

Lowell Elementary School Design Feedback Summary

The Lowell Elementary School Design Advisory Group convened a community meeting at 6:30 p.m. on April 7 at Lowell. Approximately 40 people attended the meeting. Community members were given the opportunity to submit written comments to the Department of Communications and Community Relations by 3 p.m. on April 10. Eight people emailed comments and one person mailed in comments.

Themes:

- The proposed gym height seems reasonable and/or keep the height minimal so as not to obstruct views from homes.
- Pursue sustainability options including a green roof, building with sustainable resources and including solar panels.
- Make the addition compatible with the original building's style.
- Share design information as the project progresses for community input.
- Respondents shared both support and disapproval of the north site option, with greater support for the north site option.
- Inquiry about possible compensation for loss of property value due to lost views.
- Design for a covered play area requested.

Representative comments:

We understand that an addition cannot replicate the 1914 design and materials, but it is crucial that the new construction create continuity with the original building.

I believe it should be limited in height to the proposed 22-24 feet and be placed as low on the site as possible so as not to obstruct views from the adjacent houses any more than necessary.

Please also respect the South Hill community by giving us the opportunity to comment on the design as plans for the addition emerge.

I haven't had a chance to speak with a realtor but I would expect losing your full view of the bay would greatly impact the resale value of the home.

We liked the suggestion that the roof of the addition be "green" with plantings.

I would like to see what the architects could design with a little more imagination and creativity. I hope that the planning committee will consider different options for the north site before moving forward.