### **DESIGN COMMISSION**

#### **Regular Meeting Agenda**

Council Chambers- Mercer Island City Hall

9611 SE 36TH STREET | MERCER ISLAND, WA 98040 PHONE: 206.275.7605 | www.mercergov.org



### Wednesday, January 9, 2019

**CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL** 

7:00 PM

**Design Commissioners** 

Colin, Brandt, Vice Chair

Richard Erwin, Chair

Clair McPherson

**Anthony Perez** 

Tom Soeprono

Hui Tian

Suzanne Zahr

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES** 

Minutes from December 12, 2018

**REGULAR BUSINESS** 

Agenda Item #1: DSR18-0021

Design review study session for a proposed exterior addition of an entry vestibule at the Mercer Island High School.

Staff Contact: Andrew, Leon, Planner

**OTHER BUSINESS** 

Planned Absences for Future Meetings Announcements & Communications Next Scheduled Meeting: Possibly January 23, 2018

**ADJOURN** 



#### **CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Richard Erwin called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM in the Council Chambers, 9611 SE 36th Street, Mercer Island, Washington.

#### **ROLL CALL**

Chair Richard Erwin, Vice Chair Colin Brandt, Commissioners, Anthony Perez, Tom Soeprono and Suzanne Zahr were present. Commissioners Claire McPherson and Hui Tian were absent.

#### STAFF PRESENT

Nicole Gaudette, Senior Planner, Andrea Larson, Senior Administrative Assistant, and Bio Park, Assistant City Attorney were present.

#### **MEETING MINUTES APPROVAL**

The Commission reviewed the minutes from the November 14, 2018.

It was moved by Brandt; seconded by Perez to:

Approved the November 14, 2018 minutes as amended

Passed 5-0

#### **REGULAR BUSINESS**

#### Agenda Item #1: Design Review DSR2018-014

Nicole Gaudette, Senior Planner, provided a brief presentation for the design review study session for a proposed exterior remodel of the McDonald's restaurant in Town Center.

Jamie Trenta, Fry Height Architecture, answered questions regarding the proposed project.

The Commission review the proposal and answered the applicant's questions.

- 1. Are the materials and colors proposed in compliance with Mercer Island's design guidelines? Is the accent paint corrugated metal parapet band okay?

  The Commission stated that they materials for the building fit the design guidelines, and requests to see samples of the paint colors when the project comes back for review. The Commission stated that that they would like to see the applicant see if there are variations in color for the awnings.
- 2. Is the proposed signage in compliance with Mercer Island's design guidelines? Chair Erwin suggests that the City should consider adding code for the drive through other commercial signs and digital signs. The Commission indicated that the code needs to address signs and entry ways that face through block connections. The Commission stated that they feel the projecting sign fits the design guidelines. The Commission stated that the parking lot and drive through signage fits the design criteria, but that the applicant should provide more information for the next design review session.
- 3. Are the proposed canopies in compliance with Mercer Island's design guidelines? The Commission indicated that the canopies are in compliance with the design guidelines.
- 4. Is the amount of fenestration proposed in compliance with Mercer Island's design guidelines?

  The Commission stated that the amount of fenestration needs to meet the same amount of current fenestration. The Commission recommends that the applicant work with staff to figure out the current

fenststration.

Commissioner Zahr left at 8:16pm.

#### PLANNED ABSENCES FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

Chair will be absent on January 9, 2019. Commissioner Perez will be absent on January 9, 2019.

#### **OTHER BUSINESS**

There was no other business.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS**

The next Design Commission meeting is on January 9, 2019 at 7:00PM.

ADJOURNMENT The meeting was adjourned at 8:29pm





# CITY OF MERCER ISLAND DESIGN COMMISSION STUDY SESSION STAFF REPORT EXTERIOR REMODEL

Agenda Item: 1 January 9, 2018

Project: Mercer Island School District 400 Addition (DSR18-021)

Description: A Design Commission study session to review an addition to the entrance to

Mercer Island School District.

Applicant: Brandy Fox (CPM Seattle)

Site Addresses: 9100 SE 42<sup>nd</sup> St; Identified by King County Tax Parcel # 182405-9005

Zoning District: Public Institution (PI)

Exhibits: 1. Plan Set, dated received on November 29, 2018

2. Material Examples and Design Renderings, dated received on November

29, 2018

3. Project Narrative, dated received on November 29, 2018

#### 1. SUMMARY

The applicant is participating in a Design Commission study session to review a proposed exterior remodel for an existing building located in the Public Institution (PI) zone. The site currently contains Mercer Island High School and associated buildings and fields, the Mercer Island School District administration building, and the Crest Learning Center. Pursuant to MICC 19.15.220(C)(1)(c)(i)((b)), any additions of gross floor area to an existing building must be reviewed by the design commission. Pursuant to MICC 19.15.220(C)(2)(a) all projects reviewed by the design commission must undergo a study session. The study session provides an opportunity to obtain feedback from the design commission early in the design review process.

As the project progresses through the application process, an open record public hearing will be scheduled in front of the Design Commission pursuant to Mercer Island City Code (MICC) 19.15.030 Table B. When the applicant formally comes before the Design Commission, the project must meet the criteria listed in MICC Section 19.12, Design Standards for Zones Outside Town Center.

