

AGENDA # 4

City of Madison, Wisconsin

REPORT OF: URBAN DESIGN COMMISSION

PRESENTED: March 11, 2015

TITLE: 4901 Tradewinds Parkway – Public
Project, 2015 Unit Well 31 Water
Treatment Plant and Ground Storage
Reservoir in UDD No. 1. 16th Ald. Dist.
(37553)

REFERRED:

REREFERRED:

REPORTED BACK:

AUTHOR: Alan J. Martin, Secretary

ADOPTED:

POF:

DATED: March 11, 2015

ID NUMBER:

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

SUMMARY:

At its meeting of March 11, 2015, the Urban Design Commission **RECEIVED AN INFORMATIONAL PRESENTATION** for a public project, 2015 Unit Well 31 water treatment plant and ground storage reservoir in UDD No. 1. Appearing on behalf of the project were Doug Hursh and Adam Wiederhoeft, both representing Madison Water Utility. This project will address issues of fire protection in this area, provides a redundant supply source for this pressure zone and really increases the system’s stability overall. The project has been in development since 2008 when they started to evaluate sites and implementing test wells; this step would place facility components around that well. Cut stone will be used on the building, which is reminiscent of older wells throughout the City. Brick and precast will also be used as the building is rather large. Glass block will be used up high to get natural light into the building. A chain link fence may be used for security purposes, in a tighter weave to provide sunscreening as well. The Secretary noted that there may be adjustments needed to the landscape plan as the Zoning Code dictates landscaping the side yard area.

Comments and questions from the Commission were as follows:

- I’d like you to rethink this landscape. This is Water Utility and this is a very pedestrian landscape plan. It doesn’t give any feeling of what’s going on here. Portland, OR has done great things with theirs so people can see what happens with the water, what happens when it rains, the filtration systems, pond, there’s an art element. You can play with that. Instead of doing this very utilitarian, let’s celebrate what Water Utility is doing out here.
 - We’re following what was approved for this area. This site is relatively full with what’s happening here, there isn’t a lot of area to do what you’re suggesting on this site here. We also have to keep maintenance in mind.
- I would really be concerned about using Yellow Birch here.
- Is there some way the site could be more economical about how much paving you have?

- There are some large vehicles we're trying to accommodate in a weekly routine of delivering items to the storage area.

Couldn't it be designed in such a way that there is only vehicle access on one side?

We talked about that but our larger vehicles don't want to be backing out of that area.

It would be helpful for us to see, if you're using that much pavement how your vehicle movements work in and around the site.

- There doesn't seem to be a need for a patio there if there are no workers here during the day.
 - There are people there every day, but no one is there all day.
- Thinking about why it's so important to have shrubs that follow the line of the building; maybe this could be more of a form that relates to the overall site that's a bit more natural. Look at that.

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 6.

URBAN DESIGN COMMISSION PROJECT RATING FOR: 4901 Tradewinds Parkway

	Site Plan	Architecture	Landscape Plan	Site Amenities, Lighting, Etc.	Signs	Circulation (Pedestrian, Vehicular)	Urban Context	Overall Rating
Member Ratings	-	6	5	-	-	-	-	-
	5	7	5	-	-	7	9	6

General Comments:

- More creative landscaping should be investigated.
- Work on landscape issues per comments made.