

**BALTIMORE CITY DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING
URBAN DESIGN AND ARCHITECTURE REVIEW PANEL
MEETING MINUTES**

Date: March 11, 2015

Project: Frederick Elementary School – 21st Century School Initiative

Phase: Discussion

Location: Frederick Ave/West Baltimore

PRESENTATION:

Mr. Joe Mayzck, project manager with the MD Stadium Authority began the discussion based on comments from the previous UDARP presentation. Paul Swartz of USA Architects and Michael Fisher from Site Resources continued the discussion pointing out the major changes since the last presentation. The changes are as follows:

- The elimination of the access drive on Millington Avenue and revisions to the major vehicular entrance drive from Frederick Avenue;
- The creation of a stronger “see-through” entrance/linking element between the existing and new buildings and the accompanying changes to the rear outdoor learning/play areas and the secondary parking area,
- The introduction of an architectural character for the proposed building.

Comments from the Panel:

The Panel was appreciative of the changes to the project responding to previous comments - particularly regarding the elimination of the Millington Ave auto entrance/exit and the introduction of the “see through” feature between the two buildings. The Panel feels that the project would benefit greatly from additional study and response in the following areas:

1. **Primary Entry Pedestrian Promenade from Frederick Avenue** – The Panel voiced concern about the tight pedestrian walkway along the existing building and suggested that this area be restudied and made to be more gracious and friendly. Suggestions for an row of trees extending along the path to the street were made as a way to extend the entrance promenade as well as provide some buffer from the parking lot.
2. **Need for marking the entrance in a stronger way** - The main entrance is not at all clearly marked and there needs to be some element introduced to strengthen the identity of that component. Suggestions included a covered walkway or a vertical permanent architectural marker of some type....perhaps employing materials suggested by the new addition materials.
3. **New Architectural Expression** – the Panel expressed support of the introduction of the three color format for the new building..... particularly as expressed on the rendering of the Millington end of the new building. It was suggested that the re-application of elements from that design motifs could be employed in tying together the main entrance and the community entrance on Frederick Avenue with the new building.
4. **Existing Building** – it was suggested strongly that more effort is required in making changes or adding elements to the existing building that tie the two building together in a meaningful way.

Panel Action: Discussion only, no action required.

Attending:

Joe Mayzck, Brent Miller – MD Stadium Authority
Paul Swartz – USA Architects
Michael Fisher – Site Resources

Kate Brower, Tracey Estep – Baltimore City Rec + Parks
Will Doane – City Schools
Eric Lyons – FTLA
Charlie Ravenna – CSP

Dr. Meany; Messrs. Bowden*, and Rubin - UDARP Panel

Director Tom Stosur, Anthony Cataldo, Christina Gaymon, Reni Lawal, Aaron Bond,
Kyle Leggs, Katie-Rose Imbriano, Sara Paraniham –Planning Dept