

City of Madison, Wisconsin

REPORT OF: URBAN DESIGN COMMISSION	PRESENTED: August 28, 2013
TITLE: 702 South Randall Avenue – Henry Vilas Zoo, “Arctic Passage” Exhibit and Concession Building. 13 th Ald. Dist. (31308)	REFERRED: REREFERRED: REPORTED BACK:
AUTHOR: Alan J. Martin, Secretary	ADOPTED: POF:
DATED: August 28, 2013	ID NUMBER:

Members present were: Richard Wagner, Chair; Dawn O’Kroley, John Harrington, Lauren Cnare, Melissa Huggins, Henry Lufler, Tom DeChant and Cliff Goodhart.

SUMMARY:

At its meeting of August 28, 2013, the Urban Design Commission **RECEIVED AN INFORMATIONAL PRESENTATION** for the “Arctic Passage” exhibit and concession building for the Henry Vilas Zoo located at 702 South Randall Avenue. Appearing on behalf of the project was Scott Ramser, representing the Henry Vilas Zoo. The upgrades are all about providing new, up close experiences with animals, providing better habitats with a lot more choices for the animals, and help tell the story of climate change and other things included in the exhibits. The previous arctic passage will be expanded for two large bear yards, as well as a seal exhibit. On the west end is a restaurant/concession building with indoor seating for about 60 guests, which will help support this operation. The building across the back is the bear holding building, with the seal building at the end. Future smaller exhibits could happen throughout the area but not developed as part of this initial construction. The concession building will use metal panel systems to imitate what you might see in a research station in the Arctic. Most of the other buildings would be concrete, some covered in artificial rock or form liner for texture and would be background buildings. The polar bear pool and the seal pool will have underwater viewing.

ACTION:

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

After the Commission acts on an application, individual Commissioners rate the overall design on a scale of 1 to 10, including any changes required by the Commission. The ratings are for information only. They are not used to decide whether the project should be approved. The scale is 1 = complete failure; 2 = critically bad; 3 = very poor; 4 = poor; 5 = fair; 6 = good; 7 = very good; 8 = excellent; 9 = superior; and 10 = outstanding. The overall rating for this project is 8.

URBAN DESIGN COMMISSION PROJECT RATING FOR: 702 South Randall Avenue

	Site Plan	Architecture	Landscape Plan	Site Amenities, Lighting, Etc.	Signs	Circulation (Pedestrian, Vehicular)	Urban Context	Overall Rating
Member Ratings	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8

General Comments:

- Nice project!!