

## Meeting Report

### DAG Meeting January 8, 2009

**Topics:** Open Discussion  
Jess Zimbabwe, Director, Mayor's Institute on City Design – Meeting in Philadelphia in February  
Paul Levy, Executive Director Center City District - Dilworth Plaza proposal

#### Open Discussion:

Peta Raabe memorial gathering - Moore College, Sat. Jan 17, 2009

Convention Center expansion - Hotel wants Liberty Trust Building for the corner space to be a lobby

Academy of Natural Sciences – Bike-Share meeting, Fri. Jan 16, 2009

#### Mayors' Institute on City Design:

Presented by Jess Zimbabwe:

Over 700 mayors have participated since 1986.

1. Affiliated with the American Architectural Foundation
2. Funded by National Endowment of the Arts
3. Meets with 6-8 mayors for 2-3 day workshop with outside experts
4. Regional and National sessions, specials for small town mayors, topics include:
  - Place based
  - Project based
  - Civic deterioration
  - Housing
5. First time in Philadelphia meeting February 12 and 13
6. Alumni Technical Assistance team follows up with regional reinforcement.

**Dilworth Plaza:**

Presented by Paul Levy with Susan Weiler of OLIN (landscape) and Steve Kieran of KieranTimberlake (architecture)

Proposal for west plaza renovation includes four levels, mass transit entries, major pedestrian connections.

Exterior City Hall renovations are almost complete:

Roof, facade, lighting

1. Design idea:
  - a. Aesthetic embrace of City Hall, people friendly, multi-functional, single level at grade
  - b. Challenges: natural light penetrating to lower levels
  - c. Maximum depth of each section critical for planting
  - d. Clear connection for all transportation
  - e. Attempt to attract greater public use
  - f. Two new glass pavilions on west end, approximately 20' high
2. Project cost, \$40-45 M. Schematic design complete end of January. Tentative project completion 2011.
3. At present: 89% paved; new design: 34%green, 11% water.
4. Design addresses: lighting, sculpture, sustainability, maintenance, materials, recreation and repose, pedestrian circulation, vertical connections, café.
5. Comments/questions concerned:
  - Glass pavilions: maintenance, visual obstruction, and Plaza access
  - Historical aspect
  - Use of escalators (Septa says "no")

Submitted by Barbara Ruth.