#### 2. STAFF ANALYSIS AND CRITERIA FOR REVIEW

Pursuant to MICC 19.15.220(C)(1)(c)(i)((b)), any additions of gross floor area to an existing building must be reviewed by the design commission. MICC 19.15.220(C)(2)(a) requires any project that requires design commission approval to go before the design commission with a study session prior to application "to discuss project concepts before the plans are fully developed." Using the preliminary information provided to the City by the applicant, planning staff conducted an initial cursory review of the project.

The applicant did not provide any questions for the design commission to consider at the study session. This staff report will provide a high-level analysis of the project's compliance with the City's Building Design and Visual Interest, Landscape Design and Outdoor Spaces, and Lighting standards. A more complete analysis on the proposal will be conducted during the full review of the project.

#### • Building Design and Visual Interest

As shown in Exhibits 1 and 2, the proposed addition will be shorter than the surrounding building facades. The addition is proposed to be constructed of materials similar to those used for the rest of the school structure: masonry, steel and aluminum panel cladding, and aluminum storefront (see Exhibit 2 for details). The addition is also proposed to contain fenestration on the south and west sides, consistent with the existing school structure.

<u>Staff Analysis:</u> The proposed addition will be proportional to the existing structure and will not present visual mass or bulk impacts. The addition will increase the modulation of the southern and western facades of the school structure. The addition will also use materials and fenestration that is consistent with the rest of the structure.

MICC 19.12.030(B)(5)(a) states that special design attention should be given to the primary entrance of the building. The primary entrance should be consistent from the overall building design, but made visually distinct from the rest of the building façade through architectural features. The proposed entrance addition is distinct from the rest of the building, while the use of similar materials creates a visual consistency between the new and existing portions of the building.

MICC 19.12.030(B)(5)(b) states that the primary entrance to the building should be easy to recognize and should be visible from the public way and be physically connected to the public way with walkways. The proposed addition would be visible from the public right-of-way and will be connected to the right-of-way with a walkway.

#### Landscape Design and Outdoor Spaces

The applicant has indicated that open spaces on the site will be planted with native, drought-tolerant plants that are selected to complement the existing landscaping and native species. Ground cover will be used and spaced to achieve total coverage within three years of installation.

<u>Staff Analysis:</u> MICC 19.12.040(B)(5) states that landscaping at entrances should frame an outdoor space near the entrance and reinforce the entrance as a gathering place. The applicants have indicated that the landscaping will frame the entrance in compliance with MICC 19.12.040(B)(5). The applicant did not provide a full landscaping plan for this phase of the project.

#### Lighting

The applicants have proposed to integrate downward-facing lighting into the overhang at the new entrance. Bollard lights are also proposed around the entrance plaza near the entrance addition.

<u>Staff Analysis:</u> MICC 19.12.070(B)(4) states that all exterior lighting fixtures shall be shielded or located to confine light spread within the site boundaries. The applicants have indicated that the lighting will comply with the lighting code. A full lighting plan was not provided for this phase of the project.

#### III. RECOMMENDATION

There is no recommended motion at this time, as this is a Design Commission study session.



