COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC PROPERTY

AND PUBLIC WORKS

Room 400, City Hall
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Wednesday, October 21, 2026
1:20 p.m.

PRESENT:

COUNCILWOMAN QUETCY M. LOZADA, CHAIR
COUNCILMAN MARK SQUILLA, VICE-CHAIR
COUNCILMAN MICHAEL DRISCOLL
COUNCILWOMAN JAMIE GAUTHIER
COUNCILMAN JIM HARRITY
COUNCILMAN JEFFREY YOUNG, JR.

BILLS: 260567, 260638, 260763, 260798, 260799

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COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA:

Good afternoon, everyone. I note that the hour has come and we will begin our public hearing for the Committee of Public Property and Public Works.

Will the Clerk please call the roll and take attendance of members that are in attendance. If you're in attendance, please indicate that you are here by saying present when your name is called.

THE CLERK:

Councilmember Gauthier.

COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER:

Present.

THE CLERK:

Councilmember Driscoll.

COUNCILMAN DRISCOLL:

Present.

THE CLERK:

Councilmember Harrity.

(No response.)

THE CLERK:

Councilmember Young.

COUNCILMAN YOUNG:

Present.

THE CLERK: Vice-Chair Squilla.

COUNCILMAN SQUILLA:

Present.

THE CLERK: Chair Lozada.

COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA:

Present. Thank you. A quorum of this committee is present and this hearing is now called to order.

This is a public hearing for the Committee of Public Property and Public Works regarding Bill Nos. 260567, 26038 -- 638, I'm sorry, 260638, 260763, 260798 and 260799.

Will the Clerk please read the titles of the bills.

THE CLERK: Bill No.

260567, renaming and designating Girard Fountain Park, located on 300 block of Arch Street as "Janet Kalter Park."

Bill No. 260638, renaming and designating the building located on the property of Dorothy Emmanuel Recreation Center, commonly referred to as Dorothy Emmanuel Playground Building, located at 8501 Pickering Avenue as the Marlene Tries Neighborhood Center in the City of Philadelphia.

Bill No. 260763, authorizing the Commissioner of Public Property, on behalf of the City of Philadelphia, to enter into a lease or sublease agreements with the Philadelphia Authority for industrial parcels of land generally referred to as Victory Gardens and Emerson Landfill, for environmental remediation of the land development of the facility at

said premises and the use as a training facility, all under certain terms and conditions.

Bill No. 260798, renaming the Penrose Recreation Center to the Shirley K -- or "Shirley M. Kitchen Recreation Center," to honor the life and legacy of Shirley Kitchen, a pioneering public servant and civic leader with an immeasurable impact on the Greater North Philadelphia community.

And finally, Bill No. 260799, authorizing the Commissioner of Parks and Recreation, on behalf of the City of Philadelphia, to enter into a multiyear agreement with Broad Street Park, LLC for the design, construction, management and operation of a food and beverage concession at the Welcome Center Building (Saucer) in Love Park, all

under certain terms and conditions.

COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA: Thank you. We will now hear witnesses and panels for Bill No. 260567.

Will the Clerk please call the first panel we have to testify on Bill No. 260567.

THE CLERK: Thomas Hair, Battalion Chief, Philadelphia Fire Department.

(Witness approached witness table.)

COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA: Good afternoon. Thank you for being with us today. Please state your name for the record and begin with your testimony.

CAPTAIN RHODES: Captain Michael Rhodes, Philadelphia Fire Department. Good morning, Chairperson Lozada, Vice-Chair, members of the City Committee. My name is Captain Michael Rhodes of

the Philadelphia Fire Department. I'm here today to testify in support of Bill No. 260567, an ordinance renaming and designating Girard Fountain Park, located at the 300 block of Arch Street as "Janet Kalter Park."

The Philadelphia Fire Department is quite familiar with Janet Kalter's longtime commitment and advocacy with Joe Schiavo to maintain the Girard Fountain Park, which had many years ago, fallen into disrepair until the couple created Old Green City to support the small park.

The PFD wholeheartedly supports this measure to rename the park after Jane Kalter. Accordingly, I respectfully request that this committee approve Bill No. 260567. Thank you.

COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA: Thank you so much for your

testimony.

Are there any questions from any members of the committee?

(No response.)

COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA: Thank you so much. Have a good afternoon.

CAPTAIN RHODES: Thank you.

COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA: Are there any other members of the community that are here to testify on behalf --

THE CLERK: There are no other panelists for 567.

COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA: Thank you. There being no further panel to testify today, I will ask if there's anyone else in the chamber to testify on Bill No. 260567 whose name has not yet been called? If so, please raise your hand.

(No response.)

COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA:
With no one else here to testify, we will now proceed to Bill No. 260638.
Will the Clerk please call the first panel here to testify on Bill No. 260638.
THE CLERK: Will Susan Slawson, Commissioner of the Department of Parks and Recreation.
(Witness approached witness table.)
COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA:
Good afternoon. Thank you for being with us this afternoon. Please state your name for the record and begin with your testimony.
I'd also like to recognize for the record that we've been joined by a Committee member, Councilmember At-Large Jim Harrity.
COMMISSIONER SLAWSON:
Good afternoon. Susan Slawson,

Commissioner, Parks & Recreation.

COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA:

Thank you so much. Good afternoon. Thank you for being with us.

COMMISSIONER SLAWSON:

Good afternoon, Chairperson Lozada, Vice-Chair who's not present here, but the committee. My name is Susan Slawson, Commissioner of Philadelphia Parks and Recreation. I'm here today to testify in support of Bill No. 260638, an ordinance designating the building on the property of the Dorothy Emanuel Recreation Center, commonly referred to as Dorothy Emanuel Playground Building, located at 8501 Pickering Avenue as the "Marlene Trice Neighborhood Center" in the City of Philadelphia. The Department of Parks and Recreation supports this measure and accordingly, I respectfully request that this committee approve Bill

No. 260638. If you have any questions, I'm here to answer.

COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA: Thank you for your testimony.

Are there any questions from members of the committee?

(No response.)

COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA: Just one question, Commissioner. We've experienced some challenges in the 7th Council District in the past around name changes of parks and recreation centers. What are we doing to ensure, beyond us posting in newspapers that sometimes people don't read, beyond the small advisory committees that are formed to lead conversations and communities, what are we doing to inform the general public around these public spaces, that there's a consideration being made to change a name on behalf of a committed, dedicated community member?

COMMISSIONER SLAWSON:
Thank you for asking that question. We use our advisory councils if it's a rec center that's being changed and we're requesting for the name to change. And if it's a park, we use one of our friends groups to assist us with getting the information out. We ensure that we have meetings, notifying community members whenever there's a name change, because we have family members that are concerned when their loved ones names have been on various buildings and we make a decision to change.

And so, we have a process that we use and we actually have -- there is a resolution that talks about, and I'll get it over to all of you, the process of that we're supposed to follow when we're changing a name of a facility or a park.

COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA:

Thank you. Thank you, Commissioner. I know that we've worked very closely with you and your team on making sure that everyone is informed as well as the process that we have here internally when the bill was originally introduced and before it gets sent to committee.

And so, I just wanted to make sure that we put on the record that there is a separate process that we follow and a process that you all follow, and that we do our best to do our due diligence and ensure that all community members are informed when these types of decisions are being made. Thank you so much for your partnership.

COMMISSIONER SLAWSON: I want to just also say that one of the things that we do, you do your part, we do our part and we usually

come together to ensure that community members have been notified of the changes.

COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA: Yes. Thank you. Thank you so much for that.

COMMISSIONER SLAWSON: Thank you.

COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA: Will the Clerk please call the next panel to testify on Bill No. 260638.

THE CLERK: There are no further panels on 260638.

COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA: With no one else here to testify, we will now proceed to Bill No. 260763.

Will the Clerk please call the first panel here to testify on Bill No. 260763.

THE CLERK: Will Lowanda Hebert, Deputy Commissioner, Department of Public Property.

(Witness approached witness table.)

COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA: Good afternoon. Thank you for being with us today. Please state your name for the record and begin with your testimony.

MS. HEBERT: Good afternoon. My name is Lowanda Hebert and I'm with the Department of Public Property. I'm the Deputy Commissioner for the Real Estate Division.

COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA: Welcome.

MS. HEBERT: Thank you. Good afternoon, Chairperson Lozada and members of the Committee of Public Property and Public Works. My name is Lowanda Hebert and I am the Deputy Commissioner of Public Property. I am here today to testify in support of Bill No. 260763, authorizing the

Commissioner of Public Property, on behalf of the City of Philadelphia, to enter into a lease or sublease agreements with the Philadelphia Authority for Industrial Development for all or a portion of the premises that includes certain parcels of land generally referred to as Victory Gardens and Emerson Landfill for environmental remediation of the land, development of a facility at said premises and use as a training facility, all under certain terms and conditions.

