## PLANNING DIVISION STAFF REPORT

January 24, 2024



#### PREPARED FOR THE URBAN DESIGN COMMISSION

Project Address: 139 W Wilson Street

**Application Type:** New Residential Building in UMX Zoning

**UDC** is an Advisory Body

Legistar File ID # 70108

**Prepared By:** Jessica Vaughn, AICP, UDC Secretary

# **Background Information**

Applicant | Contact: John Seamon, SEA Design

**Project Description:** The applicant is proposing the demolition of an existing multi-family building and construction of a 16-story, 320-unit building. The proposal includes four parking stalls, an on-demand vehicle-sharing program, at grade open space, and fitness center. Resident vehicle parking will be provided in the Dane County ramp.

## **Project Schedule:**

- The Plan Commission is scheduled to review this item on February 5, 2024.
- The UDC referred this item to a future meeting date on September 20, 2023. As part of the UDC's action, the Commission requested that several design-related considerations be addressed, as noted below.
- At the request of the applicant, the UDC referred this item to a future meeting date on January 11, 2023.
- The UDC received an Informational Presentation on July 27, 2022.
- The UDC received an Informational Presentation on March 9, 2022.

**Approval Standards:** The Urban Design Commission (UDC) is an **advisory** body on this request. Section <u>28.076(b)</u> includes the related design review requirements which state that: "All new buildings that are greater than twenty-thousand (20,000) square feet or that have more than four stories shall obtain Conditional Use approval. In addition, the UDC shall review such projects for conformity to the design standards in <u>Sec. 28.071(3)</u> and the <u>Downtown Urban Design Guidelines</u> and shall report its findings to the Plan Commission."

As noted above, a Conditional Use approval is required. As part of the UDC's evaluation of the proposed development, the Commission should also give consideration to the applicable Conditional Use Approval Standards, including:

Conditional Use Standard No. 9, which in summary states: "When applying the above standards to any new construction of a building or an addition to an existing building the Plan Commission shall find that the project creates an environment of sustained aesthetic desirability compatible with the existing or intended character of the area and the statement of purpose for the zoning district..."

Conditional Use Standard No. 17, which in summary states: "When applying the above standards to an application for allowable projections into the capitol view height area, the Plan Commission shall only approve the projection if it determines the encroachment is the minimum necessary and does not significantly impact the long views of the State Capitol building."

Staff recommends that the Commission include findings related to these standards, especially as it relates to the design considerations noted below, in their recommendation to the Plan Commission.

Related Zoning Information: The property is zoned Urban Mixed-Use (UMX). The Planning Division understands that the proposed development is considered a Conditional Use under the Zoning Code. In addition, the Capitol View Preservation Limit will also apply to the proposed development. As noted in the application materials, the elevator and stair tower overrun project into the Capitol View Preservation Limit, although it is unclear what that projection is conflicting information is provided between the elevations and height exhibit. Staff notes that while height information is provided in the application materials, ultimately the Zoning Administrator will confirm that the building height, including the height of any proposed projections into the Capital View Height Preservation Limitation, is accurate.

The UMX zone district also outlines design standards that are applicable to all new buildings. As a reference, the design related zoning standards outlined in the UMX zone district are included as an attachment to this report, including, but not limited to those related to building entrance orientation, façade articulation, height, fenestration, and materials.

**Design-Related Plan Recommendations:** The project site is located within the <u>Downtown Plan</u> planning area. As such development on the project site is subject to the Downtown Urban Design Guidelines. As noted in the Downtown Plan, the maximum recommended height is up to the Capitol View Preservation Limit.

# **Summary of Design Considerations**

Staff recommends that the UDC provide feedback and make findings on the development proposal regarding the aforementioned standards related to the comments below, which were included in the Commission's formal action for referral.

Staff notes that, as an advisory body, the UDC will make a recommendation to the Plan Commission. As such the Commission motion should be one singular motion (i.e., "motion to recommend that the Plan Commission approval/deny" with or without conditions and include findings related to the review standards).

Study and make revisions to the main building entry as noted in the UDC comments.

