



Old Hyde Park Historic District

February 27, 2023

Case # CD-CPC-2022-00222

At this time the Old Hyde Park Historic District Board is impartial on the project as presented due to the varied concerns neighbors have expressed. We would like the developers to collaborate further with the neighbors on the architecture and mural plans.

These project designs take time and engagement. Sustainable Development Partners (SDP) listened to the feedback provided by neighbors and made some adjustments. We did not get the latest renderings until the Friday before the Monday deadline for letters, and even if we'd received them sooner, still we would have needed more time to digest and discuss.

Generally, the concerns on the project are regarding the architecture of the building. The site is in a historic district neighborhood and is surrounded by 100-plus year-old buildings, including the Westport Middle School and the Westport High School, currently being restored. We know that SDP values historic preservation as they have invested significantly into the restoration of these two fine buildings.

The general footprint and parking arrangements for the project is reasonable and the board does not have a particular issue with those components.

Many neighbors are disappointed that the lease agreement with Cultivate KC will end. The farm, once public land as school grounds, provides open space, urban agriculture, and is a valuable community asset. The Kansas City Public School District has a rigorous application process for the sale of their school buildings and involves community input to ensure plans for the property are a good fit for the neighborhood. Cultivate KC and Plexpod have been great neighbors.

The Old Hyde Park Historic District board respectfully requests at least one more month to collaborate with the developers further. We appreciate their efforts and are confident that we can continue to work together for an agreeable plan for the site and neighborhood.

Old Hyde Park Historic District Board:

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