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Newton Lincoln Eliot School - NECP Project

Design Review Committee (DRC) – Status Update for Lincoln-Eliot Project September 8, 2021, 6:00pm, Virtual Meeting via Zoom

Attendees: Carol Schein*, Amy MacKrell*, Marc Kaufman, Peter Barrer*, Ellen Light*, Stephanie Gilman*, Ambrose Donovan*, Maria Leo*, John Mulligan*, Steven Siegel, David Gillespie, Robert Hnasko

* - Denotes Voting Member

Professional Team: Larry Spang, Tina Soo Hoo - Arrowstreet (AST)
Matthew Sturz - Hill International, Inc. (Hill)

Guests: Alejandro Valcarce, Josh Morse - Newton Public Buildings
Emily Prenner, School Committee
Refer to general sign in sheet for additional attendees.

Action Items are denoted in bold/italic font.

Meeting opened at 6:00pm with a brief introduction by A. Valcarce and J. Morse.

Meeting Agenda Item 1 – Design Progress Update for Lincoln-Eliot taken at 6:05pm

Items Discussed:

1. A. Valcarce reported that the Lincoln-Eliot school project had recently been re-started after being put on hold due to COVID uncertainty.
 - a. Schedule-wise, the project remains tied to the NECP project due to the fact that those students are currently located at 150 Jackson Rd.
2. Public Buildings, Newton Public Schools, and the School Committee are working together to refine the Design Enrollment for this building.
 - a. Design Enrollment is currently being re-evaluated due to changes since 2018. E. Prenner from the School Committee provided further detail.
 - i. In 2018, the original project included 24 classrooms (22+2).
 - ii. Significant shifts in the enrollment projections, coupled with an analysis of historic enrollment trends specific to Lincoln-Eliot, caused the project team to re-evaluate the need for 22+2 classrooms; that number was subsequently revised down to 20 classrooms (18+2) based on the updated data.
 - iii. Additionally, an updated Educational Plan was provided, which further supports the 18+2 classroom count, and includes a level of support spaces equivalent to those found in a much larger school.
 - iv. J. Morse agreed to provide a detailed NPS presentation on this topic to the DRC, adding that the emphasis will be on “smart growth”.



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- b. The team is hoping to have a School Committee vote on the revised Design Enrollment in late September.
3. By way of final comment, A. Valcarce added that the project as designed includes “core spaces” (Gym, Media Center, Cafetorium, etc.) that are not diminished as a result of the reduction in classroom count.
 - a. The building floor plan and site master plan are being designed to be able to readily add a 4-classroom addition in the future should capacity become a concern.
4. The floor was opened for questions from the DRC. None received.

Members of the project team signed off and the meeting continued with subsequent agenda items at 6:16pm.

To the best of my knowledge, these notes are a fair representation of the items discussed at the meeting. Additional items or corrections should be brought to the attention of the writer. Submitted by: Matthew Sturz 9/10/21