The purpose of this lease or sublease will permit the International Union of Operating Engineers Local 542 to perform environmental remediation and construct an apprentice training facility, which will strengthen local hiring initiatives and provide additional preapprentice

and apprentice training opportunities for residents.

The Department of Public Property supports this measure. And accordingly, I respectfully ask that City Council approve Bill No. 260763. Thank you. And I'll be happy to answer any questions you may have.

COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA: Thank you for your testimony.

Are there any questions from members of the committee?

(No response.)

COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA: No. Thank you so much for being with us this afternoon.

Will the Clerk please call the next panel to testify on Bill No. 260763.

THE CLERK: There are no further panels for 260763.

COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA: There being no further panels to

testify today, we will ask if there's anyone else in the chamber to testify on Bill No. 260763 whose name has not been called? If so, please raise your hand.

(No response.)

COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA: With no one else here to testify, we will proceed now to Bill No. 260798.

Will the Clerk please call the first panel here to testify on Bill No. 260798.

THE CLERK: Susan Slawson, Commissioner of the Department of Public -- Department of Parks and Recreation.

COMMISSIONER SLAWSON: Good afternoon, Chairperson Lozada and members of the Committee of Public Property and Public Works. My name is Susan Slawson, Commissioner of Philadelphia Parks and Recreation. I'm here today to

testify in support of Bill No. 260798, an ordinance renaming and designating the property commonly referred to as Penrose Recreation Center, located at 1101 West Susquehanna Avenue as the "Shirley M. Kitchen Recreation Center" in the City of Philadelphia.

The Department of Parks and Recreation supports this measure. And accordingly, I respectfully request that this committee approve Bill No. 260798. I'll be happy to answer any questions you may have. Thank you.

COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA: Thank you for your testimony.

The Chair recognizes Councilmember Young.

COUNCILMAN YOUNG: Thank you so much, Madam Chair.

Thank you, Commissioner, for being here. I just want to state briefly how important this is

for that community. Senator Kitchen was the light of that community and the light of a lot of places in North Philly, you know, with her advocacy for everyone. She was a social worker by heart, right, so that -- I mean by nature, her job is just to help. And that's what she did for a lot of people, as a Senator, as a Ward Leader, as a Constituent service rep. That's what she did.

And so, we wanted to honor her in a way that the community -- again, the community wanted this. She didn't even want this. The community wanted to do this for her. And so, I'm just excited to be able to do this for a community who loved her so much. And so, I want to thank the Department of Parks & Rec.

I want to thank you, Commissioner, for making this a

smooth process for this community. And so, we're going to continue to honor the legacy of Senator Kitchen for a very long time here in this city. So thank you.

COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA:

Are there any other members of the committee -- the Chair recognizes Councilmember Harrity.

COUNCILMAN HARRITY:

Yeah. I just want to echo Councilman Young. Everybody knows I always say, if there wasn't a Senator Kitchen, there definitely wouldn't be a Jim Harrity. The fact that she allowed me and Sharif to run for her seat when she was there, she endorsed Sharif during that campaign. I was out of this stuff. I was out on the highway building highways.

And so, I say that to say that as Jeffrey said, she wouldn't want this, right. She

wasn't that kind of person. She just did the work, but she deserves it. And I thank you for it. I know her people thank us for it because that neighborhood, I mean, she meant a lot to it. She meant a lot to everybody there. She meant a lot to all of us.

And it was just so sad and quick that the way we lost her here. You know, I was with her days before and it's just sad. So we thank you and we commend you. We beat you up when we think you did something wrong. We got to commend you when you do something right. For sure, right. So we thank you and we commend you for this one. That's a big one. Thank you.

COMMISSIONER SLAWSON: If I can, just for the record. Senator Kitchen was one of the first women when I came here the

first time, she had a way of if there was something that was needed in her community, I can tell you I still have her cell phone number, she would call, she would demand, she would ask. But once she got to know you, she was one of the sweetest people.

Now, she still expected you to do what she needed done for her neighborhood, for her community. But she was a wonderful fighter. She was a strong woman for what she believed in, and she believed in fighting for her community. So I'm really honored that we're able to make this change for her.

COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA: Thank you so much.

Are there any other comments or questions from members of the committee?

(No response.)

COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA:
Thank you so much for being with us this afternoon.
Mr. Clerk, is there anyone else who is here to testify on Bill No. 260798?
THE CLERK: There are no further panels at this time. We will have public comment afterwards.
COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA:
There being no other panels to testify today, I will ask if there's anyone else in the chamber here to testify on Bill No. 260798 whose name we have not called? If so, please raise your hand.
(No response.)
COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA:
There being no one else, we will now move to Bill No. 260799.
THE CLERK: That will be part of the public comment portion.
COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA: Oh,

does she want to -- I think she signed up for public comment. Okay. It's right after.

COUNCILMAN YOUNG: (Inaudible).

COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA: Okay. Are you here to testify on Bill No. 260799? Can I ask you to step back and then we're going to let them speak. I know that they were part of public comment, but come on up.

(Witness approached witness table.)

COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA: Thank you so much for being with us this afternoon. Please state your name for the record and begin with your testimony.

MS. SEKOU: Brenda Sekou. I lived in the community with the Senator for most of my life. And as a community member and as a member of her team, we

would love to let the light of her life continue to shine in our community. And seeing her name on the playground would inspire young folks. You see, it happened so fast. I'm sorry, I'm emotional right now.

She just means so much to us, that I left work to come here. Everything was good. And then when the Commissioner started talking, it's just like, bam, the door opened again. So my point to be here today is the late Senator was a great inspiration in our community. We have young ladies that are now in college. We have young kids that come to play the game and they look forward to being on the playground and knowing, you know, different times, different place, different events that she would be there and we were able -- thank you, to keep her life going,

to let her life shine on and on and on and on and on.

It doesn't stop because she's not here with us anymore. It continues every day in our lives. And as you see, it's really felt in the heart. And we just pray that the committee would allow us to have this name change for Penrose Playground. Thank you. Any questions?

COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA: Thank you for sharing that with us.

MS. SEKOU: Thank you.

COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA: Senator Kitchen had an impact on so many people, and so many people have had the opportunities that they have today and are in places that they've been today and positions that they are in today because of her guidance and because of her support. And so, she's someone that we will forever

remember. Thank you for sharing that with us.

Is there anyone else here to testify on behalf of Bill No. 260798?

(No response.)

COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA: There being none, we will now move to Bill No. 260799.

Will the Clerk please call the panel to testify on Bill No. 260799.

THE CLERK: Susan Slawson, Commissioner and Department of Parks and Recreation.

(Witness approached witness table.)

COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA: Thank you so much for allowing us to pivot a little bit. Appreciate that. Please state your name for the record and begin with your testimony.

COMMISSIONER SLAWSON:

Good afternoon, Councilmember Lozada, Vice-Chair Squilla and members of the Committee for Public Property and Public Works. My name is Susan Slawson, Commissioner of Philadelphia Parks and Recreation. I'm here today to testify in support of Bill No. 260799, an ordinance authorizing Parks and Recreation to enter into a multi-year agreement with Broad Street Love Park, LLC for the design, construction, management and operation of a food and beverage concession at the Welcome Center building, which we call the Saucer in Love Park, right here in the City of Philadelphia.

The Department of Parks and Recreation supports this measure. And accordingly, I respectfully request that this committee approve Bill No. 260799. I have here with me today Katie

Burns Kays, Business Development Manager for Parks and Recreation for additional questions if they're asked.

COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA: Thank you so much. Please state your name for the record and begin with your testimony.

MS. BURNS KAYS: Katie Burns Kays.

COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA: Do you have testimony that you want to share?

COMMISSIONER SLAWSON: No, she's just here for questions.

COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA: Are there members of the committee that have questions? Let's begin with Chairperson -- do you have questions?

COUNCILMAN YOUNG: Yes.

COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA: Let's begin with Councilmember Jeffrey Young.

COUNCILMAN YOUNG: Thank you so much, Madam Chair.

Good afternoon again. Could you talk to us about just the process of us getting here with this project, the condition of the Saucer, the work that was done to get it here? And also, what the entity will be, the type of place this will be for us?

MS. BURNS KAYS: Absolutely, yes. So this has been a project for a while for the department. Prepandemic, we had a concessionaire lined up that had gone through our request for proposals process. And then they were not able -- they did not continue onward with the endeavor.

In 2023, we reissued this again for an RFP for somebody looking more in the similar model of kind of a high-end restaurant experience and received no bids.