As part of the UDC's previous review, the following comments were offered and are restated, in summary as noted below:

- Look at the scale of the five-story cutout on the Wilson Street façade; consider reducing that height,
- Maintain human scale,
- Wrap the artwork to the underside of the cutout,
- Incorporate more glazing into the lobby area, including wrapping around the east side of the building,
- Consider/study the location of cut-out/main entry on the front of building,
- Adjust datums to tie into surrounding context, and
- Create more cohesion between the top and bottom of the building.

Study and make revisions to all façade elevations so they are in conformance with the design guidelines
for this district and the comments given, including integrating all materials including the Long Board metal
panels on all elevations, and as it relates to the size and location of the windows and voids.

As part of the UDC's previous review, the following comments were offered and are restated, in summary as noted below:

- Incorporate splashes of color to move away from the institutional appearance,
- Consider changing the concrete panel size, or reducing the articulation in the panel itself,
- Increase the size of the windows, voids, punches; maybe larger punches, but fewer of them to break-up the heavy panel,
- Create cohesion between the first four-five stories and the upper levels,
- Consider removing the green elements, especially on the John Nolen side of the building,
- Apply the same material palette to all four sides of the building,
- Incorporate more faux wood metal panel,
- Incorporate more dynamism in the design of the lakeside of the building.

Related to this comment, staff continues to have concerns regarding the overall building design and composition, especially as it relates to the Downtown Urban Design Guidelines and Conditional Use Standard No. 9, which speaks to creating an environment of aesthetic desirability and the Downtown Urban Design Guidelines, especially those that speak to creating a cohesive architectural expression, including:

- Delineating building components (base, middle, top), including consideration to elements along the lower 2-3 floors to better visually anchor the tall building on all sides.
- Incorporating balanced vertical/horizontal articulation and proportions of design elements (windows, doors, accent materials, maintaining human scale, creating visual interest without creating an overly cluttered facade, integrate a variety in massing, etc.),
- Designing with a sensitivity to context (proportions/scale, relationships with adjacent buildings, maintaining datum lines, size and rhythm of windows/openings, etc.),
- Utilizing high quality, durable materials and design continuity in their application across all elevations, etc.
- Study the access out to the lake and the connection between the loading and parking area and access, especially as it relates to loading and the pedestrian pathway,
- Provide details that show how the wall packs are integrated into the architecture, and

As noted on the elevations, wall pack units are proposed on all elevations, including along the prominent Lake Monona/John Nolen fronting façade. While it has been the current practice to not locate wall packs on street facing or highly visible facades, they have been approved in some situations when found to be well integrated into the façade's design. Consideration should be given to visibility, framing, color, opening size, etc.

Staff recommends the Commission make findings related to the integration of the wall packs with the overall building design and materials, especially as it relates to the aforementioned standards as part of their formal action.

Provide additional information on the site lighting, including footcandle and temperature ratings.

With regard to architectural lighting, staff notes that the proposed Acolyte LED neon tube light that lights the artwork does not meet cutoff requirements; the leg of the mounting bracket will need to be lengthened slightly to do so. Staff recommends that the UDC address this in their formal action.

In addition, with regard to site lighting, the applicant is advised the light levels at the "west door" (aka Wilson Street entry) and "sidewalk" are in excess of the maximum average light levels (2.5 footcandles) for pedestrian areas and uniformity ratio (5:1). Staff recommends that the UDC address site lighting in their formal action, including noting whether subsequent review of lighting shall be completed administratively by staff.

 The Commission's motion included noting that the UDC does not have strong concerns about the projections into the Capitol View Preservation Height Limitation given the location of the projection near the street side of the building.

# **UDC Referral Discussion and Action**

As a reference, the Commission's comments from the September 20, 2023, meeting are provided below.

