

Stavn, Stephanie

From: Ralph Jackson <rjacksonllc@tds.net>
Sent: Friday, October 18, 2019 7:01 PM
To: Hook, Jeff; 'Anthony Cooper-Nehemiah'; 'Gary Hamblin'; 'Linda Hoskins'; Nygaard, Christopher; Rusk, Paul; Stavn, Stephanie; McCarville, Maureen; Mahoney, David; 'Leah Wisdorf'
Cc: Pabellon, Carlos
Subject: Re: Review Committee Meeting

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Hello All

I regret that I will be out of the country and therefore not able to attend the first "official" meeting of the Replacement Jail Review Committee on October 29th. However, Jeff Hook was willing to accommodate me by providing an informal preview of the preliminary version of the proposed Schematic Phase plans for the project which the rest of you will see then. Accordingly, I met for an hour this morning with Jeff Heil, and reviewed the current version. As a result I would like to share with you some of my observations relative to the architectural and programming aspects of what I saw, as I would have if I were able to join you on the 29th.

1. The fact that the structural realities of the existing PSB do not permit the vertical expansion originally envisioned seems to have become an advantage in terms of the potential for the actual project to provide more appropriate responses to the program.
2. I believe that the design team has listened to the community relative to topics such as in-person visitation, and has provided well thought out responses in the proposed layouts.
3. Many areas of the existing PSB will be extensively renovated in creative ways which meet the program, in spite of constraints imposed by the existing building's structure, shape and fixed elements such as exit stairs and elevators.
4. I appreciate the fact that, although there is a "standard" size and configuration for most of the general population's cells, the proposal accommodates special needs inmates with a variety of cell sizes and designs.
5. The proposed co-location of all of the medical and mental health programs on the contiguous 4th floor spaces of the PSB and new tower should offer efficient staffing opportunities.
6. The provision of numerous program spaces of various shapes and sizes within each unit should greatly reduce the need for "accompanied" transfer of inmates.
7. The layout on the 1st floor accommodates discharge release, but is a bit awkward in requiring reentry to the main lobby to contact the "release resource" reentry coordinator. Consideration should be given for the provision of opportunities to more conveniently recharge cell phones and access practical information that will be needed for a successful reentry to society..

8. It appears that maximum advantage has been taken of opportunities for natural light, including the addition of skylights through the PSB roof.. The South facing two story windows on the upper floors of the tower should allow natural light to penetrate deeply into those pods. I suggest that exterior architectural elements be provided on those windows to direct and control that light appropriately.

9. Overall, I am impressed with the way in which the proposed floor plan configurations seem to accommodate the programed spaces in a functional and comprehensible way in spite of the constrains imposed by the realities of the existing site and facilities.

10. Finally, in response to the numerous current initiatives in Dane County which are aimed at the legitimate further reduction in the jail population, I urge the County Board to instruct the design team to consider appropriate ways to redesign some of what is currently shown as space for cells into additional program space in as many of the units as possible. This should be done in ways which would permit conversion of those spaces back to cell space when, and if, that were needed in the future. Perhaps that could be accomplished by taking advantage of the potential for minimally disruptive access for construction crews and materials through the service spaces along the exterior walls.

Thank you for this opportunity to preview the plans and to express my views prior to the meeting. I look forward to rejoining the committee at the next scheduled meeting.

Sincerely

Ralph Jackson AIA

On 10/4/2019 10:23 AM, Hook, Jeff wrote:

The next meeting of the Review Committee will be a joint meeting with PP&J on October 29th. We have not determined the exact time yet but it will most likely be around 5:00 or 5:30. I wanted to give you as much advance notice as possible. I know Ralph leaves town on the 20th for three weeks. We have been working for the past few week to schedule a meeting but there have many conflicts. I look forward to bringing you all up to date on our progress. I will get you more details soon.

Thanks,

Jeff Hook