

# URBAN DESIGN COMMISSION MEETING REPORT

June 12, 2024



**Agenda Item #:** 9

**Project Title:** 6910 Seybold Road - New Mixed-Use Building in Urban Design District (UDD) 2. (District 19)

**Legistar File ID #:** 83657

**Members Present:** Cliff Goodhart, Chair; Jessica Klehr, Christian Harper, Wendy von Below, and Russell Knudson

**Prepared By:** Chris Wells, Acting UDC Secretary

## Summary

At its meeting of June 12, 2024, the Urban Design Commission **RECEIVED AN INFORMATIONAL PRESENTATION** for a new mixed-use building located at 6910 Seybold Road in Urban Design District (UDD) 2. Registered and speaking in support were Tom Sanford, and Carl Miller. Registered in support and available to answer questions was Alder Guequierre, District 19.

### Summary of Commission Discussion and Questions:

The Chair inquired about vision glass versus spandrel glass at the building's front, and suggested an inset solid material, wood look, or brighter panel in a different proportion. The cement panel green was discussed as being similar to a student apartment building near the Kohl Center. The applicant noted it is an olive tone meant to differentiate from the mix of grays in the adjacent Verizon building, and the brown tones on the other side, as a nice bridge between the two. Caution was expressed on how the joints will appear, with the storefronts and windows being dark. He suggested bringing the parapet down or the window heads up to appear less office and more residential at the upper portions of the building.

Commissioner Harper commented on the sidewalk termination to the east and lack of total connections for the possible families living here. (It was noted by staff that the adjacent parcels to the east are located in the Town of Middleton.) He encouraged Green Giant Arborvitae along the north edge to screen the residences from the Beltline on-ramp.

Commissioner Klehr commented on the black trim across the top, noting that it doesn't continue down vertically and should do so on both sides of the building. She also suggested adding more "eyes" on the rear of the building/site in some way, for safety exiting to and in the parking lot, including a possible window in the door. The Chair remarked it will be important for safety, as well as being able to see out when exiting the building.

Further suggestions included recessing the apartment doors and tweaking the triangular strip with plantings to soften the building. The Chair commended the applicant for thinking outside the box; this is not the most walkable or hospitable environment, but it looks well segregated from the retail uses.

## Action

Since this was an **INFORMATIONAL PRESENTATION** no formal action was taken by the Commission.