

UDPRP Review Summary 08.23.13

Urban Design Peer Review Panel

DATE: 08.23.13

TIME: 8:30am

PROJECT: Akard Street Connection / Downtown Holiday Inn

LOCATION: Dallas City Hall Room 5ES

Overview

Below is a summary of Urban Design Peer Review Panel advice for the Akard Street Connection / Downtown Holiday Inn as derived from the August 23 Peer Review session.

Advice Summary

- [1] The panel generally applauds the overall direction of the proposed enhancements and the impulse to transform an important link between downtown Dallas and the Cedars.
- [2] The panel encourages better integration of the “Kolache Corner” component with the site entrance, hotel offerings, retail and parking to create a more unified experience at that corner of the site.
- [3] The Akard median is discouraged as the space could be better used to introduce wider sidewalks, especially in front of the hotel.
- [4] The sidewalk approach to the hotel should be enhanced with street trees and other amenities.
- [5] The design for the Akard Bridge should focus on a more continuous pedestrian experience from Cadiz to Griffin, especially as it relates to a continuous provision for shade.
- [6] The panel encourages cooperation by all City of Dallas departments to facilitate a stronger link to downtown along this block of Akard.