




DATE: October 19, 2022

TO: Bethesda Downton Plan Design Advisory Panel (DAP)

FROM: Grace Bogdan, Planner III, DownCounty Planning 
Stephanie Dickel, Regulatory Supervisor, DownCounty Planning

RE: Staff comments for the October 26, 2022 DAP Meeting

This will be a hybrid meeting, attendees can participate in person or virtually.

Item #1

7126 Wisconsin Avenue

SK&I Architecture
Foulger Pratt
Parker Rodriguez

- 2nd Site Plan presentation, focusing details and architectural review.
- Project was conceptually presented at the July 2021 DAP and 1st Site Plan presentation at the April 2022 DAP. The Panel had requested the Applicant return with refinements to the base, corner tower, and materials.
- In response to these comments, the submittal materials show:
 - Glazing was added to the mechanical screen to terminate the corner tower top and the screen was recessed for added depths.
 - Corner façade treatment extends down to create a framed outdoor corner portal.
 - Materials have been refined on the facades to show recessed stacked bond of dark accent brick and alternating and protruding stacked stretchers of dark accent brick on either side of windows
- The Applicant was originally seeking 10 points for design excellence, but after the comments from last DAP meeting have increased the request to 5hn. /C20 points for design excellence.
 - *10 Points: Generally consistent with the Design Guidelines and meets four of the CR Guideline Criteria*
 - *20 Points: Superlative design that in a uniquely compelling way meets the Design Guidelines or overcomes a significant site or similar constraint; a top example of design within Montgomery County*
 - *30 Points: Singular design that exemplifies the highest intent of the Design Guidelines and may be considered a top example of design within the Mid-Atlantic region*
- [July 2021 DAP minutes hyperlink](#)
- [April 2022 DAP minutes hyperlink](#)

Item #2

4702 Chevy Chase Drive

Lessard Design Inc

MKSK Studios

- 1st Site Plan presentation, originally reviewed in September 2020 for the Sketch Plan approval, Planning Board approved in December 2020. At that time, the DAP provided the following comments to be addressed at Site Plan:
 - Address loading access design and operation to relocated or limit potential loss of parking on Nottingham Drive.
 - Explore further enhancement of the pedestrian environment on Nottingham Drive including completion of the sidewalk to Norwood Park on the north side of Nottingham Drive.
- The submittal materials show that the proposed number of units has been reduced to 49, which no longer requires a loading space per the Zoning Ordinance, therefore the loading has been removed from the Nottingham Drive frontage.
- The Applicant is requesting 25 points for exceptional design.
- [September 2020 DAP minutes hyperlink](#)