



Project Address: 702 Pflaum Road

Application Type: Public Building

Additions and Renovations LaFollette High School – Initial/Final Approval is Requested

Legistar File ID # [65571](#)

Prepared By: Kevin Firchow, Acting UDC Secretary

Background Information

Applicant | Contact: Brandon Halverson, Madison Metropolitan School District | Colleen O’Meara, Eppstein Uhen Architects

Project Description: The applicant is seeking initial/final approval for additions and renovations the school and athletic grounds for LaFollette High School. The scope of work includes multiple improvements such as the development of a new welcome center, classrooms, performing arts spaces, fitness facility, the addition of entrances and elevators. While only the building improvements are before UDC, several site improvements are also proposed.

Project Schedule:

- The Landmarks Commission found that this proposal did NOT adversely affect the adjacent landmark (Dean House) at their on May 17, 2021 (Legistar #[65202](#)).
- The Plan Commission is scheduled to review this proposal on July 12, 2021.

Approval Standards: The UDC is an **approving body** for Public Buildings. Per MGO Section 33.24(4)(d), the Urban Design Commission shall approve plans for all buildings proposed to be built or expanded in the City by the State of Wisconsin, the University of Wisconsin, the City of Madison, Dane County, the Federal Government or any other local governmental entity which has the power to levy taxes on property located within the City. Please note, while the UDC may provide advisory recommendations related to site and landscape considerations, this section of code provides the UDC approving authority on the buildings themselves.

Summary of Design Considerations and Recommendations

The UDC is an approving body on this request. As a development adjacent to a local landmark (Dean House at 4718 Monona Drive) the Zoning Code requires that the Landmarks Commission provides an advisory recommendation as to whether the development is “so large or visually intrusive as to adversely affect the historic character or integrity of the adjacent landmark.” As noted above, the Landmarks Commission made a finding that the proposed changes would NOT adversely impact the Dean House. In the staff report to the Landmarks Commission, the Landmarks Commission Secretary noted that the site is technically adjacent to the landmark Nathaniel Dean house, located approximately 1,300 feet away from the property boundary with the school. Most of that parcel contains a golf course. The landscaping features between the landmarked structure and the school make the school itself minimally visible from the Dean House, and the additions would not be visible.

The Planning Division does not have other design related staff comments for the Urban Design Commission.