## MERCER ISLAND HIGH SCHOOL ENTRY

MERCER ISLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT

9100 SE 42ND ST, MERCER ISLAND, WA 98040

DESIGN REVIEW
30 OCTOBER 2018

## mahlum

71 COLUMBIA | FLOOR 4 **SEATTLE** WA 98104
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MAHLUM ARCHITECTS INC

MERCER ISLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT
MERCER ISLAND HIGH SCHOOL ENTRY

9100 SE 42ND ST, MERCER ISLAND, WA 98040

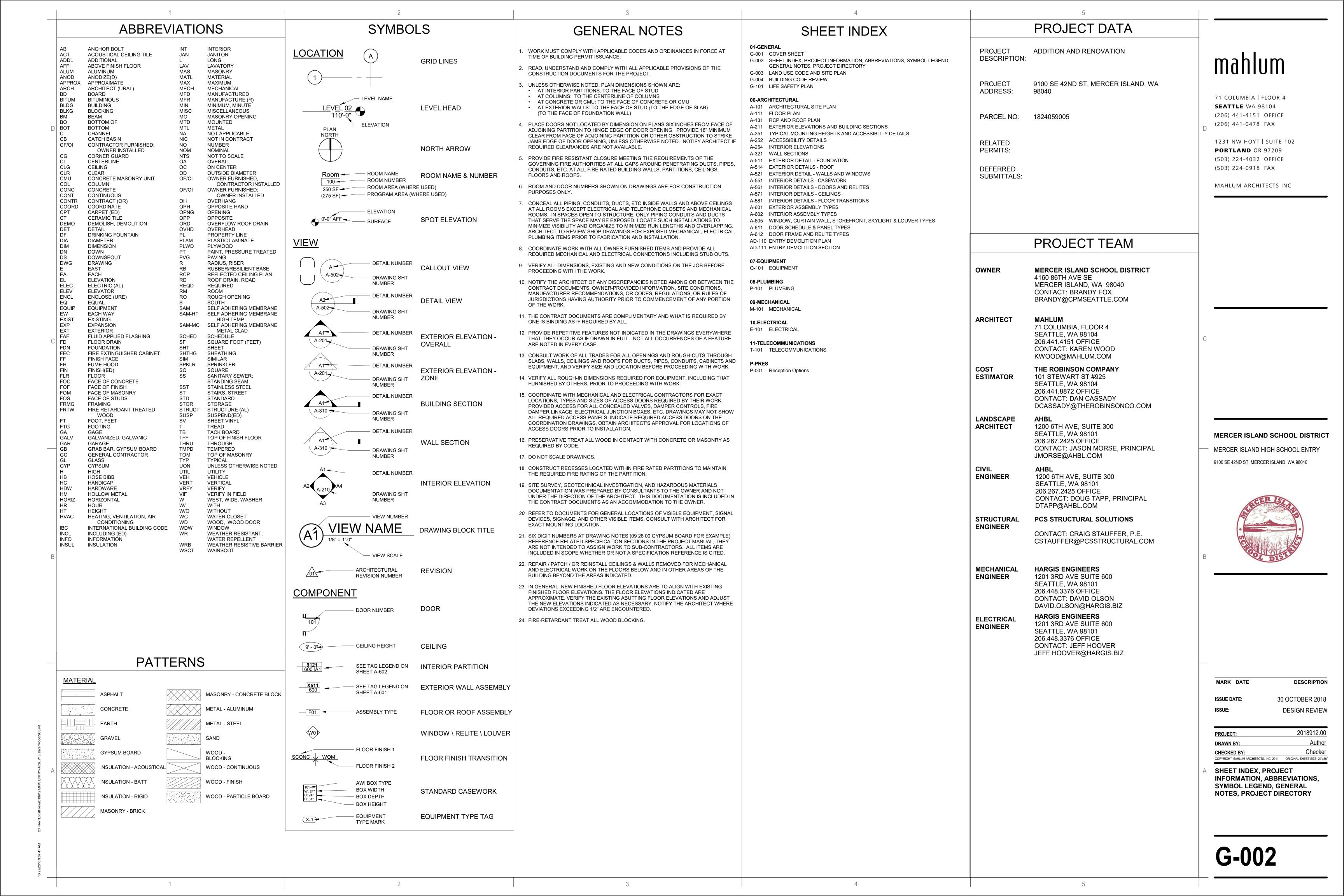


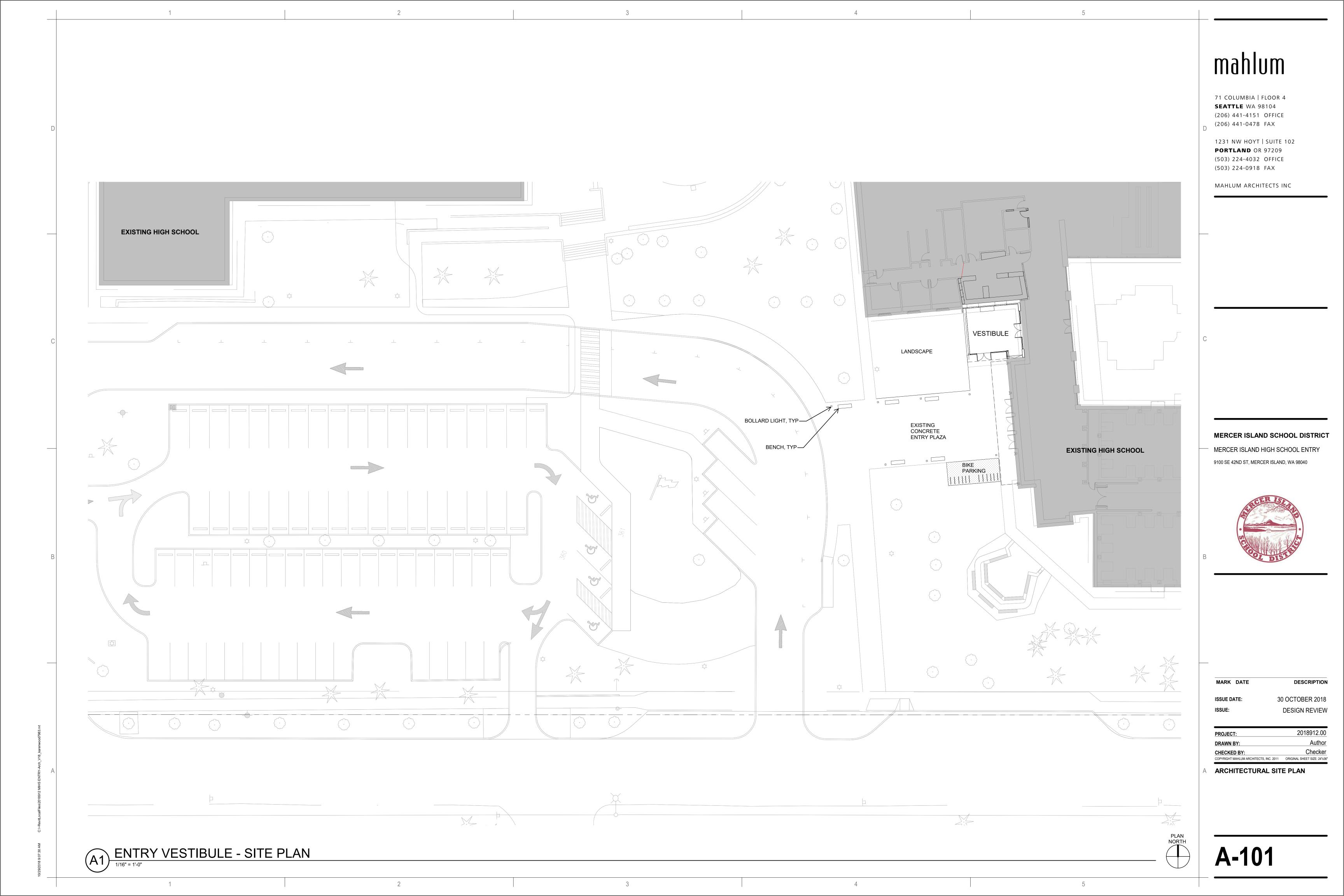
ISSUE DATE: 30 OCTOBER 2018
ISSUE: DESIGN REVIEW