Looking at this at the end of 2024, knowing that 2026 was ahead and we were looking at a lot of visibility for Philadelphia, we wanted to make sure this was a priority. So in early 2025, the department put out a request for expressions of interest, which was a new process for us, and it was a way to engage the public to really figure out exactly what people wanted in the space.

We got a lot of really positive feedback and engagement through that, and we used that information to build a better RFP that felt like it fit the need and use of the community space, really emphasizing that this is a park and this is an amenity that should be added and feel like a part of the park, and not necessarily just a standalone restaurant. So the community really wanted something

that they could use for events that would support the other uses within the park and would have both a daytime and nighttime element.

And so, the proposal that we chose and received has a cafe, coffee element in the daytime and a taproom beer element at nighttime as well as having some small bites and food elements as well.

COUNCILMAN YOUNG: Thank you. Can you talk about or the work that was needed in the condition of the Saucer prior to the RFP process?

MS. BURNS KAYS: Yes, absolutely. So the building had been started with work from the concessionaire. We did receive renovation as part of the Love Park construction project that was done. So in 2018, the bones of the building, the structural elements

were all updated, but the inside of the building still needed build-out. So the previous concessionaire had started a lot of work and put in very high-end things like HVAC and other elements. But you can even see on some of their approvals and pieces, there were dates exactly like March 13, 2020. And so, a little bit of the pause of the pandemic and then just kind of stopped in the middle of construction here, which is why we are asking for this ordinance, as this concessionaire will be coming in and putting in their own money to outfit the inside of this building.

Having that long-term agreement is both good for the vendor, but also good for the city to make sure that we end up with a project and a building that serves many for years to come.

COUNCILMAN YOUNG: Okay. Thank you. Just a couple more questions. Could any of the work being done to the facility or was any work done on this facility done by the inhouse workers at Parks & Rec, the skilled trades?

MS. BURNS KAYS: Yes. So actually, I wanted to also note Councilman Young had awarded in 2025, ITEF funding 100k. And that actually went towards the emergency elements within the building to make sure our fire suppression and all of those types of pieces were up to code. So we handed over the building technically with its certificate of occupancy in its current form. So as soon as they change it, that certificate of occupancy won't be applicable the same way.

And just last week we were able to host the Planning

Commission engagement opportunity, which is the exact type of event that the Saucer should be used for, in just having a beer and talking about trails is a nice way to encourage people to come and engage.

COMMISSIONER SLAWSON: And there's some additional funding that also took place, Councilmember Young. You added -- there's flooding that was taking place around the grounds there. And so, there was additional funding that you provided to ensure that -- I mean, we're in the center of Center City. That is one of the most visited places here in Philadelphia. And so, we reach out to you quite often for support. And I can take this opportunity to say thank you for ensuring that we're able to keep that most visible space beautified. And just

something where we can welcome people when they come to Center City. Thank you.

COUNCILMAN YOUNG: Thank you. And my last question is related to I guess the design of the structure and what skilled trades have done thus far. Is it something you -- does Parks & Rec typically allow the contractor or the person, the awardee, to then hire their own contractor or is that something that skills trade could do as well?

COMMISSIONER SLAWSON: There is some level of projects that the Parks & Rec team will not do, one, because we're pulling them from our everyday 159 facilities where we need work and, two, the projects are just too big. There are just some things that we have to draw a line and say, we can do some of the maintenance work, some

of the work that needs to be done to upkeep our facilities, but we can't do everything.

So part of the purposes of these RFPs is that we get people to come in, and they're the ones that are identifying and paying for the work that needs to be done in the facilities, money that does not have to come out of Parks & Rec's budget. I'm not sure. I wasn't here when they restored that air-conditioning. But how much was that, Katie, do you remember? It's hundreds of thousands of dollars --

MS. BURNS KAYS: Yeah, easily.

COMMISSIONER SLAWSON: -- that we don't have to concern ourselves with when we have somebody coming in and managing the facilities and we're getting a percentage of whatever they're making as opposed to our facility

sitting and no one operating inside, and we don't have the staff nor the expertise. You need expertise when you're operating, whether it's going to be a coffee shop, that's not what Parks and Recreation does.

So it's exciting to us that right here in the heart of Center City we'll be able to have an entity come in and we can be proud of what's going on in the inside by way of maintenance, also by the way of what we're providing the community here in Center City.

COUNCILMAN YOUNG: Thank you. Is this the same operator who's already operating right now with I guess on --

MS. BURNS KAYS: Yes. Technically, it is the brewery, the Beer Garden is operated currently by Broad Street Brewing, and they have a couple partners they're

bringing into the next phase. High Street Hospitality and Rival Bros were both identified in their RFP. And they'd be part of the LLC as part of the next phase of the building.

