

City Comforts

Bumping into people



Restaurants that offer seating on the sidewalk, plus heating for cold days, keep the city vibrant throughout the year. It also puts people into contact and enhances feelings of comfort and wellbeing. (123 Chestnut St.)



A food cart in the sidewalk provides people with an excellent way to bump into new people or just friends. The chance encounter is part of what makes a city sociable. This is essential to creating a place where people feel comfortable in. Food carts are an excellent way to encourage chance encounters. They provide accidental meetings while still serving a purpose, feeding city dwellers. (17th and Market St.)



Adding music to daily life inside City Hall

Knowing where you are



Provide clearly labeled, colorful maps that orient people around the city. Place them in a visible spot like a street light.

Give people the time of day



Identifying rare plant types in Clark Park by using a sign that speaks clearly gives the community a sense of ownership and uniqueness. It stands out while keeping things clear and simple for all ages.

Little necessities



40th and Locust: A convenient way to quickly get some fruit for home. People leaving the city from work can take some. People on a stroll can enjoy a quick, healthy snack. Providing food on the street brings people outside, making the city feel livelier, safer and happier. It also encourages the chance encounter.



Providing streetwalkers with an accessible ATM is a small necessity which reduces stress and hassle. (3rd and Baltimore)

Cigarettes: out of site! (Downtown)

The three rules



Parking inside, below the building saves the front for people. Also, a parking lot in the middle of the city makes the area feel too open and unsafe. It takes away from the feeling of comfort. This parking space hides the cars from pedestrian while still remaining clearly visible as a parking destination thanks to the flags and the big sign.



Although an urban neighborhood should take into consideration the "three rules", a WOW building is a good exception. The grandness of this building, City Hall, appropriately and firmly states its importance to the city.



Build to the sidewalk, keep front permeable

Feeling Safe

Having police on bikes is a friendlier way of emitting a sense of security



This sign is placed on top of a subway entrance on a main street. It lets you know exactly where you are and what the time of operation of that train line is. It provides a feeling of increased safety for pedestrians late at night by clearly stating what to do at certain times.



Fitting in

A nice neighborhood feel at 40th and Locust shops



The old look of the subway entrance goes along with the building that surrounds it, City Hall. A historic site providing everyday use.

House or School? The Jubilee School is located on the more residential area of University City District. It fits perfectly with the nature of the neighborhood.

Getting Around



The seat in the subway that provides easy access to handicapped people. In addition, it has a button to call the subway driver in case of any problem.



Change pavement because change in texture is a visceral and visual cue to both drivers and pedestrians of their boundaries. Also, the street provides a lane for cars and one for buses and bikes which enhances the public system, the preferred system in cities in order to reduce traffic flow, energy wastes, and bring people together.



Planting trees in the sidewalks slow people down psychologically. People would enjoy walking along this street, be it for a work break in the middle of the day or an afternoon stroll.



Wonder around the city with children in a fun, comfortable way. If children have a good reason for wanting to come back to the city, they will convince their parents to bring them. Having an animal that is not common to find in a city and presenting it in an old-fashioned way attract both children and tourist families. (5th and Chestnut)



Playgrounds in the middle of the city for after school and weekend activities put children from different background in contact



Sports: Healthy, Fun, and Safe

Children in the city

Gradual transition from house to city street (Old City)



A barrier between private and public property can have a little funk in it.

Smoothing Edges



Avoiding a blank wall and the commonness of a parking space

Art can convey special feelings: The city of brotherly love



Clark Park: Image in the floor personalizes area and makes it memorable.

Waste not, want not: old shoes are more comfortable



Small, cute garden in front of house entrance (Pine St.)



Empty lot transformed (40th and Pine St.)



Small park in the middle of a busy block (17th Chestnut)



Personalizing bus stops beyond functionality

Personalizing with art