



PROJECT MEMORANDUM

Date: July 26, 2012
To: Jeff Kahan, AICP
From: Rob Sherman
CC: Terry Black-AATA, Stephen Kromkowski, File
Project: 1041.6366.00 – Ann Arbor Transportation Authority
Blake Transit Center Design and Construction
City Project: SP12-016 331 S. Fourth Avenue
Subject: City of Ann Arbor Planning Commission Comments and Plan Response

The following is a summary of review comments discussed at the recent Planning Commission meeting conducted on July 17, 2012. The Petitioner, as discussed during the Planning Commission meeting, acknowledges that Commission's comments are valid considerations and many of the comments were discussed during the course of the development of the design for this Project, including presentations and discussion with the Downtown Development Authority and the Ann Arbor Design Review Board. The Petitioner has re-examined the design since the Planning Commission's meeting and has made the following revisions to the overall design.

Landscaping with the Blake Transit Center property limits

1. The operational needs of the center must be met to provide for functional efficiency and to provide public safety to the patrons, staff, and community. The result provides an increased amount of hardscape for transit bus and pedestrian queing and traffic. The design revisions have increased the extent of planting areas within the plaza west of the building and along the south face of the building. In addition, installation of street trees has been indentified along 5th Avenue east of the building and S. Fourth Avenue. Species selection has been coordinated and discussed with the City's Urban Forest and Natural Resource Planning Coordinator.
2. The installation of "green screen" along the south property line, west of the building has been eliminated and replaced with trees and shrubs.

Visible Recognition of Building while approaching from the north.

1. In addition to the original "The Ride" logo identified on the east building face, an additional logo signage has been placed on the north building face to increase visibility of the facility.
2. Provisions for exterior pedestrian-level signage will be addressed to increase awareness of the facility and wayfinding for the public, especially along S. 5th Avenue. The signage design documents have not been finalized at this time and will be developed under a future design package. The signage design and installation is expected to be completed prior to the completion of this Project's completion. Similarly a public art commission, which will be installed with the new Blake Center development, will be under a separate future design package.

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