PROJECT: 2018912.00

COVER SHEET

G-001





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MAHLUM ARCHITECTS INC

MERCER ISLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT
MERCER ISLAND HIGH SCHOOL ENTRY
9100 SE 42ND ST, MERCER ISLAND, WA 98040

MARK DATE

ISSUE DATE:

30 OCTOBER 2018 DESIGN REVIEW

DESCRIPTION

PROJECT: 2018912.00

DRAWN BY: SZ

CHECKED BY: Checker

COPYRIGHT MAHLUM ARCHITECTS, INC. 2011 ORIGINAL SHEET SIZE: 24"x36"

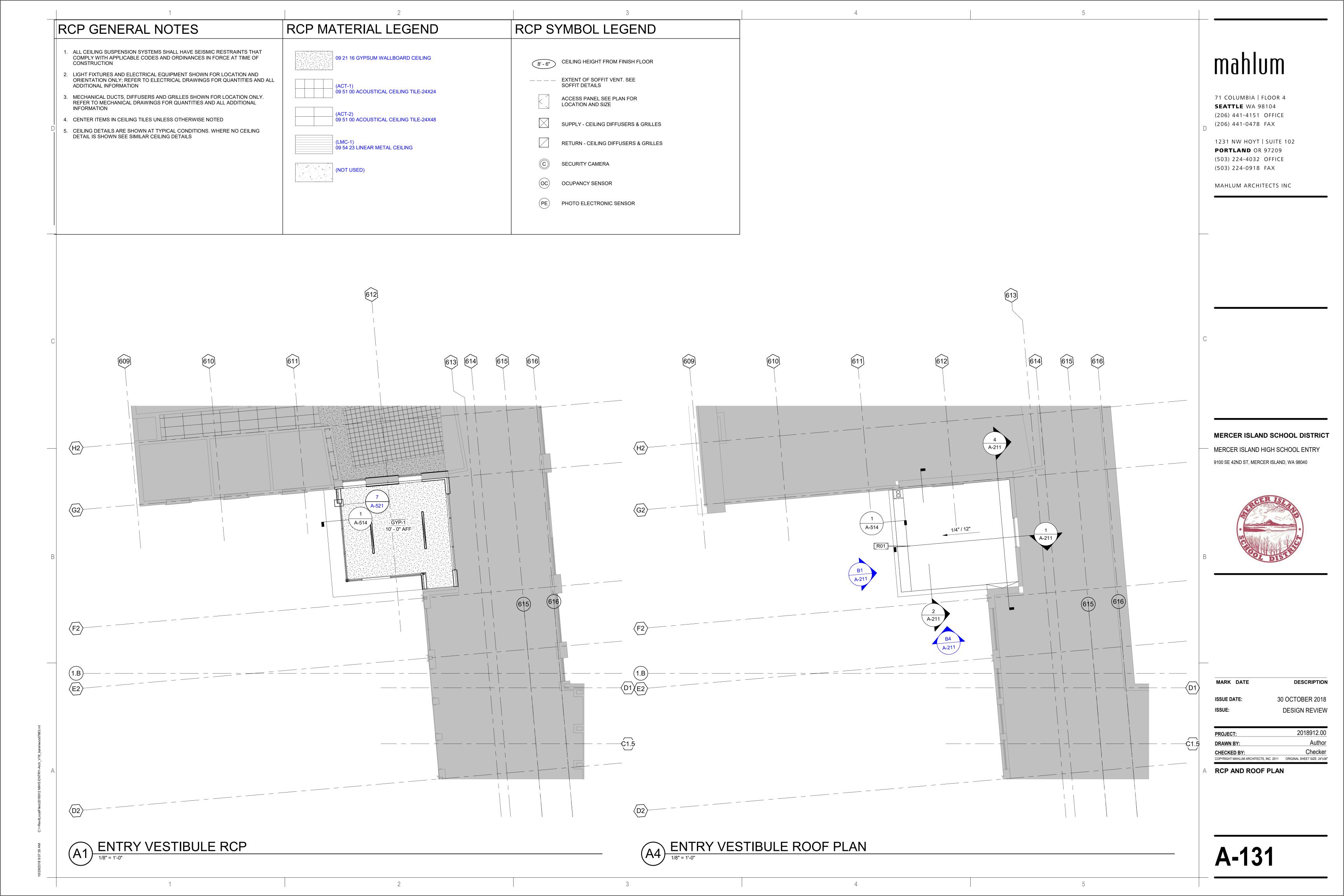
FLOOR PLAN

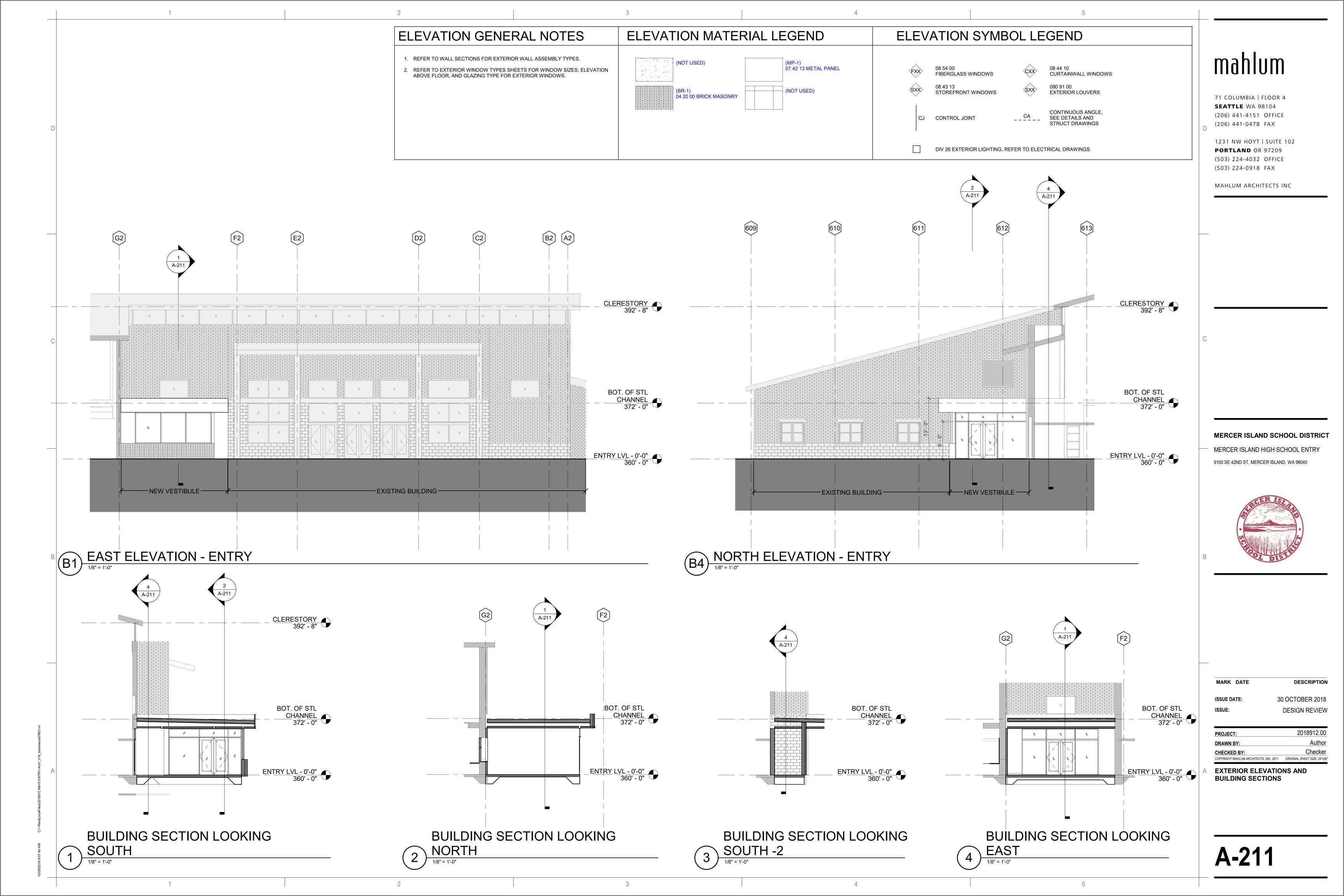
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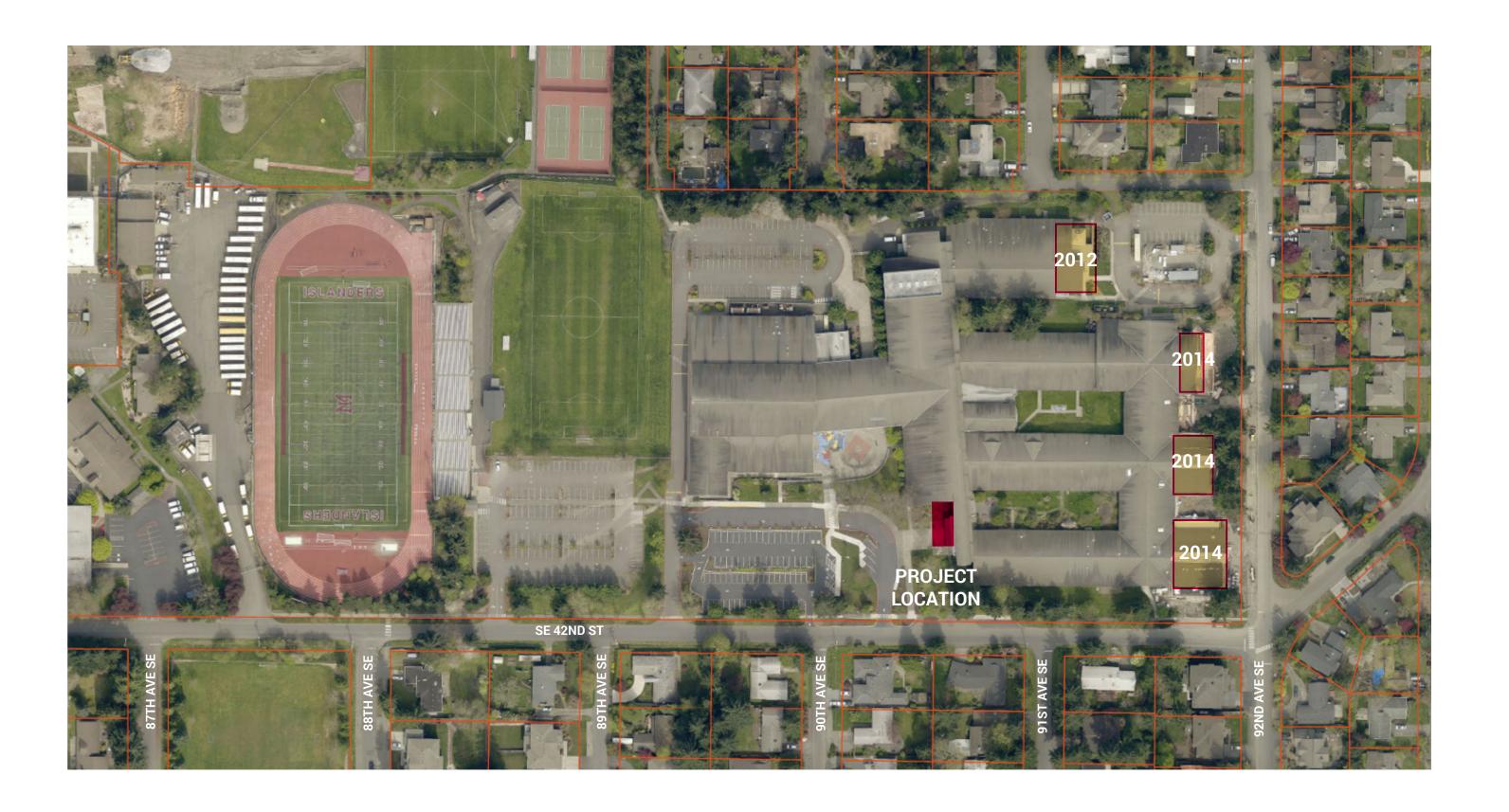
A4 ENTRY VESTIBULE FLOOR PLAN

