

City of Madison, Wisconsin

REPORT OF: URBAN DESIGN COMMISSION

PRESENTED: September 16, 2015

TITLE: 201 South Gammon Road – Façade Alteration, Color Change for Painting of Existing Steel Fascia, “James Madison Memorial High School.” 19th Ald. Dist. (40094)

REFERRED:

REREFERRED:

REPORTED BACK:

AUTHOR: Alan J. Martin, Secretary

ADOPTED:

POF:

DATED: September 16, 2015

ID NUMBER:

Members present were: Richard Wagner, Chair; Lois Braun-Oddo, Cliff Goodhart, Tom DeChant, Dawn O’Kroley, Michael Rosenblum, Richard Slayton and Sheri Carter.

SUMMARY:

At its meeting of September 16, 2015, the Urban Design Commission **REFERRED** consideration of a façade alteration located at 201 South Gammon Road for James Madison Memorial High School. Appearing on behalf of the project were Jay Affeldt and Bill Montelbano, representing Memorial High School. The school was completed in 1966 and this would be the first time the fascia would be repainted. Painting the fascia a more green color will help to settle the building more into the landscaping from most view points. The Secretary noted that this is a public building as well as a façade change. In looking at other school buildings you typically see lighter colors; several material samples that were shown were darker. The painting of the school’s large fascia is a departure from a more integrated architectural statement

Comments and questions from the Commission were as follows:

- We’re not seeing the relationship of how it would be to the brick of the middle school, or the band of the middle school.
- The brick and the new shade of green don’t relate at all.
- If it’s not an improvement then I would recommend it staying the way it is. Especially with Jefferson there, and other elements that are brown or buff colored. To introduce a new color that is coincidentally the school colors seems to me not an improvement to the building.
 - Our interior doors, the lockers are all painted this color. For me and all those in the school that see those colors regularly, this is what feels natural to us. When staff was polled it was unanimous on this color, that’s what we see inside everyday and to have the outside match, from our view it’s a significant improvement.
- There are color values in the brick and in that ornament band around it that should be used to determine the color.
- I think the green is an improvement over what’s there now.
- It has an integrity of its own period; it’s like putting a false façade on something now. That’s not good architecture.

- The green landscape is only for how many months? This just overly draws attention to the band.
- Maybe pick up some of the browns in the building?
- Or something cooler. Not yellow but gray, blue gray, it depends on the brick. But I would agree with staying with something more in keeping with the current building, rather than a strong accent as a composition would keep the building stronger.
- We ought to have some sample of the brick.
- If that precast is already painted white, maybe that's where you put some green that's done as an accent rather than a major architectural feature.

ACTION:

On a motion by Slayton, seconded by Goodhart, the Urban Design Commission **REFERRED** consideration of this item. The motion was passed on a vote of (7-0). The motion provided that the applicant return to the Commission with examples of colors that blend with the brick or the window mullions and the suggestion that the large white panels may be appropriate for painting with the school color.