The Commission had the following questions for staff and the development team:

- I got so excited to see a purple building.
- This is the third iteration.
- Can we not design anymore gray, beige or monochromatic buildings? This building has such a unique texture in the precast, the color kills the design. There is a great artistic end with the forest lit thing, then this concrete color. The purple was unique. It does look prison-like because of the color. A sliver of a building calls for a unique design.
- (Secretary) The issue with the previous (purple) building material palette was that it did not meet the Zoning Code.
- There's so much potential here, because it is such a narrow building. You can still bring some voids in there and play with the way those two adjacent facades are articulated, it's a missed opportunity. We don't need more grey, tan or beige; we have enough.
- The back of the building needs work. I am not opposed to it [proposed wall art] being green and lit, but I like the art better on the front side.
- Can you explain how the deliveries would work, bike parking and MG&E vault location?
  - The driveway area is 21 feet wide, and can accommodate deliveries. We have four guest parking stalls that could be used for delivery vehicles, car share spots and bike parking (shown on site plan).
- You said you would schedule Amazon, but what about people ordering dinner? If people don't have a car they will be ordering stuff. How are you going to serve those that are relying on others to bring things to them? How will that work for the people who rely on others to bring stuff directly to their apartment?
  - They could walk, there is some bike delivery. We see a need for this type of housing in downtown Madison where they're not necessarily ordering food in, they're going out to dinner to a plethora of fantastic options in downtown Madison.
- I'm not arguing for cars, I'm wondering how the building will facilitate what is getting delivered to them.
  - Those services can all come, we have a dedicated, secure, separate area for those boxes, and we feel we can schedule those delivery times.

- Where will a UPS/Fed Ex/food delivery guy park?
  - Right in this line here (shown on site plan).
- And the four cars are for who? So those spots are not available for deliveries?
  - o Residents. No.
- Basically there is a limited area to pull in and back out. Do you anticipate a loading zone on the street?
  - We do not.
- Not to belabor this point, the more we talk, the more questions arise. Has Traffic Engineering looked at this?
- (Secretary) Traffic Engineering has looked at it, this is slated to go to the Plan Commission on October 2<sup>nd</sup>, and the staff report with conditions will be solidified then.
- I think there are some other site circulation concerns. There is not a turn-around. People will have to back out into the street and do a "T."
  - That is correct.
- Ok, if you think that works; I don't buy it, but I guess I am ok.
- There's an exit stair, how will you ensure that will not be blocked by vehicles?
  - o It will be signed and the pavement will be marked.
- I'm struggling to find a unit that is accessible. These are all non-ADA accessible. Your door clearances, bathrooms, you cannot fit a wheelchair in any of the units.
  - That won't necessarily be the case as we move forward. It is tight, they're very small. We will make the required number of units that will be accessible.
- (Secretary) I'm looking at the draft preliminary staff comments/conditions, and the only major nonstandard comments from Traffic Engineering are related to a public dedication on Wilson, they have asked for further information with regard to circulation especially as it relates to refuse, as well as concerns with constructability.
- Most of the Commission was excited at that first Informational Presentation with those color changing metal panels. You pivoted in a good way with these faceted concrete panels; did you consider instead of them all being the same facet pattern having three different ones. I think you missed an opportunity to have some of that light bouncing by having multiple different shapes. You went with pearl white, nothing wrong with that, but if its cast concrete there was an opportunity to get a much more dynamic look to the exterior. Not so much the two long sides, but the sides that face John Nolen Drive and Wilson Street, it seems like there is a missed opportunity to incorporate some color. Was it a cost issue, a design aesthetic?
  - We definitely did. That south façade was a major player. When we gained regularity in the unit and let that color be that pearl white, we got more contrast and more of an effect more clearly. When we changed those panels it was visually odd, whereas with the single facet, your eye follows that striation, that texture and it was more powerful. We really liked the idea of color shifting of the metal panel but that was an ordinance issue with that materials, but it's a texture shift now.
- Can you explain where the faux wood panels are being used only on the one façade, is it used anywhere else?
  - Right now they're only on W Wilson, it's a product called long board. It really stands the test of time outside, but only on that façade. We did consider it on the south side, but it seemed applied; here we get this stronger notion of the center and going vertical. It seemed more like an applied stripe on the other façade.
- Can you address the use of wall packs? How you're going to clean this, because concrete gets dirty?
   What if there were inlays of the long board at each of the windows? The material palette, I feel like you wanted this to be a precast building with a splash of the other one so you could meet the zoning requirements and it looks like that. It doesn't look like that second material is integrated into the design.