1/8" = 1'-0"

2 AM C:\-RevitLocalFiles\2018912 MIHS ENTRY-Arch\_V18\_







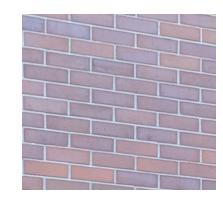






MUSIC ADDITION<br/>2012CLASSROOM ADDITION<br/>2014MAIN ENTRY<br/>1997 + 2019

#### **MATERIALITY**



Smooth red brick



Smooth & textured red brick



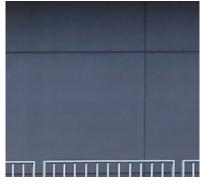
Smooth light brick & split face CMU



Painted steel accent



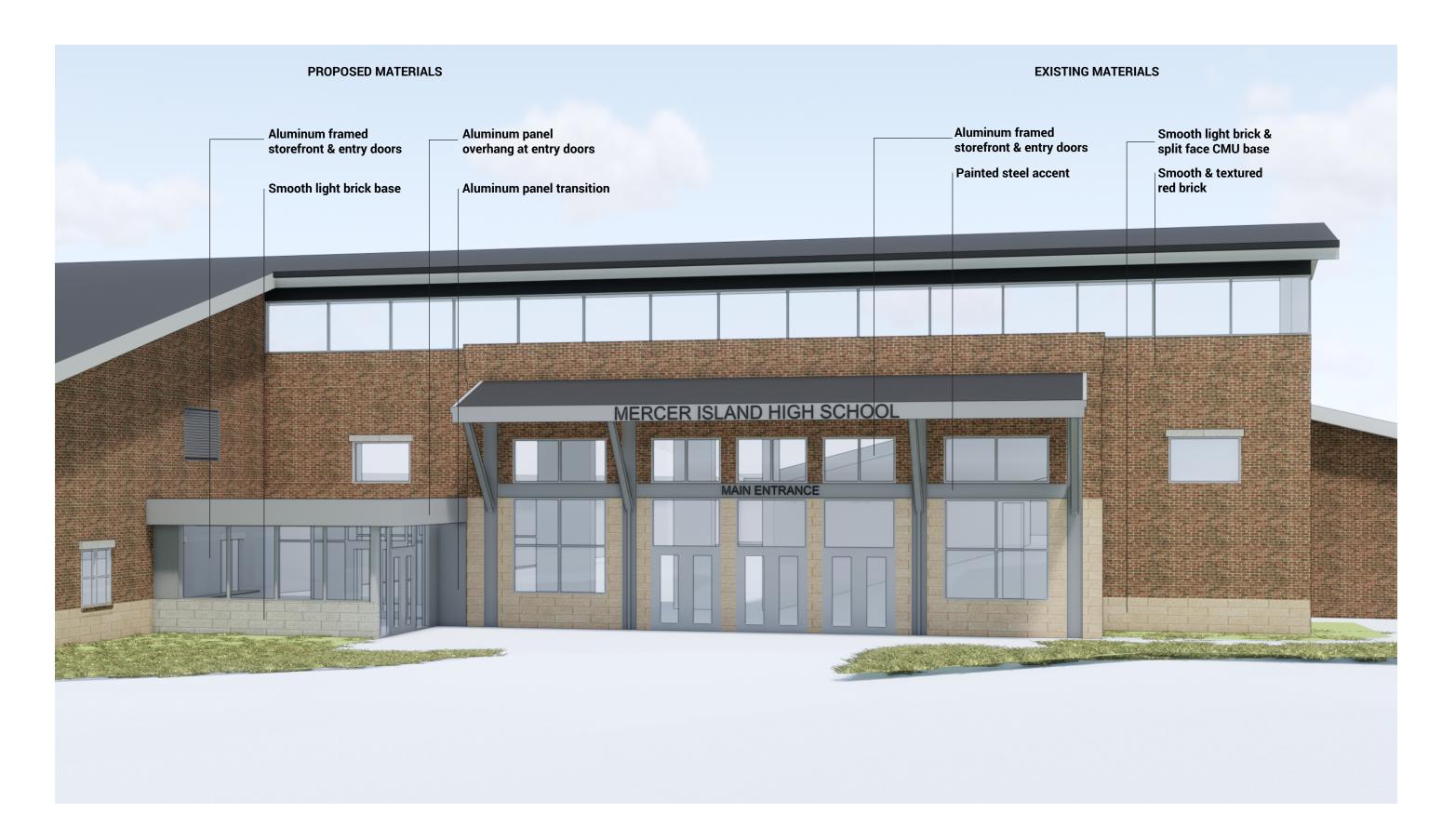
Landscape



Bronze accent panels



Light accent panels













## mahlum

MEMORANDUM

29 November 2018

To: Robin Proebsting, Senior Planner

City of Mercer Island Development Services Group

From: Karen Wood, Mahlum

Subject: **Design Review, Project Narrative** 

Project: Mercer Island High School – Vestibule Addition

#### **Project Description**

The Mercer Island High School Vestibule Addition will provide a new entry to the existing high school to meet the district's current standards for school safety and security. Designed to complement the existing school architecture, the addition will work with existing building materials and massing to create an inviting main entry that works with the existing pedestrian traffic patterns.

Strongly supported by the Mercer Island School District and by the Mercer Island community, the project will include a 550 SF addition, consisting of a vestibule with new transaction windows to the main office. The addition will serve as a single point of entry for all visitors to the school thereby increasing the level of supervision and security. All visitors will be required to check-in through the transaction windows at the new vestibule prior to being granted access to their destination in the school.

Mercer Island High School occupies a 43 acre site at the corner of Southeast 42nd Street and 92nd Avenue Southeast. The area is bound to the East and South by residential neighborhoods. The existing main entry is immediately adjacent to the main office and is accessed from the parking lot, parent drop-off loop, or sidewalk on the north side of 42° Street near the intersection of 90° Ave SE. It is possible the site will be fully occupied during some portion of the construction of the new entry vestibule. The construction work will be scheduled to minimize disruption to the existing school and vehicular traffic and to prioritize safety of building occupants.

The existing impervious surface area on the North Mercer Campus is 53%; the addition of the 550 square foot vestibule will not exceed the allowable impervious area of 63%. The project will convert a minimum of 50 square feet of existing impervious to landscape area or porous paving to minimize on-site impacts to stormwater. The final impervious area calculations will be provided with the Building Permit application.

The design of the entry addition draws on the vocabulary of two recent additions to the high school; the music addition from 2012 and the classroom additions from 2014. The exterior materials will match existing brick in color and texture providing both continuity and visual variation. To reduce bulk, the new entry is a lower volume, with large areas of glass, and a low flat overhanging roof to provide weather protection at the doors. The placement of the new entry vestibule respects the existing pedestrian movement patterns and becomes an identity feature to the community. The existing sidewalk that brings

