

# Savannah Historic District Board of Review

### MAY 13, 2020 SAVANNAH HISTORIC DISTRICT BOARD OF REVIEW

#### **Title**

Petition of Lott Barber | 18-006769-COA | 145 Montgomery Street | New Construction: Part I Amendments and Part II Design Details

### **Description**

The petitioner is requesting approval for amendments to New Construction: Part I Height and Mass and New Construction: Part II, Design Details of the Chatham County Courthouse Expansion building on the south end of the property at 145 Montgomery Street. The new building is a monumental structure and the principal entrance is located on Oglethorpe Avenue. The proposed site consists of two tithing blocks and York Lane.

The Georgia Preservation Act of 1980, Section 44-10-27, (b) states:

"The Department of Transportation and any contractors, including cities and counties, performing work funded by the Department of Transportation are exempt from the requirement to obtain a Certificate of Appropriateness (COA) under the Georgia Historic Preservation Act of 1980. Local governments are also exempt provided; however, that they provide notification to the Historic District Board of Review 45 days prior to beginning any work that would require a COA and allow the HDBR an opportunity to comment."

Initially, the applicant and owner were committed to going through the COA review process; however, they have now decided to opt-out. The Chatham County court system is a part of the local government. The representative for the Chatham County court system is providing notice to the Historic District Board of Review of the proposed project within the historic district and allowing the Board the opportunity to comment pursuant to the Georgia Historic Preservation Act of 1980.

This also excludes the project from the posting requirements and providing all supplemental documents and other items typically required to be submitted for a new construction project. Although, they have posted the project and have provided all supplemental documents.

## Recommendation

Staff recommends the following comments be provided for considered related to the proposed Courthouse at 145 Montgomery Street to be more compatible with the surrounding historic context:

- 1. Remove the colonnades on the exterior of the atrium in their entirety;
- 2. Simplify the design of the parapet balusters.

#### Contact

### **Financial Impact**

#### **Review Comments**

#### **Attachments**

- ∅ 18-006769-COA Staff Recommendation.pdf
- Closed Streets and Lanes Map.pdf
- Liberty Ward.pdf
- Context Sanborn Maps.pdf
- Previously Approved 2.pdf
- Submittal Packet 2.pdf
- Submittal Packet 1.pdf
- Submittal Packet Narrative.pdf

- Previously Approved 1.pdf
- Public Comment.pdf