It could be better integrated fully around the building. It gives it more life, something a little less institutional, especially if you have a flat façade and there's no pushing and pulling.

- As far as cleaning it goes it's a really tight concrete mix that is very fine and as smooth as we can get it. It is a custom wall panel. It's produced by Wells. They have no concerns, they've showed us examples of buildings that have been built using this material, and its ability to let rain do what it does well, with modulation in the panel, so there is change like this one. We feel good about that.
- The wall packs are the same on all facades. The window system has an integral frame for the louvers. It is one frame made by one manufacturer, it's a bronze anodized frame.
- We've been asked specifically to look at a few criteria: #9, which is the aesthetic desirability and its context, and the building's impact on the Capitol View. We do not control the view compliance, but we can make a recommendation as to what our opinion is on anything that intrudes into that view. I'm hearing there is a lot of concerns about the aesthetic desirability of the building, the design composition and its visual interest is really inhibited by these green elements. The corner here at the bottom, it's like a deconstruction of the building, the rest is tall, elegant and slender, simple composition. There doesn't seem to be any cohesion between the first floor and four-five stories and the rest of the tower and that goes for the green tattoo on the upper corner of the other side. It is better served without it. The repetition of the panel, it's pretty small with respect to its articulation; on a building like this, the panels are larger and made up of smaller pieces either a larger module or less articulation might help. Some variety in the panel design, not a lot, but say all the panels from four to the roof, could be something very subtle. Finally, if you're going to have some long board or metal panel, then integrate it holistically throughout so that it doesn't feel like a minimum to satisfy a requirement. The lack of cohesiveness detracts from the compatibility from its context.
  - We looked at double and two and ½ times that scale, but we never got that strong texturing. In fact the larger the units, the texturing was not as impactful. It didn't feel like a texture, more like a sheer cloth. I hear what you're saying about long board on the sides; we are happy to add that in on the other sides.
- Are the windows/voids/punches as big as they can get?
  - They could be bigger, yes.
- They should be, it will help your façade and the feeling of being in a small space. The more light you can
  get in there, less punches and bigger ones will help. It would allow you to keep the scale of that concrete
  panel the way it is.
  - They could be, but not a ton. We used the verticality to have 7-foot tall windows in quite a few locations, so we feel like we are daylighting that pretty well, but we could look at it again.
  - The material next to the windows is flat concrete versus the metal panel.
- For Initial Approval, you're open to revisiting some of these concepts, right?
  - Yes, we're looking for Plan Commission approval on October 2<sup>nd</sup>, but I don't want to shut the door on the design getting better, especially on some of the things that have been mentioned.
- I am all about height, light, and modern but I agree that the art piece on top is so random. I think it needs to be revisited. It seems applied like the long board.
- Conditional use standard #9, the question of human scale. You started your comments with the fivestory cut-out, do you think that meets the human scale? Or is it too tall, could it be shorter, but is that a human scale? I like it, I think it's interesting. Is that a proportionate size for this kind of artwork?
  - The size of that reveal, at five stories, is a proportionate response to the top of the building.
     That receding and change in materials is in proportion to the building. This is a big walnut portal, from a pedestrian scale this notion starts to go away, this push back goes away, and what you are then relating to in terms of scale is the portal.
- I think the material is interesting, did you say if it comes in different sizes? Is it all that size?

- This unit, 1' x 4' custom facet that is one of these. We can make that anything we want, we looked at different scales and forms, it could be bigger, it's completely custom.
- Standard #9, I think you could make a case that the E Wilson façade is interesting but the John Nolen side doesn't meet that at all. Looking at that façade from somewhere else, it looks like the back of the building.
  - I heard 'tattoo,' applied to this assembly on the back. As much as we wanted to have that be this banner, I get what you're saying. My question would be if this were to wrap only the top floor and wrap both sides back 12-16 feet, does that conceptually verbally sound better?
- Have you done an elevator study? You have two passenger elevators, I'm not seeing a freight elevator, and how many occupants do you anticipate having in the building?
  - We think occupancy will be around 328. We have not done an elevator study, but the elevator company has looked at this and they feel that we can make this work.
- Does the distribution of move-in/move-out dates spread itself naturally across the calendar year? Do you have past experience that you can apply to this one?
  - We're looking at four times a year currently, we may have to adjust that depending on lease-up and length of leases. We are looking at restrictions on van size and timeframes for them to move. Each resident would get a certain timeframe. Its' probably more like four times a year.
- The large student complexes are nightmarish for them and anybody who traverses across the City on those days.

