



# BID Liaison Board Status Update

Matt Ruben, 02/08/2014

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## Board Review & Approvals

### No Items for Approval

### Informational items for Board

As is often the case, most of the items covered at the Northern Liberties BID's most recent board meeting were internal matters related to the routine operation of the BID and the ongoing pursuit of its mission and objectives. That said, three items of note for the NLNA board:

1. Representatives from the BID and the NLNA continue to participate in discussions with other area groups, the Planning Commission, and Councilmember Squilla about a **possible amendment to the North Delaware zoning overlay**, which currently requires all prospective businesses that serve food and drink in most of NL and large parts of nearby neighborhoods to go through the Special Exception process, a permitting process that includes a community zoning meeting and a legal hearing/approval from the city's Zoning Board of Adjustment. Language for a revised overlay, which would allow food and drink establishments by-right as long as they abided by certain operational regulations, has been submitted to Councilmember Squilla. The next step is that he will let us know if he feels he can introduce that language in the legislation as-is, with modifications, or not at all.
2. The BID has been informed that the **6th and 26th police districts**, which split the neighborhood down the middle along Poplar St, **have increased their communication and collaboration**. A PSA is a Police Service Area - basically a section of the district. PSA 1 in the 6th district and PSA 2 in the 26th district - which combined cover much of Northern Liberties - have begun meeting together monthly to exchange information and coordinate efforts.
3. **The Philadelphia Water Department (PWD) apparently is going to be replacing a water main on Poplar St from 2nd to 4th.** The BID has been told that **work will begin in late July or August** and will not involve sewage/storm drain lines, which should make it a simpler and quicker project. The BID has been told PWD does not anticipate having to close Poplar at its intersection with 2nd St or 3rd St. I do not know about 4th and Poplar, and I do not know if keeping the 2nd and 3rd intersections open will require the temporary elimination of parking spots to allow traffic



to go around the work area. My understanding is that PWD has not yet worked out (and/or not yet shared) that level of detail about their plans.