN: On the Pink, that's what
8 I read. It says west side.

9 MR. CUNNINGHAM: In my copy I had --

10 THE CHAIRMAN: On the west side of --
11 I'm sorry.

12 MR. CUNNINGHAM: It should say west side
13 of Ridge Avenue and south side of Conarroee.

14 THE CHAIRMAN: Okay. So we have two
15 amendments then. West side of Ridge and then the
16 north side of Conarroee?

17 MR. CUNNINGHAM: South sighed of
18 Conarroee.

19 THE CHAIRMAN: South side. So noted.

20 This concludes the public hearing on the
21 Committee the of Streets and Services. We will now
22 go into the public meeting.

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COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA
PUBLIC MEETING
COMMITTEE ON STREETS AND SERVICES

- - -

Thursday, June 24, 1999

- - -

Public Meeting conducted by the
Committee on Streets and Services, held in Room 401,
City Hall, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on the above
date, to consider action on the following:

BILL 990492

- - -

PRESENT:

COUNCILMAN FRANK DI CICCIO, Chairman
COUNCILWOMAN DONNA REED MILLER
COUNCILMAN MICHAEL A. NUTTER
COUNCILMAN ANGEL ORTIZ
COUNCILMAN FRANK RIZZO

- - -

1 PUBLIC MEETING

2 THE CHAIRMAN: The chair recognizes
3 Councilman Ortiz for a motion on the amendment to
4 Bill No. 990492.

5 COUNCILMAN ORTIZ: Mr. Chairman, I move
6 that the amendment to Bill 990492 be approved.

7 THE CHAIRMAN: And the amendment should
8 read, "by permitting sidewalk cafes on the west side
9 of Ridge Avenue" as opposed to the north side; and
10 "the south side of Conarro Street" as opposed to
11 the west side of Conarro Street from Ridge to
12 Mitchell.

13 (Duly seconded.)

14 THE CHAIRMAN: It has been properly
15 moved and seconded that Bill No. 990492 be amended.

16 All those in favor of the amendment
17 signify by saying aye.

18 Nay?

19 The amendment is approved.

20 The Chair recognizes Councilman Ortiz
21 for a motion on Bill No., as amended.

22 COUNCILMAN ORTIZ: Mr. Chairman, I move
23 that Bill No. 990492 be approved and recommended
24 with a favorable recommendation out of Committee, as
25 amended, with a request that the Rules of Council be

1 PUBLIC MEETING

2 suspended so as onto permit First Reading in the
3 next session of City Council.

4 (Properly seconded.)

5 COUNCILMAN COHEN: I'm not opposing
6 action on the bill, but I have series questions as
7 to the legality of the amendment and would just
8 suggest that after we take this action that a
9 corrective bill be put in so that no one will later
10 be able to challenge the legality of the action.

11 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you.

12 It has been properly moved and seconded
13 that Bill No. 990492, as amended, be reported out of
14 this committee with a favorable recommendation and
15 that the Rules of Council be suspended.

16 All those in favor of the bill signify
17 by saying aye.

18 Those opposed?

19 The bill is approved.

20 This concludes the public meeting on the
21 Committee on Streets and Services.

22 Thank all of you for attending. Thank
23 you.

24 (Council adjourned at 9:30 a.m.)

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

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing
proceedings of the Council of the City of
Philadelphia of June 24, 1999, were reported fully
and accurately by me, and that this is a correct
transcript of the same.

RE: COMMITTEE ON STREETS AND SERVICES

Lisa C. Bradley, RPR
and Notary Public