## The Commission discussed the following:

- I kind of like the green punch out, it could be four stories instead of five. This idea of the green core, just the rigor of wrapping that under the ceiling so it truly feels like you're breaking into the green core of the building. There's some depth to the space just to the left of the lobby and that feels wrong, there's too much blank wall. You should have a view into that lobby from that left side. It feels like a lot of blank wall where it could be more open and glassy. Maybe there is some larger wholesale changes to the façade and materials, which may make this not relevant you have this opportunity, a moment to celebrate that view out towards the lake and right now the site plan ignores it. There is something that should be celebrated there, it could be a special asset to anyone who catches a glimpse of the lake between the buildings.
- A little bit of homework for the Commission, we could take a look at Bethel Lutheran on Johnson, it has
  these faceted similar depth to the precast, you can see how light and shadow plays off of that one at
  only three stories.
- The green cube facing the lake, if you start exploring other alternatives to that, I still think the architecture should be able to rely on materiality, articulation in the daylight and not require this glowing beacon/banner that is really most evident at nighttime reflecting off of the lake across the city. Color shifting panels, something that could replace that element without needing nighttime light, or maybe it's something completely different altogether.
- Looking at the pedestrian scale, this is an art installation, whether its two-stories, a true pedestrian size, or a bigger void is irrelevant, but the activity behind that lower level should be treated differently and that the lobby should be glazed all the way around that corner because it shows the activity. To my point about more glazing, above that, on floors 2-5 where you have that punch at the shadow line, that's the living room for that unit and that could be a bigger void to break up some of this concrete. I'm struggling to match the plan with the elevations and punched openings and how they relate to the floor plans. There's major opportunities for more glazing to break up some of the heaviness. I love the texture, but not the color. So many punches makes it look like a prison, needs to be more residential versus horizontal. The building next door has floor to ceiling windows, modern means bigger, not traditional smaller openings. I agree, open up that alley, don't block it, that's a missed opportunity.

- I'm still very concerned about the erosion of the corner and how it isn't cohesive with the slenderness of the tower. If you are going to have a notch in there is needs to be centered. For such a tiny building there's a lot going on at the first two stories. I'd like to see a little subtle change in some of the panels, whether it's the module itself or how the spandrels are handled. The cohesiveness of the overall design and the scale and repetition of the facets are my major concerns. Overall having a simply expressed, nice tower as opposed to all the glassy towers is kind of a neat thing, but at the street level it kind of falls apart.
- I agree with the comments, and about pulling the entry out to make it more of an entrance. It doesn't feel like an entry right now, it's too tall. I object to that same approach being used on the side and back. If you're going to do an art gesture do it once and do it well; the other pieces become gimmicky. The architectural materials that we talked about Integrating and making a true full palette, long board, metal panel, whether scale is addressed with cement board or not.
- The view toward the lake, I'm a little bothered that there is an abrupt stop with the view to the lake. You've got a concrete pad with striping on, then there's a pathway. There should be a pathway that starts at the urban edge at the street and lead you back there. Look at how to integrate the bike parking with the landscaping instead of a row of bicycles. Some of the points in the memo from staff, we were asked to comment on the long views, we've addressed that with not needing the art gimmick on the lake side. There were significant concerns with regard to the lighting of that.
- The wall packs, I don't object to them being integral to the frame but I'd like to see more details to see
  how well they are integrated and if it's aesthetically appropriate for this district. I don't know that I fully
  understand the lighting, but would like to understand that better with footcandles ratings, temperature
  ratings, and all of that.
- There's context here that you can pull your datums from the surrounding context. The building to the left, they have a base, that's their podium, their base, it sets a precedent. Why not make yours meet that datum? It looks heavy, like a concrete slab just sticking out. If you wrapped it with the artistic expression, and it would three sides and pulled it down to play off the existing datum. Plus opening up the bottom. I do like it, but it needs work. You commented about having these two different types of buildings, you're talking about being true to form and materials...I'm trying to understand that better.
- The erosion of the corner and the horizontal punched opening. The slot could being the middle with strong corners, let it stand as a tall slender counterpoint to the other more glassy buildings. The entry expression is way too tall for a building like this, it doesn't relate to anything, it makes you think the building wants to lean over a bit. There's not protection there, it doesn't relate to anything.
- I like the corner, but those horizontal bands bother me. They are windows that look into living rooms.
- An asymmetrical deconstructed corner versus a very traditional elegant tower on top that is where the lack of cohesion is.
- If they pulled it down, do you think that would help a little?
- Yes, well right. The top of the tower and that base is not working well together.
- I'm not sure we addressed the Capitol height preservation limitation and minimizing the projections as much as possible.
- It's an elevator overrun and roof access, there isn't a room up there or anything for an activated space up there, so it looks like it is minimized. I also think that since it is way towards the front of the building, it is likely not visible from the lake side.
- I like the idea of a pathway from the street edge. I would advise them to focus on the canyon, but should you wrap that green thing around, should you look into that entryway from the side angle? That's part of the street experience and now it looks like a back-of-the house street. How do we make it more interesting.
- I am not averse to some of the suggestions on the art piece, having it become part of the ceiling too for a more full IMAX experience could be a plus. I would push back on any ideas to bring it down. I don't want to be standing in a topiary forest, it behooves the imagery to have some height to it. The whole

