



Architectural Review Board Staff Report

From: Planning and Development Services Director
Lead Department: Planning and Development Services

Meeting Date: December 7, 2023
Report #: 2311-2294

TITLE

180 El Camino Real [19PLN-00110]: ARB Ad Hoc Committee Review of Additional Material
Details for Restoration Hardware

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Architectural Review Board (ARB) Ad Hoc Committee take the following action(s):

- Discuss and provide direction, or
- Confirm the revised project meets the full ARB's direction and recommend the Director approve the project.

BACKGROUND

On October 5, 2023, the ARB held a hearing to review façade modifications for the previously approved (19PLN-00110) Restoration Hardware building, currently under construction at the Stanford Shopping Center. In its motion to approve the project, the ARB recommended that certain project elements be reviewed by the ARB Ad Hoc Committee; these elements are noted below, along with the applicant's responses.

A link to the ARB staff report and minutes for the October 5, 2023 meeting¹ are provided online.² A link to the video³ of the meeting is also available online.

ANALYSIS

¹ Link to October 5 2023 ARB minutes: <https://www.cityofpaloalto.org/files/assets/public/v/1/agendas-minutes-reports/agendas-minutes/architectural-review-board/2023/arb-minutes-10.05.23.pdf>

² Link to October 5 2023 ARB minutes: <https://www.cityofpaloalto.org/files/assets/public/v/1/agendas-minutes-reports/agendas-minutes/architectural-review-board/2023/arb-minutes-10.05.23.pdf>

³ Link to video <https://midpenmedia.org/architectural-review-board-77-1052023/>

The ARB recommended that one aspect of the design be reviewed by the ARB Ad Hoc Committee. A summary of the ARB's recommendation, the applicant's response to the recommendation, and staff's analysis are included herein.

ARB Recommendation: Modify the color of the proposed metal trim to provide greater contrast.

Applicant's Response:

The applicant's team has proposed a new painted metal color that is a deeper earth tone rather than the lighter earth tone that was previously proposed. The newly proposed metal paint color will be used for the metal accents at the skylight, canopies, awnings, balconies, window mullions and doors and will have a Light Reflective Value (LRV) of 16. The previously proposed metal paint color had an LRV of 36.66. Samples of the metal with the newly proposed paint color are on file and will be available to the ARB Ad Hoc Committee during the Ad Hoc Discussion. The exterior elevation and rendering sheets have been updated accordingly and are included in Attachment B.

Staff's Analysis:

The proposed metal paint color is consistent with the Master Tenant and Façade program for the Stanford Shopping Center and a material sample has been provided as requested. The revised design continues to meet the ARB findings for approval and provides greater contrast with the main building paint color consistent with the ARB's recommendation.

The Ad Hoc Committee is encouraged to affirm these submittals meet the recommendations discussed at the October 5, 2023, ARB public hearing. Otherwise, the Committee should provide direction to staff and the applicant if the submittal requires further refinement.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A: Applicant's Response to ARB Comments

Attachment B: Revised Project Plans

AUTHOR/TITLE:

Tamara Harrison, Consultant Planner



Project Update – New Accent Metal Color

November 27, 2023

RH is proposing a darker metal color that enhances the visual contrast with the building's cream-colored plaster. Our suggested metal shade is a refined bronze that adds richness and complements the brand's contemporary palette. We believe that the metal color not only aligns with the modern aesthetics but also contributes depth and balance to the overall facade.

Project Plans

In order to reduce paper consumption, a limited number of hard copy project plans are provided to Board members for their review. The same plans are available to the public, at all hours of the day, via the following online resources.

Directions to review Project plans and environmental documents online:

1. Go to: bit.ly/PAPendingprojects
2. Scroll down to find “1700 Embarcadero Road” and click the address link
3. On this project-specific webpage you will find a link to the project plans and other important information

Direct Link to Project Webpage:

<https://www.cityofpaloalto.org/Departments/Planning-Development-Services/Current-Planning/Projects/1700-Embarcadero>