CITY OF LA CROSSE, WISCONSIN CITY PLAN COMMISSION REPORT April 29, 2019

> AGENDA ITEM - 19-0543 (Andrea Schnick)

Request for Exception to Standards for Commercial Design by St. James Catholic Church allowing for exception of on-premise parking for new building addition at 1032 Caledonia St.

ROUTING: J&A 4/30/19

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

St. James the Less Catholic Church plans to build an addition for a multi-purpose assembly place which therefore requires the applicant to comply with the Commercial Design Review process. They are also adding an elevator for handicap accessibility and a new handicap accessible entry off of Windsor Street.

Although this property is part of the exception to the parking requirement on Caledonia Street, and although it is zoned C1-Local Business, since they do not have a "dedicated commercial space on the ground floor" they are not exempt from the offstreet parking requirements. (Sec. 115-393)

The request for the handicap space on Caledonia Street to be relocated to Windsor Street would need to go through Matt Gallager in the Engineering Department. The applicant is aware of this and has Matt's contact information to pursue the request.

This project does not create the need for additional parking. The church and Providence Academy, located across the street, have a shared parking agreement such that the church uses this parking lot for their services and the school uses it during school events, which happen on different days and times from each other. The church owns the building where Providence Academy is located.

GENERAL LOCATION:

Northeast corner of Caledonia Street and Windsor Street, Council District 3, in the Lower Northside and Depot Neighborhood Association.

RECOMMENDATION OF OTHER BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS: N/A

CONSISTENCY WITH ADOPTED COMPREHENSIVE PLAN:

The Comprehensive Plan encourages staff to evaluate zoning requirements for parking in older, developed areas of the City, especially if existing development would need to be removed to create new parking areas.

 PLANNING RECOMMENDATION:
Planning staff recommends approval of request. Additional parking needs are not being created through the church renovations and the parking agreement with Providence Academy across the street will continue to be in place.