COUNCILMAN YOUNG: Thank you. Thank you, Madam Chair.

COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA: Thank you. Are there other questions from members of the committee?

The Chair recognizes Councilmember Jamie Gauthier.

COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER: Thank you, Madam Chair.

And hello, Commissioner. I will cede all substantive questions, feedback to the District Councilmember. Most of my comments are selfish. I'm so excited that this is happening. I feel like there's been a dearth of lunch food options since the pandemic. I'm so

excited that something exciting is coming to Love Park. And plus, I had a limited amount of involvement with this project way before the pandemic when I was at the Fairmount Park Conservancy. So happy to see it moving forward. And that in addition to me being able to get lunch, that we're bringing even more vibrancy into Love Park. So it's truly exciting. Thanks and congratulations.

COMMISSIONER SLAWSON:

Thank you. And thank you for your work prior to. We appreciate that.

COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA:

Thank you both for your testimony.

Are there other questions?

(No response.)

COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA:

There being none, thank you for being with us today.

Are there other panels

to testify on Bill No. 260799?

THE CLERK: There are no other panels at this time.

COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA: There being no further panels to testify on Bill No. 260799, I will ask if there's anyone else in the chamber to testify on this bill whose name we have yet to call? If so, please raise your hand.

(No response.)

COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA: There being none, we will now proceed to public comment. With no further testimony, we will now move into the public comment portion.

Will the Clerk please read the names of anyone who has signed up for public comment.

THE CLERK: Will Jones, Maeve Hasson.

(Witness approached witness table.)

COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA:

Good afternoon. Thank you for being with us this afternoon. Please state your name for the record and begin with your testimony.

MS. HOGAN: Maeve Hogan of Old City Special Services District. Good afternoon, Chair Lozada and all members of the Committee on Public Property and Public Works. My name is Maeve Hogan, and I'm the Economic Development and Policy Coordinator of the Old City Special Services District.

I am here today to read into the record the testimony of Job Itzkowitz, the Executive Director of Old City District, who is unable to attend today due to a death in the family. This testimony is in support of Bill No. 260567, related to the renaming of Girard Fountain Park on Arch Street

to Janet Kalter Park.

Old City Special Services District, OCD, was founded in 1997 as a municipal authority created by ordinance of the Mayor and City Council of Philadelphia under the Pennsylvania Municipal Authorities Act. OCD's mission is to improve Philadelphia's historic district as a place for people to meet, work, shop and live, by supplementing municipal services with maintenance, public safety, economic development and promotional programs.

When I joined Old City District in 2014, our Director of Operations handed me a list of 20 individuals in the neighborhood with whom I should be acquainted. As an Old City stalwart, Janet Kalter was near the top of that list. Janet was a leader with Old City Green, Old City's tree tending

group, and we work closely together as a result.

Around ten years ago, Old City Green approached our sister organization Old City Community Fund for sponsorship to upgrade the park under consideration today, and my board jumped at the opportunity contributing $60,000. Janet could frequently be seen maintaining the park as well as the Triangle Park at 2nd and Market and the Commerce Connector, a project she helped envision a decade ago, which we cut the ribbon for yesterday.

There are many other contributions Janet made just in my short time with the organization. Too many to list here. Though not a member of our Board, Janet was a welcome presence at Old City District meetings. Typically, Janet would sit back, allowing

others to speak first before finally entering the conversation with an acute observation and a wry comment. We miss Janet's wisdom and sense of humor and we wholeheartedly support Bill No. 260567, honoring this great resident of Philadelphia. Old City was lucky to have her. Thank you for your time and I'm happy to answer any questions you may have.

COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA: Thank you so much for being with us this afternoon.

The Chair recognizes Councilmember Mark Squilla.

COUNCILMAN SQUILLA: Thank you. Thank you for your testimony. As I too knew Janet, who was very active and I send my condolences to Job and his family. But hearing the Fire Department speak, what it meant to them and what that fountain and park was

like before the volunteers got involved, the fountain didn't work, the park was in bad shape and they came and took it on her own and spent their own money to make a city park a welcoming space. And so, Janet and Job, both of them, have dedicated themselves to the city. And it's really an honor to see this named after her, after all the hard work that she put into it and the people who actually seen that appreciate it. And to be able to do this is kind of neat. So thank you for your testimony and looking forward to the renaming.

