

Addendum – Church Priorities/Key Objectives for Project

Mission Statement: We are a community of faith united in exploring what it means to follow the way of Jesus Christ, to be a people of God, and to love and care for our neighbors.

Seattle First Baptist Church has served the Seattle-area community for more than 150 years, 110 years in our present First Hill location. We see ourselves as a progressive Christian church, with beliefs and spiritual identification outside or beyond Christianity. Having recently conducted a rigorous long-term planning process, the church recognizes a need for a facility that will support present and new ministries, to both our approximately 300 members and the broader community, well into the future. In that process, we gathered data that helped us recognize changes necessary to thrive, to be a relevant community in the current environment and in our location, and to address barriers to achieving our vision. Our hope is to make changes that as much as possible preserve our present form and create facilities and programs that are true to our current mission and that may not exist in service of the mission. We believe we are capable of making those changes and that many of them are related to our outmoded facilities, which in many ways are in conflict with our values and stewardship goals. To that end, we are seeking to redevelop our present location and facilities—possibly in partnership with other like-minded nonprofit, public, and civic organizations--to reflect, accommodate, and include the following:

1. A Welcome and Affirming Community (welcomes all religious beliefs, cultures, ethnicities, ages)

- architecture, interior design, and art that project a welcoming and affirming community to diverse religious beliefs, cultures, ethnicities, and ages; acknowledgment of the Duwamish people
- access/egress throughout the building for all abilities/disabilities (elevators, ramps, lifts)
- flexible space for meeting and worshipping (inter-faith, ecumenical, public worship, private worship, individual and group meditative worship, civic and community activities) for large and small groups
- more inviting street presence (curb appeal) and sanctuary set up for a non-authoritarian worship style

2. Climate Justice and Environmental Sustainability

- a 'green' building that demonstrates commitment to and programmatic support for climate action and environmental sustainability (solar, heat pumps, water retention, etc.)

3. Social Justice Practices and Ministry

- incorporating BIPOC companies into all aspects of development, design, and construction
- providing below-market-cost space rentals to nonprofits and community groups
- state of the art sound/captioning systems for hearing impaired

4. Multi-use Campus Designed to Serve as a Neighborhood Center

- spaces to accommodate participation in and exhibition of performing and visual arts (music, drama, and dance; painting, sculpture, and pottery, etc.), including space with acoustics, instruments, and sound system to accommodate community concerts
- multiuse activities center capable of supporting fitness activity (volleyball, basketball, yoga)
- fellowship space with kitchen facilities capable of serving large group gatherings
- public 'green' space that includes a small park, landscaping, seating
- low income, market-based, senior housing; apartment space for pastors and staff

5. Church Program Facilities

- improved technology, internet, and sound systems; facilities for recording and broadcast production; **classes/opportunities to reduce the digital divide**
- spaces that support care and education for all ages--nursery, K-12-age, college-age, and adults
- choir rehearsal space, breakout rooms, music library, robe room

6. Church Administration and Logistics

- 5-8 office spaces, flexible staff meeting spaces, large centralized storage facility
- facilities that meet seismic requirements
- adequate, safe, and convenient parking for events and activities (including 10-12 spaces for staff and volunteers, disability parking, drop-off/pickup, valet service spaces)