

***Creating Design Solutions, LLC***

5020 Vallejo Street  
Denver, CO 80221

Albert@cds.stuido  
954.203.6372

June 21, 2023

Planning & Development Services  
15151 E Alameda Pkwy #2300  
Aurora, CO 80012

RE: Eritrean Orthodox Church (#1440616) – Introduction Letter

To whom it may concern,

I am writing this letter as an introduction to the Eritrean Orthodox Church project located at 15828 E. Centretech Circle, Aurora, CO.

The church will consist of a main/ground level as well as a basement level of approximately 7,000 square feet (each floor) for a place for worship, baptism, and education. The church will only be occupied on Sundays and occasional Thursdays and/or Saturdays.

The ground level will be the main gathering place for religion and prayer, and consist of bathrooms, crying/baptism room, stairs to basement, vestry, accessory storage, apse, and altar. Outside on the ground level, will provide a courtyard for collaboration, gathering and meeting before and after religious functions located on the South side of the site, while the parking lot will be located on the North side. Below the main level, will contribute to religious events which could not function in the courtyard due to weather, and provide an opportunity for Sunday school. This area will be composed of a catering area, classroom, funding office, changing rooms (for the priest and altar boys/girls), storage, utilities, and bathrooms.

The orientation of the building was determined based on the Orthodox Religion, where the Apse/Altar would face due East, for the rising sun, while the entrance will face due West for setting of the sun. A courtyard was oriented to face the South and provide as much sun exposure to the open area during the winter months, and shade during the summer months. The parking lot to the North enabled the most parking along the lot, and easy access and procession to the front entry. Considering the neighbors to the North and South, privacy walls or landscape walls were provided to help obscure each structure, while incorporating the necessary setbacks and landscape. Although the North wall is within the required 12'-0" of the property line, we felt that considering the neighboring parking lot had an additional landscape buffer in front of the lot, the 2'-0" encroachment wouldn't be a hinderance, as long as we provided the necessary vegetation.

***Creating Design Solutions, LLC***

5020 Vallejo Street  
Denver, CO 80221

Albert@cds.stuido  
954.203.6372

In reference to the size, color, and material, the scale of the building is proportionate to the site and also provides the necessary materials and colors recommended by the city. Although the blue roof may differ, it provides a great contrast of color to the main building, has a minimal surface area, and is hidden from 3 of the 4 sides of the building. The exposed block at the base and main entry/altar will give contrast and texture to the building and avoid any flat surfaces to which the eye may be displeased. Texture and projection provide shadow and depth to a building and is perceived more pleasing to the eye and give a great presence of strength. The domes will provide visual elements as one approaches/access the surrounding site to help delineate location, give a sense of hierarchy, and provide a light source within the main space of the altar during different hours of the day.

We believe this project will not only contribute to the people of the orthodox religion, but also to the community to gather for other charity events while providing an aesthetically pleasing structure within the city of Aurora.

Thank you,

Albert Caroccio

c/c

Vasilios Artemiou, PE  
JPC Design Consortium

*Vasilios Artemiou*