notion of it being cut out and having that image in there is what makes the building dynamic. If it's built like this, people will be searching for building addresses, other visual clues, nobody will have trouble finding this building. Like it or hate it, it is part of the definition of something being iconic. That part is essentially working.

- The faux wood lends a certain warmth, something to push against the concrete that works well, but there is not enough of it.
- As far as the comments about having a view down to the lake in that narrow space, that space is pretty much the only outdoor amenity space for the residents and it's actually landscaped pretty nicely with a nice selection of plants that may have a chance of making it in a sunlight starved area. It is pretty well thought out and it should be as it is the only open space area for residents. My biggest problem from a design standpoint is the backside of the building, something more dynamic needs to happen. The repetition of the wall art element is a non-starter. I don't see any way of approving something so bright and glaring, as that on the top of the building. It doesn't make any sense to me at all. I continue to have concerns about access and parking, this is by far the biggest project that has almost no parking whatsoever and I think it's really naïve to think people won't have cars. It will become everyone else in the neighborhood's problem and that troubles me.

A motion was made by von Below for Initial Approval, with consideration for the comments that we talked about, including:

- Studying the entry,
- Studying all façade elevations so they are in conformance with the design guidelines for this district and the comments given,
- Studying the access out to the lake and the connection between the loading and parking area and access,
- Providing details for the wall packs, and
- Providing additional information on the site lighting.

The motion was seconded by Harper.

### Discussion on the motion:

- Also, if the motion conveyed to the Plan Commission includes the fact that we didn't have strong concerns about the Capitol View Preservation Height Limitation.
- (Secretary) If we think some of these are things we want changed, or changes or modifications to them, we need to use stronger wording than 'study' or 'revisit.' There's no directive there, so we need to revise as action items.
- I'm willing to have that wording updated.
- We want to see details on how the wall packs are integrated, not just a closer view. A better look at the
  integration of materials, not just these slivers of long board. Look at the façades and elevations as it
  relates to the size and location of the windows and voids.
- So, the expectation will evolve and improve.
- I think code requires egress to come through a path, not just out to a parking spot. You have to have a pedestrian sidewalk, you can't egress into a vehicular space or a pedestrian sidewalk.
- We're giving you a ton of stuff to think about, is it maybe too much for an Initial Approval. Typically, that's massing and site plan, this is such a small narrow lot is kind of locked in but it feels like there's a lot out there in terms of design.
- Are you suggesting referral instead?
- Yes, there's a lot, Initial says "go."

