



Village Planning Committee Meeting Summary

Z-111-25-7

Date of VPC Meeting	October 20, 2025
Request From	DTC-Downtown Gateway
Request To	DTC-Downtown Gateway HP
Proposal	Historic Preservation Overlay for KPHO Building (now First Studio)
Location	Approximately 250 feet south of the southeast corner of 1st Avenue and McKinley Street
VPC Recommendation	Approval, per the staff recommendation
VPC Vote	12-0

VPC DISCUSSION:

Committee Members Janey Pearl Starks, Ali Nervis, and Zach Burns joined the meeting during this item bringing quorum to 12 members present (eight needed for quorum).

One member of the public registered to speak on this item, in favor.

STAFF PRESENTATION

Kevin Weight, staff, introduced himself and the project, provided a background of the subject site, and described the request. Mr. Weight displayed images of the structure and the subject site, explained the criteria for Historic Preservation (HP) eligibility, and described how the project meets the criteria. Mr. Weight described the proposed HP overlay boundary, shared the staff recommendation for approval, and outlined the upcoming hearing schedule.

QUESTIONS FROM COMMITTEE

None.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Julia Taggart introduced herself, stated that she had worked on the application for the case, described other supporters of the request, expressed appreciation for the owners of the building, explained that there is an exhibit regarding the history of the site on the

second floor of the building, and stated that a street in downtown Phoenix has been renamed Wallace and Ladmo Way.

APPLICANT RESPONSE

None.

FLOOR/PUBLIC DISCUSSION CLOSED: MOTION, DISCUSSION, AND VOTE

MOTION

Committee Member Dana Johnson made a motion to recommend approval of Z-111-25-7, per the staff recommendation. **Committee Member Zach Burns** seconded the motion.

VOTE

12-0; Motion to recommend approval of Z-111-25-7, per the staff recommendation passed, with Committee Members Ban, Burns, Burton, Greenman, Johnson, Frazier Johnson, Nervis, Sonoskey, Starks, Vargas, Martinez, and Gaughan in favor.

Chair Cyndy Gaughan thanked Ms. Taggart for the reminder about Wallace and Ladmo Way and encouraged that people visit the subject site.

STAFF COMMENTS REGARDING VPC RECOMMENDATION:

None.