



Madison Metro Transit System

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July 13, 2006

TO: Plan Commission
FROM: Timothy Sobota, Transit Planner, Metro Transit
SUBJECT: **203 Wisconsin Avenue – First United Methodist Church**

Metro Transit has reviewed the subject development and has the following comments.

MAJOR OR NON-STANDARD REVIEW COMMENTS (Comments which are special to the project and/or may require additional work beyond a standard, more routine project.)

1. Metro Transit recommends rejection of the current plans, as they relate to the proposed driveway access point on East Dayton Street that would serve the proposed surface parking lot at the corner of East Dayton Street and Wisconsin Avenue.
2. The applicant shall install a concrete passenger boarding pad on the north side of East Dayton Street, approximately 25 feet east of the crosswalk along the east side of Wisconsin Avenue. The concrete pad shall occupy the full distance of the terrace, measure 6 feet in width parallel to the street, and lie flush between the sidewalk and the top of curb.
3. The applicant shall draft and record an easement agreement with the City of Madison, providing an area fifteen feet long (parallel to East Dayton Street) and measuring ten feet from the back of the existing back of sidewalk. The purpose of this easement would be for the City of Madison and Metro Transit to install and maintain bus passenger amenities as may be required in the future to serve this bus stop location (i.e. bus shelter, benches, trash receptacles).
4. The applicant shall include the location of these passenger amenities and the easement agreement in the final documents filed with their permit application so that Metro Transit may review and approve the project.

GENERAL OR STANDARD REVIEW COMMENTS

In addition, we offer the following General or Standard Review Comments:

5. Metro Transit has significant concerns with the proposal to create a new driveway approach along East Dayton Street in the vicinity of the Wisconsin Avenue intersection. This block face is currently used as the primary westbound bus stop and layover point for all Metro Transit routes when special events, construction, or other emergency detours require that buses not operate directly around the Capitol Square. This outer ring bus stop will frequently have multiple 40 foot buses parked along the curb of East Dayton Street stretching from Wisconsin Avenue back towards Pinckney Street, as they await their scheduled departure time and permit passengers to transfer between vehicles.
6. Metro Transit currently closes the on-street parking stalls and boards passengers from the adjacent curb as special events or other reasons dictate the use of this bus stop location.
7. The usage of this outer ring bus stop is constant throughout the season of the Dane County Farmer's market, as well as during other regularly scheduled events such as Concerts on the Square, Jazz at Five, etc. This year saw a major increase in use of the stop during a month-long construction project on the Capitol Square streets. In the past, Metro Transit has also been asked by City policy makers about the potential of permanently relocating all transit routes to the Outer Ring detour streets (i.e. East Dayton Street), in various permutations of

frequency (i.e. every weekend, all summer long, etc.)

8. Installation of a driveway access point at the proposed location would severely limit the City's ability to use this block face as an effective bus stop location – both as a regular Outer Ring detour bus stop or more importantly as a permanent boarding point in response to a route relocation such has been questioned in the past. Car traffic accessing the proposed parking lot could face significant delays in both entering and exiting due to the long queue of buses needing to block the driveway as they await their scheduled departure time and transfer passengers. Bus passengers with limited mobility would encounter greater difficulty boarding and exiting buses as they step between the bottom of the driveway apron and the threshold of the bus doorway – as opposed to the shorter height difference between the top of a curb face and the entry of the bus.
9. Given past inquires about using this bus stop location on a more permanent basis, Metro Transit is making the request for an easement on the property that would permit the City of Madison to install bus passenger amenities similar to those found on the Capitol Square. While present usage of the stop may warrant immediate installation of benches (similar to those adjacent the City-County Building and that Outer Ring bus stop location), it would be of significant importance to have this easement space available in the future in order to provide a passenger waiting shelter should the stop ever take on greater importance and usage.
10. Metro Transit would propose that the Plan Commission and Common Council require relocation of the proposed driveway and parking lot such that it takes access off of Wisconsin Avenue instead of East Dayton Street. A more complicated alternative would be a requirement to alter the building footprints on this project and the neighboring site such that an internal circulation route from the proposed parking lot to one of the alleyways leading to East Johnson Street, or the driveway on the opposite end of East Dayton Street near North Pinckney Street, be established.
11. Metro Transit requests to sign and review final documents submitted for this project.

Please contact Tim Sobota, Metro Transit at 261-4289
or by email at <tsobota@cityofmadison.com>
if you have questions regarding the above items.

