

Thomas Square Neighbors,

I understand Jason has made a post updating everyone with our meeting and upcoming post. I am happy to share an update on the Starland Village Project.

As a resident of the neighborhood and the Owner/developer of Starland Village, I am excited to announce that Starland Village is back in motion. Covid-19 brought an unexpected turn of events that have impacted each and every one of us. As a result of the pandemic, we chose to pause the project in order to reassess the comprehensive plan and ensure it fit the new environment the pandemic has created. Though we paused the project, our commitment never wavered. Over the past year and a half, we worked diligently behind the scenes to ensure the success of Starland Village and its positive contribution to the neighborhood. We analyzed its different components, revisited the concerns of residents, and ultimately made alterations we believe address major concerns and will also manifest a more successful project. In addition, we brought in a development partner, Equus Development Partners, who is not only invested in Savannah but also shares an appreciation for the creative and historic fabric that defines our neighborhood. We are excited to be jointly developing this project with them.

Prior to the end of 2021 and after multiple meetings with our Design team and City Staff, we submitted an amendment to our approved GDP (General Development Plan) in order to incorporate the changes we are making to the project. Below are the changes:

1. Elimination of the Event Venue Use for the Historic Church. In lieu of a 900-person event space, we will be focused on redeveloping the historic building as commercial/retail space.
2. Removal of the structured parking planned on the Whitaker parking lot at the corner of Whitaker and 38th. This structure was 30+ feet tall, covered 100% of the site, and housed 98 parking spaces using an automated lift system. Although we removed these parking spaces, we are still providing 100% of our projects required parking spaces. The Whitaker property will remain a surface parking lot.
3. We will replace the 3-story School building and the previously planned south building with a new single residential building housing 58 Apartments. After verifying with the City that the building is non-contributing and not historically significant, we submitted for a site demolition permit that was approved in 2021. In coordination with the City, we will photograph and document the building prior to demolition.

Instead of 5 previously planned buildings, our project now consists of only 3 buildings totaling 150,000 SF, 117 apartments, and 16,200SF of commercial space which is broken down below as well as on our GDP Amendment which is attached to this post.

North Building: This building is unchanged and has simply been resubmitted for a building permit.

1. Total SF: 62,355 SF
2. Unit Count: 59 Units
3. Height: 5 Stories and 58 feet

New South Building: This building will replace an approved five story building and a proposed redevelopment of the existing school building which had a fourth floor addition at just shy of 50' tall. It will be detached from the Historic Church as a stand-alone building.

1. Total SF: 71,110 SF

2. Unit Count 58 Units

3. Height: 5 stories and 58 feet

Historic Church: This building is existing and will be a standalone building, redeveloped into commercial/retail/restaurant space. The exact uses and redevelopment plan is still being analyzed.

1. Total SF: 16,200 SF

2. Height: 3 stories and 52 feet

We are happy to answer any questions you have and looking forward to seeing this project come to fruition!