

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH CAMPUS ENHANCEMENT

AUGUST 27 UPDATE

GROUNDBREAKING CEREMONY RECAP

Thanks to all who attended Groundbreaking Ceremony on Sunday, August 25! Seeing many of our covenant partners of all ages come together to celebrate “Making Room” for more people to come to know Jesus in a welcoming space was exciting and encouraging.

For those who could not be there, there was group prayer, live music, coffee, donuts, pastries, balloons, a real jackhammer(!), and photo opportunities for kids and families. Several covenant partners noted that the gatherings in the parking lots, alley, and fellowship hall helped them connect to the vision that was shared twelve months ago. Neighbors took note too as many paused on Cherry Street to see the activity and life on our campus, and to stop by the coffee truck. Scott Wray, Bo Brookby, Amy Carlan, and Mike Horne provided project updates, appreciation, prayer, and encouragement. Thank you to all the volunteers and staff who made this happen!

BUDGET UPDATE

We shared at the Groundbreaking Celebration that the total cost of project is now estimated to be \$2,000,000 compared to our original estimate of \$1,500,000. The increased financial need is driven by:

- Inflation in construction materials and labor
- Unexpected costs associated with renovating an older building
- Finish selections as Campus Enhancement team tried to balance quality with cost
- Additions to original plan based on feedback from Vision Walks and conversations with covenant partners

Over the last three weeks, the Campus Enhancement team has worked diligently with our architects and general contractor to be good stewards and amend our plans, materials, and scope of work to arrive at the estimated \$2,000,000 cost. This collaboration resulted in a project scope that is both cost effective and consistent with our original plans and ongoing communication. Our work will continue, recognizing that any project with this many moving pieces will have some uncertainty and as such, our budget still includes a contingency fund for unknown issues that may arise.

With that news, we bring this message with a spirit of thankfulness, hope, and anticipation. As the Campus Enhancement team has wrestled with the budget over the course of the project and especially the last 2-3 weeks, we have felt timidity creep into our thought process. We have been reminded of Paul’s encouragement to Timothy in 2 Timothy 1:7, “For the Spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us power, love and self-discipline.” We committed to each other that with God’s help, we will see this project to its conclusion with self-discipline while trusting His power and our love for each other. We have worked hard, but as with all work done for His glory, it’s been affirming.

Within the next 7-10 days, all covenant partners will receive a letter inviting you to prayerfully consider making, or increasing, a financial commitment to cover our current budget gap. At this time, we have approximately \$1,600,000 committed to the project leaving a gap of \$400,000. Please begin to pray about helping fund this gap.

We began our Groundbreaking Ceremony with prayer stations because we believe in the power of prayer and God’s leading. Regardless of your financial commitment, the church staff and the Campus Enhancement team welcome your prayer for our church as we go through this process.

CAMPUS IMPACT

Effective September 2, the gallery lounge/lobby, fellowship hall, kitchen, and the alley at the fellowship hall entrance will be closed, with no access, as we prepare for construction. A few things to note:

- **All parking, and the bathrooms next to the kitchen, will be open** until further notice.
- We have prepared a diagram and instructions for entering and exiting Building A/ Sanctuary Building as well as navigating once inside the building (access at 1stpres.com/campus-enhancement).
- Signs will be posted to help guide us and greeters will be available if you have questions.

In addition, it is our desire that our 10:30 community-building Gather and Connect time continue. Weather permitting, this will now be held in front of the worship center with some limited gathering in the worship center lobby. We hope you will stop by and say hello if you are able!