



March 19, 2025

Proposed Improvements Narrative:

Yeshivas Ohr Reuven's (YOR) mission is to provide an enriching Hebrew and General Studies education within a positive, nurturing environment. Our goal is to develop in our students a sense of respect, a heightened sense of self-esteem, and a clear sense of individual and collective responsibility to America, the Jewish community and Israel. Our curriculum is designed to ensure that our students will grow up to lead meaningful, happy and productive lives.

Yeshivas Ohr Reuven, is a religious Orthodox Jewish institution, with approximately 300 K-8 students and approximately 85 high school (9-12) students. Most of our students are day students, but some high school students live on site in our dormitory building. Yeshivas Ohr Reuven employs both full- time and part- time faculty and staff members. Three daily prayer services are held on site, and dormitory students spend every day on-site, including weekends.

The proposed faculty housing and dormitory expansion will primarily benefit the high school. Our high school program begins with morning prayers at 7:40am, and concludes with evening prayers at 8:45pm every weekday. During that time, the students are taught both Jewish and general studies. Jewish studies include, but are not limited to; Bible study, Talmud, Jewish Law, and Jewish History. General Studies include, but are not limited to; Global History, U.S. History & Government, Algebra, Geometry, Trigonometry, Calculus, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Public Speech, English Language Arts, and Computer Science.

Our focus is to provide necessary resources to each student as it becomes necessary. As such, we offer after school programs and resources in which faculty mentor students after classes have ended. Our Faculty rotates throughout the day, meaning, that some faculty will end at 1:00pm, others at 3:00 and still others at 6:15pm, depending on what subject they are teaching daily. This makes it necessary for the faculty to return to the campus after they have finished their day, to offer the resources to these students.

Our proposal for on-site faculty housing will not only allow us to provide more resources to the students, but will have a positive impact on the faculty and community by providing a short term living space on campus. Less vehicular traffic, congestion, parking, and noise and environmental pollution, are all benefits of this proposal.

The proposed housing would be for faculty and their families. The proposed housing is not designed for long term living, but rather for our faculty (in many cases our own alumni), to begin their lives, remaining productive within the school that has

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nurtured them - in some cases from kindergarten – and to give back to the next generation of students.

We expect that a faculty member would spend two to three years in residence before moving to more permanent housing off-site.

Normal growth as an institution makes it necessary to provide safe and sustainable parking areas for our faculty, parents, and visitors. This proposal includes additional parking areas as outlined on our application. We are currently at capacity on our parking and have begun to utilize the overflow parking areas on our campus. Additionally, the new parking proposal makes it possible for emergency vehicles to move through the campus more easily. The proposal includes resurfacing of the existing paving as well, a much needed improvement.

In addition, our proposal asks for a small dormitory expansion as outlined on the application. This too, will allow our students a bit more room (2 student lounges are included on the design) allowing for a more productive environment. Specialists in several fields were consulted to assist with the design elements to ensure the most comfortable and creative environment, while adding safety features to the dormitory that have become necessary since its original construction 18 years ago. The exterior fascia will be updated as well giving the campus a much needed facelift.

Taking into consideration the benefit achieved from after school resources and the availability of 24 hours, 7 days a week faculty access by our students, greater supervision for our students by faculty who are familiar to them, and the greater safety and security gained from having our faculty on campus 24 hours, 7 days a week, we feel strongly that this proposal has the ability to add considerably to our already privileged programming.

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