- Even removing the lakeside tree void changes the massing, potentially. I think there's a lot that could still change. Just a question.
- Typically, if this was a building on a larger site, we are not asking to change the building location, it is basically this form on this site, but we want to see work done on the entry and materials. Even though that is a lot, that is still a lot. I think this could get Initial Approval, I think.
- (Secretary) Given the number of comments I've heard tonight alone on suggestions for redesign, I also
  wonder if a referral is more appropriate in this case than an Initial Approval. Theoretically if they start
  adjusting setback/stepback, you are really looking at different mass and scale and form to the building in
  general.
- The conditions on the motion are not meant to be prescriptive its more respond to the concerns and make the appropriate changes and come back.

The motion fails on a vote of (2-3-1) with Rummel and Von Below voting yes; Bernau, Asad, and Harper voting no; and Chair Goodhart non-voting.

A motion was made by Bernau, seconded by Asad, for referral with the same conditions as noted under the previous motion.

### Discussion on the motion:

• It can be captured in Initial, but I think Initial signs off on a lot of things. These are not requirements, but once you start doing some of these things and the design starts to evolve, it could be a completely different building. As you start to play with some of these suggestions, it makes more sense to take a fresh look at how this comes together.

# **UDC Action**

On a motion by Bernau, seconded by Asad, the Urban Design Commission **REFERRED** consideration of this item with the following comments:

- Study and make revisions to the main building entry as noted in the UDC comments,
- Study and make revisions to all façade elevations so they are in conformance with the design guidelines
  for this district and the comments given, including integrating all materials including the Long Board
  metal panels on all elevations, and as it relates to the size and location of the windows and voids,
- Study the access out to the lake and the connection between the loading and parking area and access, especially as it relates to loading and the pedestrian pathway,
- Provide details that show how the wall packs are integrated into the architecture, and
- Provide additional information on the site lighting, including footcandle and temperature ratings.
- The Commission's motion included the noting that the UDC does not have strong concerns about the
  projections into the Capitol View Preservation Height Limitation given the location of the projection near
  the street side of the building.

The motion was passed on a vote of (4-1-1) with Bernau, Asad, Rummel and Harper voting yes; Von Below voting no; and Goodhart non-voting.

#### ATTACHMENT:

### 28.071 (3) DESIGN STANDARDS FROM ZONING CODE

#### (3) Design Standards.

The following standards are applicable to all new buildings and additions, within any ten- (10) year period, exceeding fifty percent (50%) of existing building's floor area for non-residential buildings, mixed-use buildings, lodging houses, and residential buildings with 8 or more dwelling units.

#### (a) Parking.

- Parking shall be located in parking structures, underground, or in surface parking lots behind principal buildings. Parking structures shall be designed with liner buildings or with ground floor office or retail uses along all street-facing facades.
- 2. For corner lots or through lots, rear yard surface parking areas abutting any street frontage are limited to fifty percent (50%) of that frontage, and shall be located a minimum of ten (10) feet from the street property line.
- 3. Parking garage openings visible from the sidewalk shall have a clear maximum height of sixteen (16) feet and a maximum width of twenty-two (22) feet. Garage doors or gates shall be located a minimum of ten (10) feet from the front property line. Doors to freight loading bays are exempt from this requirement.
- 4. No doors or building openings providing motor vehicle access to structured parking or loading facilities shall face State Street, King Street, or the Capitol Square.

## (b) Entrance Orientation.

- 1. Primary building entrances on all new buildings shall be oriented to the primary abutting public street and have a functional door.
- 2. Additional secondary entrances may be oriented to a secondary street or parking area.
- 3. Entries shall be clearly visible and identifiable from the street, and delineated with elements such as roof overhangs, recessed entries, landscaping, or similar design features.
- 4. Within ten (10) feet of a block corner, the facade may be set back to form a corner entry.

#### (c) Facade Articulation.

- 1. The facades of new buildings more than forty (40) feet in width shall be divided into smaller vertical intervals through techniques including but not limited to the following:
  - a. Facade modulation, step backs, or extending forward of a portion of the facade.
  - b. Vertical divisions using different textures, materials, or colors of materials.
  - c. Division into multiple storefronts, with separate display windows and entrances.
  - d. Variation in roof lines to reinforce the modulation or vertical intervals.
  - e. Arcades, awnings, window bays, arched windows, and balconies to reinforce the vertical intervals.

