

AGENDA # 3

City of Madison, Wisconsin

REPORT OF: URBAN DESIGN COMMISSION **PRESENTED:** July 28, 2021

TITLE: 2222 E. Washington Avenue - Public **REFERRED:**
Building, Renovation and Additions to

East High School. 12th Ald. Dist. (66048) **REREFERRED:**

REPORTED BACK:

AUTHOR: Kevin Firchow, Acting Secretary

ADOPTED:

POF:

DATED: July 28, 2021

ID NUMBER:

Members present were: Cliff Goodhart*, Chair; Lois Braun-Oddo, Tom DeChant, Christian Harper, Craig Weisensel, Jessica Klehr, Shane Bernau, Christian Albouras and Russell Knudson.

*Goodhart recused himself; Weisensel acted as Chair.

SUMMARY:

At its meeting of July 28, 2021, the Urban Design Commission **GRANTED FINAL APPROVAL** of renovation and additions to Madison East High School located at 2222 E. Washington Avenue. Registered and speaking in support was Paul Raisleger. Registered in support and available to answer questions was Elizabeth Avenius, representing Madison Metropolitan School District.

Raisleger reviewed the mostly interior changes including a new welcome center, adding to the cafeteria space, renovating and adding an addition to the music section on the second floor, and a second floor fitness area addition. The parking area will be repaved and re-striped with additional ADA parking towards the entryway. The existing landscaping will be repaired and enhanced, concrete tables will be relocated, low plantings will be added along the Fourth Street new addition, and some plantings alongside the sidewalk to buffer parking by the welcome center. The existing retaining walls along Fourth Street will remain in place. The existing building showcases Collegiate Gothic architecture with its arches and windows, portico, relief decorative panels, and a tremendous amount of detailing. The new blends in with the existing building while having its own identity. There will be precast detail relief to represent the existing panels, large windows projecting out in new additions, and banding along the entire building. A corrugated metal in a red tone will screen the fitness area and mechanicals. They are using the same kind of brick as the 1960s addition.

The Commission discussed the following:

- Does this project have a separate fundraising packet?
 - No it does not.
- The new main entrance is surrounded by a parking lot. Is there any way to add more greenspace or some of the same elements you showed at West in terms of leading up to this entrance?
 - We did walk about that. Parking at both schools is at a real premium, the District had a difficult time removing some of that parking to get that additional greenspace, they really need that

number in that location to meet their current needs. We did look at sliding that parking closer to East Washington, but we're working against the referendum budget.

- You could put small strip landscaping, but the chances of that being overwhelmed by salt and snow might be a losing battle over time.
- The overhang on the main entrance feels odd and heavy, doesn't seem to integrate with anything else on the building.
 - That knife point is nothing more than a gesture to the movement of how you're entering the building.
- There's no reference to it with this style of architecture, it feels modern. See if you can find something that would be more in keeping with the style of what this entrance is. Maybe just flat. It's a shame we can't add more green to the entrance, is there opportunity for built-in raised beds?

ACTION:

On a motion by Braun-Oddo, seconded by Knudson, the Urban Design Commission **GRANTED FINAL APPROVAL**. The motion was passed on a vote of (7-0). The motion provided for administrative review of simplifying the entrance canopy to be more in keeping with the architectural style.