

Report on Resident Participation Meeting
For 521-529 Detroit Street held on
October 5, 2021

Meeting

On October 5, 2021 at 7 pm, a Resident Participation meeting was held in person at 529 Detroit Street as well as hosted via Zoom. A postcard (copy attached) was mailed to all residents located within 1000 feet of the site of the proposed project.

Attendees

The postcards were mailed on September 20 and 21 to 1,020 addresses furnished by the City of Ann Arbor. Seven residents attended in person and three participated via Zoom (copy of attendance sheet attached).

Comments from Residents/Responses from Redeemer

Several expressions of support and comments of approval for the project were voiced during the meeting, especially for the level of attention being given to the restoration of the building to its historical appearance in the late 1800's. There was no opposition voiced to the proposal for the building to become a church.

Two principal concerns surfaced during the meeting. The first was what provisions we were making for parking during our Sunday morning worship service. The response given at the time was: 1) the onsite lot will accommodate 17 cars, 2) the public parking lots at Community High School and Fourth and Catherine, and 3) we plan to approach whoever occupies the former Human Element building regarding parking on Sunday once we are closer to needing the parking. The neighbors asked for something more specific and definitive to accommodate the parking needs during the Sunday morning service.

The second concern was that the landscaping plan around the building should be more in keeping with the historical time period to which the building was being restored.

The concerns were good and valid, and we were grateful for the input. Here are our further thoughts in response.

Parking: We surveyed parking lot use in the immediate area at 10 am on the three Sundays subsequent to the meeting. Results are attached. There is an average of 150 open parking spaces in these lots at the time of the beginning of our service each Sunday. This does not include the metered parking along Depot between 4th and Division or street parking. We have made arrangements with Ferguson, Widmayer (538 N. Division) for our staff to park in their lot. We will request permission to use the former Human Element lot (617 Detroit Street) once there is a

new tenant in there. From our experience at our current location at 611 ½ East William Street, our people are used to parking a distance from the church and walking.

We estimate a maximum capacity at the church building of 350; we currently average 100. We expect that at least 15% of attendees would walk, bike or take the bus (53). If we estimate 3 people per car (we have a number of families), we would need 100 parking spaces. Our parking lot will accommodate 17. The estimates in the paragraph above more than meet the needs.

Landscaping: We took notes on species were recommended during the meeting as suitable for landscaping the building and tried to include as many of them as feasible in our revised landscaping plan.

Bart Bryant, Pastor
Redeemer Ann Arbor