## (d) Story Heights and Treatment.

- 1. For all buildings, the maximum ground story height is eighteen (18) feet, measured from the sidewalk to the second story floor. An atrium that exceeds eighteen (18) feet will be considered more than one (1) story.
- 2. Upper stories shall not exceed fourteen (14) feet floor to floor.

- 3. For all buildings, the minimum ground story height is twelve (12) feet, measured from the sidewalk to the second story floor.
- 4. For non-residential uses, the average ground story floor elevation shall not be lower than the front sidewalk elevation nor higher than eighteen (18) inches above the sidewalk elevation.
- 5. For ground-story residential uses, landscaping, steps, porches, grade changes, and low ornamental fences or walls or similar treatments shall be located between the sidewalk and the front door to create a private yard area.

## (e) Door and Window Openings.

- 1. For street-facing facades with ground story non-residential uses, the ground story door and window openings shall comprise a minimum of fifty percent (50%) of the facade area.
- 2. For street-facing facades with ground story residential uses, ground story openings shall comprise a minimum of fifteen percent (15%) of the facade area.
- 3. For all buildings, upper story openings shall comprise a minimum of fifteen percent (15%) of the facade area per story.
- 4. Garage doors and opaque service doors shall not count toward the above requirements.
- 5. Glass on all windows and doors shall be clear or slightly tinted, allowing views into and out of the interior. Spandrel glass may be used on service areas on the building.

## (f) Building Materials.

- 1. Buildings shall be constructed of durable, high-quality materials. Table 28 E-1 below lists allowable building materials.
- 2. All building facades visible from a public street or public walkway shall use materials and design features similar to or complementary to those of the front facade.

**Table 28E-1:** Building Materials in Downtown and Urban Districts.

Building Materials	Trim/Accent Material	Top of Building	Middle of Building	Base/Bottom of Building	Standards (see footnotes)
Brick (Face/Veneer)	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Smooth-Face/Split-Face Block	✓	✓	✓	✓	Α
Wood/Wood Composite	✓	✓	✓	✓	В
Fiber-Cement Siding/Panels	✓	✓	✓	✓	В
Concrete Panels (Tilt-up or Precast)	✓	✓	✓	✓	С
EIFS/Synthetic Stucco	✓	✓			D
Stone/Stone Veneer	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Metal Panels	✓	✓	✓	✓	E
Hand-Laid Stucco	<b>√</b>	✓			D
Reflective Glass/Spandrel	✓				F
Glass (Transparent)	✓	<b>√</b>	✓	<b>√</b>	

- A Shall be used in conjunction with a palette of materials and shall not comprise more than thirty-three percent (33%) of any building.
- B Wood and fiber cement panels shall not be used on the ground story except between the sidewalk and the bottom of storefront windows or as an accent material.
- C Shall incorporate horizontal and vertical articulation and modulation, including but not limited to changes in color and texture, or as part of a palette of materials.
- D Shall not be within three feet of the ground or used on building facades facing State Street, King Street, or the Capitol Square.
- E Shall be used in conjunction with a palette of materials; shall be a heavy gauge, non-reflective metal
- F Shall be used in limited quantities as an accent material.

#### (g) Equipment and Service Area Screening.

- Outdoor loading areas or mechanical equipment are not permitted in the front yard. When visible
  from an abutting public street or walkway, they shall be screened by a decorative fence, wall, or
  screen of plant material.
- 2. No doors or openings providing access to parking or loading facilities shall about the Capitol Square, State Street or King Street.
- 3. Fences and walls shall be architecturally compatible with the principal structure.

### (h) Screening of Rooftop Equipment.

- All rooftop equipment, with the exception of solar and wind equipment, shall be screened from view from adjacent streets and public rights-of-way. Rooftop equipment shall be screened from view from adjacent buildings to the extent possible.
- 2. The equipment shall be within an enclosure. This structure shall be set back a distance of one and one-half (1½) times its height from any primary facade fronting a public street. Screens shall be of durable, permanent materials (not including wood) that are compatible with the primary building materials. (Am. by ORD-15-00104, 10-15-15)