

Development Activities Meeting Report (Version: 06/24/2020)

This report created by the Neighborhood Planner and included with staff reports to City Boards and/or Commissions.

Logistics	Stakeholders
Project Name/Address: New student center for Central Catholic High School/ 4720 Fifth Ave	Groups Represented (e.g., specific organizations, residents, employees, etc. where this is evident): Oakland Business Improvement District (OBID) Oakland Planning & Development Corporation (OPDC) Squirrel Hill Urban Coalition (SHUC) Area stakeholders/residents City Planning staff
Parcel Number(s): 57-J-264	
ZDR Application Number: BDA-2024-07863	
Meeting Location: Zoom Meeting	
Date: March 10, 2025	
Meeting Start Time: 5:30 PM	
Applicant: Central Catholic High School; HDG Architects	Approx. Number of Attendees: 23
Boards and/or Commissions Request(s): Planning Commission review/approval required	

How did the meeting inform the community about the development project?

Ex: Community engagement to-date, location and history of the site, demolition needs, building footprint and overall square footage, uses and activities (particularly on the ground floor), transportation needs and parking proposed, building materials, design, and other aesthetic elements of the project, community uses, amenities and programs.

The applicant provided an overview of Central Catholic High School and campus, which included an overhead view identifying the campus layout and relative locations of buildings. They highlighted the historic character of existing buildings, which were used as inspiration for the proposed design of new construction. Architectural elements of importance included brick detailing and symbols/icons.

The applicant shared the proposed site plan of the proposed student center building. The use will include a gym, locker rooms, weight/fitness room, cafeteria/kitchen, lecture room, lecture classroom, and administrative offices. The center will also include a spectator deck elevated above the existing field. A pedestrian bridge will be constructed to allow students to access the building without going through the parking lot. Regarding parking, there will be no net change to the total number of spaces. The new building will include an underground parking structure, with landscaping along Neville St to soften the edge condition.

Renderings from multiple perspectives were shared. The façade facing Neville St includes architectural brick detailing and a gabled roof, which reflect the existing historic campus. Materials include red brick primarily, supplemented by cast stone. Along Neville, only two levels face the street, with the third level setback.

The construction timeline was shared, which begins with the demolition of the existing gym building from May to August 2025. Construction of the new student center runs from August 2025 through all of 2026, with completion in April 2027 and opening in Fall of 2027. Construction will largely take place in the summer months to avoid students present. The existing field will be used for construction staging and temporary parking.

Input and Responses

Questions and Comments from Attendees	Responses from Applicants
None	

Other Notes

The applicant was proactive in meeting independently with the applicable RCOs and community stakeholders/leaders to present the proposal, gather comments, and answer questions prior to the DAM.

Planner completing report: Christian Umbach, Senior Planner