visitors to the main entry will be refreshed with new pedestrian scale lighting, benches and bicycle parking. The area immediately adjacent to the new entry will be highlighted by a new planted zone with native, draught tolerant plantings.

#### **Response to Design Standards**

The project is considered a Minor exterior modification and is subject to design review per Mercer Island Municipal Code (MICC) 19.15.220.

The following describes the project proposal and how the project meets the applicable design objectives and standards established in the Mercer Island City Code 19.12, Design Standards for Zones Outside the Town Center. The narrative addresses the project's conformance with Partial Application of Design Requirements: Minor Exterior Modification 19.12.010 D2:

#### 19.12.030 BUILDING DESIGN AND VISUAL INTEREST

- B. Standards
- 1. Scale, Form and Mass The proposed addition is shorter than the existing building while still of a scale to signal a civic use and volume to support balanced natural daylight and clear views from through the vestibule to the main parking area. The building entry is removed from the street but transparent, and oriented toward the sidewalks and parent drop-off zone to facilitate way finding. Additionally, scale is provided in material changes, volume and plan changes, rhythmic fenestration, and varied rooflines.
- 2. Building Facades Visual Interest The proposed addition uses a similar language of materials and massing as the existing building and recent entry additions. The façade is modulated both horizontally and vertically to break up the overall bulk and mass of the exterior. The new entry façade projects out beyond the face of the existing entry doors providing additional modulation along the west façade. The proposal does not increase the length of un-modulated wall length on any elevation. Should the main entry be considered visible from the public way, the proposed project would serve to increase the overall percentage of façade modulation beyond the minimum 40% requirement. A roof overhang at the new entry also provides shadow lines for horizontal variation and emphasis. Additionally, the ground level facade creates visual interest by including windows, a variety of textures, surface articulation, and building projections.
- 3. Building Articulation Flat surfaces are broken up by brick patterning and metal panel accents in keeping with the language of the existing school. The entry vestibule expresses a top, middle and base. The base is a light brick veneer that aligns with the existing school base material. The middle section is predominantly glass that wraps around the building addition. 'Top' is identified by a thickened roof edge that picks up the light, panelized metal used to articulate lower flat roofs on recent additions to the high school. The prominent clerestory windows and a high atrium that define the existing main entry are maintained.
- 4. Materials and Color High quality and durable exterior materials are proposed, including a masonry base, steel and aluminum panel cladding, and aluminum storefront. These materials are used on all elevations. The proposed brick is drawn from the light smooth faced units interspersed in the existing CMU and brick base. The material transitions from the existing building to the addition will be broken up by light colored metal panel accents that reflect the painted steel elements articulating the existing school. Color shifts are minimized, but accentuate the fenestration, entry, doors and rooflines. No bright colors are proposed.