MS. HOGAN: Thank you.

COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA: Thank you so much.

Are there any other members of the committee that have questions or comments?

(No response.)

COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA:

Thank you so much for being with us this afternoon.

Is there anyone else here for public comment for any of the bills that are on the record today?

THE CLERK: Is there a Will Jones present?

(No response.)

THE CLERK: No, there's not, Councilmember.

COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA: Given that there are no further witnesses or panels for any of the bills, we'll now conclude the public hearing and move to a public meeting. We will begin the public meeting on the previously mentioned bills.

Will the Clerk please call the roll to take attendance. Members that are in attendance, please indicate that you are here by saying present when your name is

called.

THE CLERK:

Councilmember Gauthier.

COUNCILWOMAN GAUTHIER:

Present.

THE CLERK:

Councilmember Driscoll.

COUNCILMAN DRISCOLL:

Present.

THE CLERK:

Councilmember Harrity.

COUNCILMAN HARRITY:

Present.

THE CLERK:

Councilmember Young.

COUNCILMAN YOUNG:

Present.

THE CLERK: Vice-Chair

Squilla.

COUNCILMAN SQUILLA:

Present.

THE CLERK: Chair

Lozada.

COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA:

Present. Thank you. A quorum of this committee is present.

The Chair recognizes Councilmember Squilla for a motion on Bill No. 260567. Member --

COUNCILMAN SQUILLA:

Thank you, Madam Chair.

I move that Bill No. 260567 be reported from this committee with a favorable recommendation and further move that the rules of Council be suspended as to permit the first reading of this bill at the next session of Council.

(Duly seconded.)

COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA:

Thank you. The Chair notes for the record that Councilmember Gauthier seconds the motion. It has been moved and properly seconded that Bill No. 260567 be reported from this committee with a favorable recommendation and further move

that the rules of Council be suspended to permit first reading at the next session of Council.

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

(Aye.)

COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA: Those opposed?

(No response.)

COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA: The ayes have it and the motion carries.

Bill No. 260567 will be reported from this committee with a favorable recommendation with a request that the rules of Council be suspended to permit the first reading at the next session of Council.

The Chair recognizes Councilmember Squilla for a motion on the amendment to Bill No. 260638.

COUNCILMAN SQUILLA:
Thank you, Madam Chair.
I offer an amendment to Bill No. 260638. A copy of that amendment has been circulated to all members of the committee. I move that the amendment to Bill No. 260638 be approved.
(Duly seconded.)
COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA:
The Chair notes for the record that Councilmember Gauthier seconds the motion. It has been moved and properly seconded that the amendment to Bill No. 260638 be approved.
All those in favor of the motion will signify by saying aye.
(Aye.)
COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA:
Those opposed?
(No response.)
COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA:

The ayes have it. The amendment to Bill No. 260638 has been approved.

The Chair recognizes Councilmember Squilla for a motion on Bill No. 260638 as amended.

COUNCILMAN SQUILLA: Thank you, Madam Chair.

I move that Bill No. 260638 as amended be reported from this committee with a favorable recommendation.

(Duly seconded.)

COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA: It has been moved and properly seconded that Bill No. 260638 as amended be reported from this committee with a favorable recommendation.

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

(Aye.)

COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA: Those opposed?

(No response.)

COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA:
The ayes have it and the motion carries. Bill No. 260638 as amended will be reported from this committee with a favorable recommendation.
The Chair recognizes Councilmember Squilla for a motion on Bill No. 260763.
COUNCILMAN SQUILLA:
Thank you, Madam Chair.
I move that Bill No. 260763 reported from this committee with a favorable recommendation and further move that the rules of Council be suspended as to permit the first reading of this bill at the next session of Council.
(Duly seconded.)
COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA: It has been moved and properly seconded that Bill No. 260763 be reported from this committee with a favorable recommendation and

further move that the rules of Council be suspended to permit first reading at the next session of Council.

All those in favor signify by saying aye.

(Aye.)

COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA: Those opposed?

(No response.)

COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA: The ayes have it and the motion carries. Bill No. 260763 will be reported from this committee with a favorable recommendation, with a request that the rules of Council be suspended to permit first reading at the next session of Council.

The Chair recognizes Councilmember Squilla for a motion on the amendment to Bill No. 260798.

COUNCILMAN SQUILLA:

Thank you, Madam Chair.

