

Date January 25, 2010


RECEIVE AND FILE LETTER FROM URBAN DESIGN REVIEW BOARD FOR RECOMMENDATION ON FRANKLIN AVENUE LIBRARY RENOVATION PROJECT

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DES MOINES, IOWA:

That the letter from Urban Design Review Board regarding their recommendation on the Franklin Avenue Library renovation project be and is hereby received.

Moved by _____ to receive and file the letter.

FORM APPROVED:


 Ann DiDonato
 Assistant City Attorney

COUNCIL ACTION	YEAS	NAYS	PASS	ABSENT
COWNIE				
COLEMAN				
GRIESS				
HENSLEY				
MAHAFFEY				
MEYER				
MOORE				
TOTAL				

CERTIFICATE

I, DIANE RAUH, City Clerk of said City hereby certify that at a meeting of the City Council of said City of Des Moines, held on the above date, among other proceedings the above was adopted.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal the day and year first above written.

MOTION CARRIED APPROVED

 Mayor

 City Clerk

January 5, 2010

RE: URBAN DESIGN REVIEW BOARD RECOMMENDATION ON
FRANKLIN AVENUE LIBRARY

Honorable Mayor and City Council Members:

The Urban Design Review Board, at its January 5, 2010 meeting, voted to approve the Franklin Avenue Library project with the stipulation that the existing mature oak trees on the south side of the building remain in place. The Board did not find that sufficient evidence of need had been presented for the trees to be removed, or that all avenues had been fully explored to retain the trees.

The Board's motion also included a recommendation for a potential alternative. The trees could remain in place and be trimmed or pruned, then over the course of 1-3 seasons, allow the economic value of the energy savings to be assessed until acceptable energy savings levels have been obtained.

The Board felt very strongly that the mature oak trees are a valuable resource for the Franklin Avenue Library site, the neighborhood and the City of Des Moines.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide design review assistance for public projects.

Sincerely,



Jeffrey Morgan, RA, AIA, NCARB
Chair, Urban Design Review Board



URBAN DESIGN REVIEW BOARD

CITY HALL
400 EAST FIRST ST.
DES MOINES, IOWA 50309-1891
(515) 283-4004

All American City 1949, 1976, 1981

JAN 25 2010

Date _____

Agenda Item 18

Roll Call # _____



January 22, 2010

The Honorable T.M. Franklin Cownie, Mayor
Members of the City Council
City Hall
400 Robert D. Ray Drive
Des Moines, IA 50309

Dear Mayor Cownie and Members of the City Council:

The library was notified several months ago that it was awarded an I-Jobs grant for \$2.2 million to help renovate and expand the Franklin Avenue Library. The primary reason why the library was successful in this highly competitive arena is that we committed to pursue a LEED Platinum designation. This category not only requires a reduction of the buildings carbon footprint but requires that a reasonable percentage of the energy that will be used is generated at the building site.

To achieve LEED Platinum our architect and engineer have indicated that employing two types of solar energy systems, solar thermal and photovoltaic, on Franklin's roof will achieve the necessary energy generation, reduce ongoing library costs, and allow the team to claim the maximum number of points to achieve the desired classification. After careful review and study by the architectural team, the Library Board and the Library Building Committee, we believe the removal of some trees surrounding the Franklin Library is necessary to assist us in achieving the necessary LEED points.

This position is not taken lightly. In fact, we have consulted with members of the Council in our deliberations. We want you to know that we have every intention of honoring the city policy regarding tree-stock by replacing the current trees on the library lot and cemetery side of the lot with appropriate trees. (We thank Councilman Moore for his time in talking with Library Board member Jule Thorsen in regard to this requirement).

I want to assure you that the Board values all of the input we have received regarding this important project in Des Moines. Every effort will be made to ensure that the overall function and beauty both within and outside the new library meets the goals of the community. We are excited that Des Moines has the opportunity to showcase a Platinum LEED building and we thank you for your continued support of our efforts.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Susan Voss".

Susan Voss
President, Library Board of Trustees

cc: Richard A. Clark, City Manager
Jeb Brewer, City Engineer
Saul Amdursky, Library Director

www.desmoineslibrary.com

Central Library
1000 Grand Avenue
Des Moines, IA 50309
TEL 515.283.4152
FAX 515.237.1654

East Side Library
2559 Hubbell Avenue
Des Moines, IA 50317
TEL 515.283.4152

Forest Avenue Library
1326 Forest Avenue
Des Moines, IA 50314
TEL 515.283.4152

Franklin Avenue Library
5000 Franklin Avenue
Des Moines, IA 50310
TEL 515.283.4152

North Side Library
3516-5th Avenue
Des Moines, IA 50313
TEL 515.283.4152

South Side Library
1111 Porter Avenue
Des Moines, IA 50315
TEL 515.283.4152