

# RAKAUSKAS • ARCHITECTURE

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June 8, 2011

Landmarks Commission  
City of Cleveland  
Cleveland City Hall  
601 Lakeside Avenue  
Cleveland, Ohio 44114

Re: Valet Parking and Circulation - An Alternate Concept  
Proposed Casino, Cleveland, OH

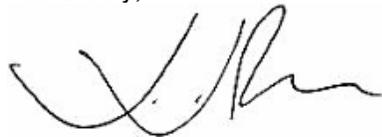
Dear Members of the Commission:

I am submitting a site plan and several views of an alternate concept for valet parking and access to and from the proposed casino located in the former Higbee Building in downtown Cleveland, Ohio. That which is being submitted herein should be considered a concept and visually not a specific design as such. In the interim since the last Landmarks meeting on May 26, 2011, it is my understanding that there have been no other alternatives to that which was proposed since the hearing was rescheduled to June 9, 2011 for further study. The intent of the concept submitted is to specifically propose a way to save the Columbia Building, but also to attempt to solve other less than acceptable conditions created by the proposed scheme. The alternate submitted relieves Prospect Avenue from the congestion created in what should be a pedestrian oriented street. It provides an alternate to the awkward and looming diagonal bridge at Prospect and Ontario. It moves access both to and from valet parking to Huron Road and Ontario Street which, with proper signaling, should be much better suited to the traffic generated.

The essence of the concept submitted today is to locate the needed garage in the empty space at the corner of Huron and Ontario. This visually can help complete the gateway. This valet entrance and garage is linked by bridges to the casino, borrowing space at the edge of the Landmarks Building's second floor. With a coordinated effort this avoids the diagonal bridge proposed. The valet entrance garage is separated but linked by a unique pedestrian and valet access vehicle bridge to the valet departure lanes on the east side of Ontario. This bridge, if designed properly, can contribute to an exciting and defined gateway effect. I believe it is also possible for the valet entrance and departure to be reversed from what is shown if the traffic flow is deemed better.

It is my hope that the Commission will see advantages of the alternate submitted and require continued dialog, not allowing what has been previously submitted to be approved without considering better alternatives.

Yours truly,



John J. Rakauskas, Architect

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