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November 11, 2022

Robert Sanders, Chairman
Village District Design Advisory Committee / Architectural Review Board
Wilton Town Hall
238 Danbury Road
Wilton, CT 06897

RE: Response to Architectural Review Board Comments
Proposed New Police Headquarters | Tecton Project #WIL-01-AR

Dear Mr. Sanders,

We first want to thank you for providing Tecton Architects with your positive feedback during our hearing. We have taken this opportunity to modify a few design characters in response and have subsequently included an updated drawing package for your recommendation to the Planning Board. With that being said, I would like to address each comment received individually.

Comment: Consider adding post light fixtures on brick piers at base of front entry stairs.

Response: The design currently includes two vertical lights mounted to each brick pier flanking the front entry doors. These nicely frame the approach while also accentuating the verticality and hierarchy of this architectural element. Additional post mounted lights at the stair base result in too much illumination and visually interfere with the proposed wall mounted lights. In addition, the handrail, which wraps both sides of the front entry stair, is also illuminated.

Comment: Consider adding a little more "umph" to the precast sill element.

<u>Response</u>: An additional layer was added to this element adding to its overall height and strengthening its visual impact on the composition of the façade.

Comment: Consider adding precast coining at the front corners of the building.

Response: After much consideration and exploration, the addition of coining, precast elements, or even additional brick detailing at the corners of the front volume, did not have the desired visual impact and as a result, have not been included. By adding any type of vertical precast element, in combination with the strengthened horizontal precast trim above, it creates a "boxed-out" effect, severely disjointing the overall rectilinear volume into singular faces of brick "framed" by competing stone elements. There is also no coining present on other existing campus buildings, such as Town Hall, so it introduces a new language that does not seem to appropriately engage with the contemporary composition.

Comment: Consider adding mechanical screening to shield rear facing roof-top equipment.

Response: Since none of this equipment is visible from the public facing side of the building, no mechanical screening has been added. Also, in order to maintain the required clearances around the equipment, the screening must be pushed closer to the edge of the roof. Due to the increased height of the screening and this closer proximity, it in facts becomes more visible than the equipment itself. Having a greater negative impact on the overall composition. The addition of mechanical screening will also increase the dead load on the roof and possible snow drift load, resulting in modifications to the structural system and added cost. Elevation views can be misleading in this regard. Multiple views were taking at eye level around the building illustrating how the volume and height of the building shield the visibility of the equipment.

Comment: Consider adding light at the building signage.

<u>Response</u>: A linear light has been added to illuminate the building signage "Wilton Police" during night-time hours.

Comment: Consider an alternative overhead door color.

<u>Response</u>: The overhead door is available in the following colors: White, Gray, Tan or Industrial Brown. Physical Samples will be provided during construction administration. The best complimenting color will be selected based on other approved exterior materials.

## **Exterior Color**



We look forward to continuing our partnership with the Town of Wilton in delivering a state-of-the-art police facility, which not only satisfies the many needs of the department, but also aesthetically represents the community it serves.

Sincerely,

Jeffery R. McElravy, AIA

Principal

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