- 5. Building Entrances –The main entrance is visible from the main parking lot and parent drop-off lane; it is articulated with a deep canopy for sheltered arrival and distinguished by larger areas of glazing. The entrance is physically connected to the existing sidewalks providing access to the parking lot and sidewalk along 42- Street SE. The vestibule provides a supervised place to arrive and to wait for additional safety during school hours.
- 6. Rooflines The proposed addition steps down the roofline at the new vestibule to provide a lower, human-scaled entry, while still blending with the existing roofline.
- 7. Additional Standards for Buildings Containing Residential Units Not applicable.
- 8. Corporate Design Not applicable.
- 9. All-Weather Features A canopy is provided at the existing and proposed entry, where waiting is encouraged to happen.

#### 19.12.040 LANDSCAPE DESIGN AND OUTDOOR SPACES

- B. Standards
- 1. Landscape Area Not Applicable for Minor Exterior Modifications
- 2. Outdoor Spaces Not Applicable for Minor Exterior Modifications
- 3. Architectural Features Not Applicable for Minor Exterior Modifications
- 4. Minimum Landscape Area Requirements Not Applicable for Minor Exterior Modifications
- 5. Entrance Landscaping The landscape plan and building mass frames the entrances and provides both cover for all-weather occupancy and an extended landing to encourage use.
- 6. Planting Material, Types and Design Native or Northwest-adapted plants will be used for all open spaces. Additionally, the plants will be drought tolerant. The new plantings are selected to compliment both the existing site landscaping and native species. Ground cover will be used and spaced to achieve total coverage within three years of installation.
- 7. Perimeter Screen Types and Widths No modifications to existing landscape screening are proposed.
- 8. Perimeter Landscape Screens No modifications to existing landscape screening are proposed.
- 9. Surface Parking Lot Planting No modifications to existing surface parking or parking lot planting are proposed
- 10. Landscape Grading Standards Not Applicable for Minor Exterior Modifications
- 11. General Planting, Irrigation and Maintenance Standards This project will meet the required standards for coverage, minimum width, sight clearance, planting coverage, plantings near utilities, and drainage. The owner will provide maintenance as required by this standard.

#### 19.12.050 VEHICULAR AND PEDESTRIAN CIRCULATION

- B. Standards
- 1. Vehicular Circulation Characteristics No modifications to existing vehicular circulation are proposed. No new loading docks will be provided in this project.
- 2. Pedestrian Circulation Characteristics This project will provide pedestrian access and connection to all existing pathways, doors, public ways and parking lots. The existing parking lot and sidewalk are separated by a curb which will remain.

#### 19.12.060 SCREENING OF SERVICE AND MECHANICAL AREAS

- B. Standards
- 1. Accessory Buildings No outdoor storage building, new outdoor mechanical equipment or utility vaults are proposed.
- 2. Rooftop Mechanical Equipment and Appurtenances No new mechanical equipment or appurtenances are proposed as part of this project.
- 3. Meter and Mechanical Units No new meters or exterior ground-mounted mechanical units are planned.
- 4. On-Site Service Areas No new service areas or loading dock are proposed.
- 5. Garbage, Recycling Collection and Utility Areas No new garbage or utility areas are proposed.
- 6. Fence, trellis and Arbor Standards Not applicable.
- 7. Noise, Vapor, Heat or Fumes Noise from the addition will not exceed current levels of emission. Noise, vapor, heat and fumes from equipment will be mitigated.

#### 19.12.070 LIGHTING

- B. Standards
- 1. Architectural Elements Down lighting will be integrated into the overhang at the new entrances.
- 2. Function and Security On site lighting will be sufficient for pedestrian, bicyclist, and vehicular safety. Pedestrian bollards and light from the adjacent windows will light the new building entrance.
- 3. Lighting Height New pedestrian bollards will be less than 8' tall, no other new pole lights are planned.
- 4. Shielding All new exterior lighting fixtures will be fully shielded with full cut-off. Existing lights will remain where undisturbed by the renovation.
- 5. Uplighting of Structures and Signs No uplighting proposed.
- 6. Light Type Requirements for light types (low wattage color-corrected sodium) will be met.

#### 19.12.080 SIGNS

- B. Standards
- 1. Freestanding Ground Signs Outside Residential Zones No new freestanding ground signs are proposed.
- 2. Wall Signs Outside Residential Zones Wall signs, if proposed or modified from existing, will meet the requirements of this section of the MICC.
- 3. Signs for Non-Single-Family-Dwelling Uses in Residential Zones Not applicable.
- 4. Signs for Licensed Practitioners or Service Operators in Residential Zones –Not applicable.
- 5. Parking Lot Signs No new signs proposed.
- 6. Directional Signs No new directional signs proposed.
- 7. Temporary Signs Requirements for temporary signs per MICC 19.06.020 will be met.

- 8. Street Numbers Requirements for street numbers no smaller than six inches in height to be installed on all buildings will be met, unless this condition is already satisfied by numbers on the existing school building. This project will comply with this standard as determined by the City.
- 9. Prohibited Signs No roof, projecting, window, inflated, internally lit, neon, flashing, moving, animated, off-premise, or vehicular signs are proposed. During the period of construction, temporary portable signs may be provided identifying contractor trailers, directional information and other necessary construction safety warnings. No vending machines will be visible from the public right-of-way.