

DSR25-003 – Study Session

March 5, 2025

Description (brief):

The Encounter Church Improvements project will expand the existing Narthex and enhance the aesthetics of the current building. The scope includes refinishing the existing brick veneer and wood siding, infill of existing window openings, replacement of the patio and play area surfaces and expansion of the Narthex which will include a larger roof, structural foundations and slabs, exterior curtain walls with entrance doors, installation of interior finishes, and associated mechanical, plumbing, and electrical work. The proposed materials and colors will greatly enhance the horizontal, vertical, foreground, and background pieces of the building, creating a more pleasing texture and street appeal. Please review the attached project narrative for more information.

Description (full):

The Encounter Church Improvements project will expand the existing Narthex and enhance the aesthetics of the current building. The scope includes refinishing the existing brick veneer and wood siding, infill of existing window openings, replacement of the patio and play area surfaces and expansion of the Narthex which will include a larger roof, structural foundations and slabs, exterior curtain walls with entrance doors, installation of interior finishes, and associated mechanical, plumbing, and electrical work. The proposed materials and colors will greatly enhance the horizontal, vertical, foreground, and background pieces of the building, creating a more pleasing texture and street appeal.

The proposed expansion is set back approximately 5 feet from the exterior wall of the Sanctuary. The existing Church structure to the east of the expansion is further set back approximately 10 feet, so the entire north façade of the Church has 3 intervals of modulation creating visual interest and human scale. The height of the expansion does not surpass the adjacent Sanctuary and the footprint of the expansion roof is aligned with the Sanctuary. The ground level façade of the Narthex expansion that faces the public way is almost entirely a glass curtain wall which provides visual interest for the nearby public and those entering the Church.

Currently the building is monochromatic, and the new colorway will make use of three beige tones, a dark grey for the existing side and a lighter grey for the existing brick. The colors were chosen to be cohesive with the existing Church structures while also creating visual interest.

Purpose of the study session:

To meet with the design commission to discuss project concepts before the plans are fully developed. At this session, which will be open to the public, the applicant should provide information regarding its site, the intended mix of uses, and how it will fit into the focus area objectives. The design commission may provide feedback to be considered in the design of the project.