DRAFT ACTION SUMMARY FOR DESIGN REVIEW COMMITTEE MEETING November 19, 2026 6:30 PM

Planning and Development
Department
Land Use Planning Division

I. Roll Call:

Committee Members Present:
Kimberly Gaffney, Chair (Zoning Adjustments Board)
Devi Dutta-Choudhury (Civic Arts Commission)
Denise Hall-Montgomery (Landmark Preservation Commission)
Lillian Mitchell (Appointed by Zoning Adjustments Board)
Janet Tam (Appointed by Zoning Adjustments Board)
Michael Thompson (Zoning Adjustments Board)

Committee Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Burns, Sanchez, Schlepp, Dobronyi

II. PROJECTS

1. **1201 SECOND STREET [at Gilman] (DRCP2021-0021): Preliminary Design Review** to demolish existing City of Berkeley Solid Waste and Recycling Transfer Station (SWRTS), including 11 non-residential main buildings/structures, accessory structures, and equipment; and to construct and install buildings, structures, and equipment for a new SWRTS facility. The project consists of two main building clusters with accessory structures, totaling approximately 114,380 square feet of gross floor area, approximately 195,300 square feet of unenclosed and paved area, and approximately 32,200 square feet of landscaped area.

   Preliminary Design Review received a favorable recommendation to ZAB with the following condition and recommendations for Final Design Review (FDR):
   MOTION (Gaffney, Thompson) VOTE (6-0-0-0).

   Condition:
   - *Committee supports the living wall, but artificial plants are not acceptable.*

   Recommendations
   Site Design
   - *Further develop the design as seen traveling westbound on Gilman. Consider the east (train track) elevation as a visual opportunity.*

- *Present a cohesive signage / wayfinding program at FDR.*
- *Applauds and encourages the community education aspect in the proposed design.*

Building Design / Details

- *Solar panels could be more integrated with building design, especially at Gilman and Second.*
- *Confirm which bird safe improvements are required and present at FDR.*

Exterior Finishes

- *Wood grained metal panels are not recommended. Consider corten or simple durable metal finish.*
- *Provide more information on how polycarbonate ages at FDR.*

Landscaping / Site Improvements

- *Provide further information about the landscape treatment at the creek.*
- *Clearly show paving differences, including where any pervious paving is proposed.*
- *Further develop the fencing and gate designs for Final Design Review and show how design intentions are met as well as security.*
- *Reconsider ginko trees in proposed landscape palette and provide an alternate selection that has more ecological benefits.*

III. BUSINESS MATTERS

- Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes.
  Minutes from 10/15/26 DRC Meeting.
  MOTION (Gaffney, Tam) VOTE (5-0-1-0) Thompson - abstain.

- Approval of 2027 Meeting Schedule.
  MOTION (Gaffney, Tam) VOTE (6-0-0-0).

IV. ADJOURN

- Meeting adjourned: 8:00 pm

Members of the Public:
Present: 4
Speakers: 4