CC: Project contact person, Matt Garrett: garrett@strang-inc.com (email)

Atch. Exhibit page "C202 Site layout plan – Phase 2" [5/10/2006], notated by Metro Transit



STRANG

ARCHITECTURE
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ISSUED FOR:
**PLAN COMMISSION
REVIEW**
NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION

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REVISIONS

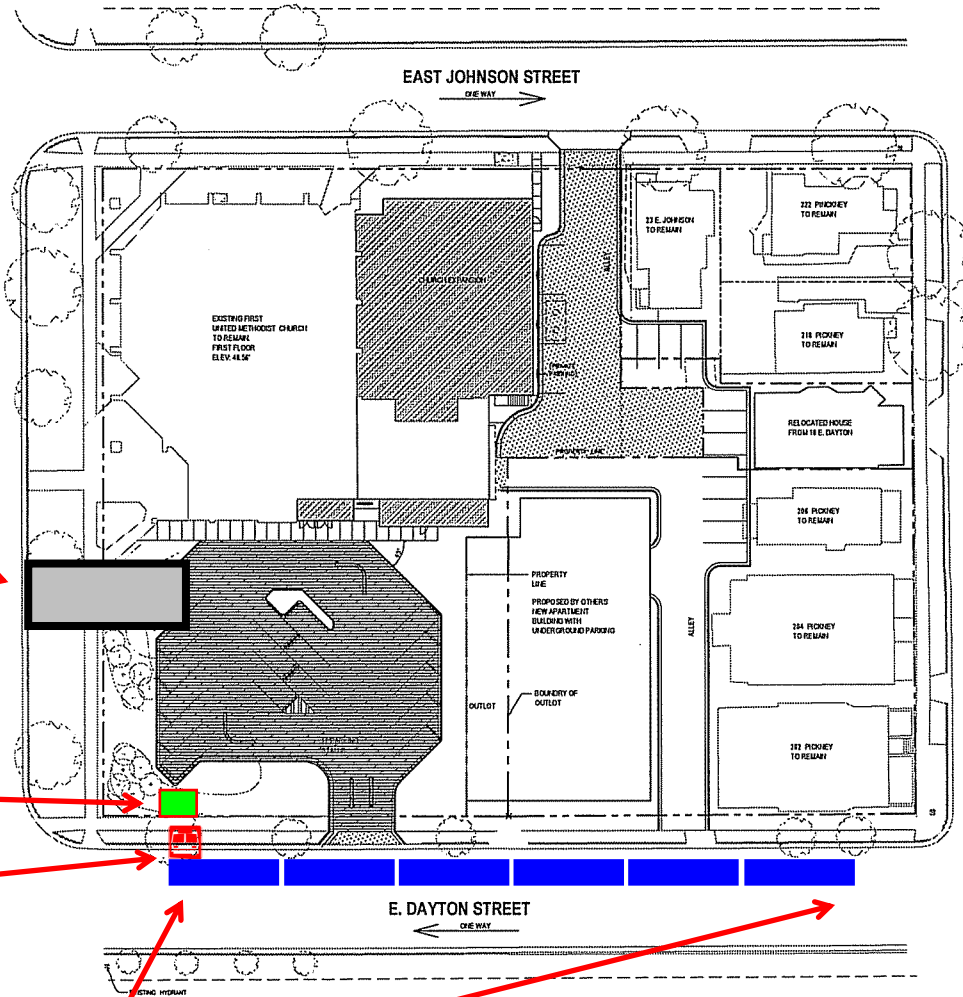
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CHECKED MG
DATE 5/16/06
PROJECT NO. 2003042

PROJECT TITLE
**FIRST UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH
DOWNTOWN
EXPANSION**

303 WISCONSIN AVE
MADISON, WI

SHEET TITLE
**SITE LAYOUT
PLAN - PHASE 2**

SHEET NO.
C202



Alternate driveway?

Approximate area of easement

Concrete boarding pad

Approximate bus parking currently

GENERAL NOTES:
1. LANDSCAPE WORK INCLUDING PLANTINGS, GRAVEL, SITE FURNISHINGS IS NOT IN CONTRACT, BUT WILL BE PROVIDED BY OWNER.

N TN
SITE LAYOUT PLAN PHASE 2
SCALE: 1" = 20'

NOTE:
THIS DRAWING IS FOR REFERENCE ONLY AND IS PRELIMINARY TO INDICATE THE INTENTIONS OF THE ARCHITECT/OWNER.