

# THE ROW REFORM COALITION AND THE ROW REFORM AGENDA

Reforming the ROW requires both legislative and administrative actions by Philadelphia’s City Council and the Mayoral Administration. Some of the measures described below are best accomplished legislatively, changing or modifying existing ordinances and / or code. Others are administrative in nature.

No matter what the method, the results should mean that Citizen stewards of the ROW have:

- their administrative burden reduced
- their technical burden reduced
- increased predictability and support

## LEGISLATIVE

Technical burdens continue to stymie ROW stewardship, placing significant burdens that require a legislative remedy.

### REMOVE LEGISLATIVE BURDEN:

Reform ROW encroachment process by removing the requirement that a council ordinance support every individual encroachment.

### SUPPORT ALTERNATIVE COMMUNITY BUY IN STANDARDS:

Different communities may countenance different levels of engagement before providing support for ROW interventions. Revisit how community buy-in is evidenced, tailoring requirements to the Council District.

### REDUCE INSURANCE BURDEN:

Revise Standards for Insurance Requirements

## ADMINISTRATIVE

During the pandemic, Philadelphia’s peers proved that it is possible to expedite review processes, revise design standards, and change how these permits are managed. But administrative will is not all technical; it is also financial. Changes to how rules are made must be met with investments in mechanisms, processes and resources that make it easier for citizen stewards.

### EASE TECHNICAL BURDENS:

Citizen Stewards face numerous challenges getting projects approved. Change the review process, to

- Create consistent and expeditious review responses
- Nurture collaborative review process
- Ensure access to relevant City systems (Eclipse, GPIS, etc) is not barred to citizen stewards
- Remove seasonality requirements for pedestrian enhancements.

### INVEST:

Invest in structures, guidance, and the civic landscape, to make it easier for individuals and groups to transform their ROW.

### INSURANCE:

Identify creative ways to reduce insurance burden for community groups and ROW Stewards.