I offer an amendment to Bill No. 260798. A copy of the amendment has been circulated to all members of the committee, and I move for the amendment to Bill No. 260798 be approved.

(Duly seconded.)

COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA: It has been approved -- it has been moved and properly seconded that Bill No. 260798 as amended be approved.

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

(Aye.)

COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA: Those opposed?

(No response.)

COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA: The ayes have it.

The Chair recognizes Councilmember Squilla for a motion on Bill No. 260798 as amended.

COUNCILMAN SQUILLA:

Thank you, Madam Chair.

I move that Bill No. 260798 as amended be reported from this committee with a favorable recommendation and the rules of Council be suspended as to permit the first reading of this bill at the next session of Council.

(Duly seconded.)

COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA: It has been moved and properly seconded that Bill No. 260798 as amended be reported from this committee with a favorable recommendation.

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

(Aye.)

COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA:

Those opposed?

(No response.)

COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA:

The ayes have it and the motion

carries. Bill No. 260798 as amended will be reported from this committee with a favorable recommendation.

The Chair recognizes Councilmember Squilla for a motion on the amendment to Bill No. 260799.

COUNCILMAN SQUILLA: Thank you, Madam Chair.

I offer an amendment to Bill No. 260799. A copy of the amendment has been circulated to all members of the committee. I move that the amendment to Bill No. 260799 be approved.

(Duly seconded.)

COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA: The Chair recognizes that Councilmember Squilla seconds the motion. It has been moved and properly seconded that the amendment to Bill No. 260799 be approved.

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

(Aye.)

COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA: Those opposed?

(No response.)

COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA: The ayes have it. The motion carries the bill.

The Chair recognizes Councilmember Squilla on a motion on Bill No. 260799 as amended.

COUNCILMAN SQUILLA: Thank you, Madam Chair.

I move that Resolution No. 260799 as amended be reported from this committee with a favorable recommendation and further move that the rules of Council be suspended as the first reading of this bill to the next session of Council.

(Duly seconded.)

COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA: It has been moved and properly seconded that Bill No. 260799 as amended be reported from this committee with a favorable recommendation.

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

(Aye.)

COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA: Those opposed?

(No response.)

COUNCILWOMAN LOZADA: The ayes have it. And the motion carries. Bill No. 260799 as amended will be reported from this committee with a favorable recommendation.

There being no further bills or resolutions on the agenda, this concludes the business before the Committee of Public Property and Public Works. Thank you so

very much for your attendance and participation today. Have a good afternoon.

- - -

(Committee on Public Property and Public Works concluded at 1:54 p.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 that this is a correct transcript of the same.



TANEHA CARROLL
Court Reporter - Notary Public

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City of Philadelphia

City Council
Chief Clerk's Office
402 City Hall
Philadelphia, PA 19107

Meeting Agenda

Wednesday, October 21, 2026

1:00 PM

Room 400, City Hall

Committee on Public Property and Public Works

260567 An Ordinance renaming and designating Girard Fountain Park located on the 300 block of Arch Street as “Janet Kalter Park”.

Attachments: Bill No. 26056700

260638 An Ordinance renaming and designating the building located on the property of the Dorothy Emanuel Recreation Center, commonly referred to as the Dorothy Emanuel Playground Building, located at 8501 Pickering Avenue, as the "Marlene Trice Neighborhood Center" in the City of Philadelphia.

Attachments: Bill No. 26063800

260763 An Ordinance authorizing the Commissioner of Public Property, on behalf of the City of Philadelphia, to enter into lease or sublease agreements with the Philadelphia Authority for Industrial Development for all or a portion of the premises that includes certain parcels of land, generally referred to as Victory Gardens and Emerson Landfill, for environmental remediation of the land, development of a facility at said premises, and use as a training facility, all under certain terms and conditions.

Attachments: Bill No. 26076300

260798 An Ordinance renaming the Penrose Recreation Center to the “Shirley M. Kitchen Recreation Center” to honor the life and legacy of Shirley Kitchen, a pioneering public servant and civic leader with an immeasurable impact on the greater North Philadelphia community.

Attachments: Bill No. 26079800

260799 An Ordinance authorizing the Commissioner of Parks and Recreation, on behalf of the City of Philadelphia, to enter into a multiyear agreement with Broad Street Love Park, LLC for the design, construction, management and operation of a food and beverage concession at the Welcome Center Building (“Saucer”) in Love Park, all under certain terms and conditions.

Attachments: Bill No. 26079900