

Listening Session #2

February 27, 2026
7pm
Parish Basement





Agenda

- Opening Prayer
- Parish Strategy Update
- Results of the Steier Group Survey of the Building and Grounds Master Plan
- FAQs
- Questions
- Closing Prayer



Strategic Planning Progress

Vision: As a Catholic Community, in the Manhattan Kansas area, Seven Dolor's Parish will always look to the next 75 years to continuously improve parish rituals, traditions, programs, organizational structure, membership, community partnerships and campus facilities.

Intent: **Grow God's Kingdom by fostering a sense of parish ownership in raising good Catholics to become disciples for Jesus on a Mission.**

Method: Conduct Strategic Planning over 5 months to create Master Plans for the following Committees: **(Faith Formation, Evangelization, Liturgy, Parish Life, Social Action, and Building & Grounds (B&G))**. Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) Synchronizes all the requirements in each Committee Master plan into a Parish Strategy. At a minimum, the Strategy will **create a set of procedures** to coordinate parishioner and committee requirements to the PPC for resources and enable the PPC to assess committee progress in accomplishing their assigned tasks. **Key Tools** created by the strategy, to assist the process, are Short, Mid and Long-range calendars, revised parish website reflecting the Parish Strategy and Standardized formats for Committee

Minutes.

JAN FEB MAR APR MAY JUN

Seven Dolors Strategic Planning Timeline

① Socialize Strategic Concept ②

Parishioners Ask Questions & Collaborate with Parish Committees & Councils

Develop Master Plans ③

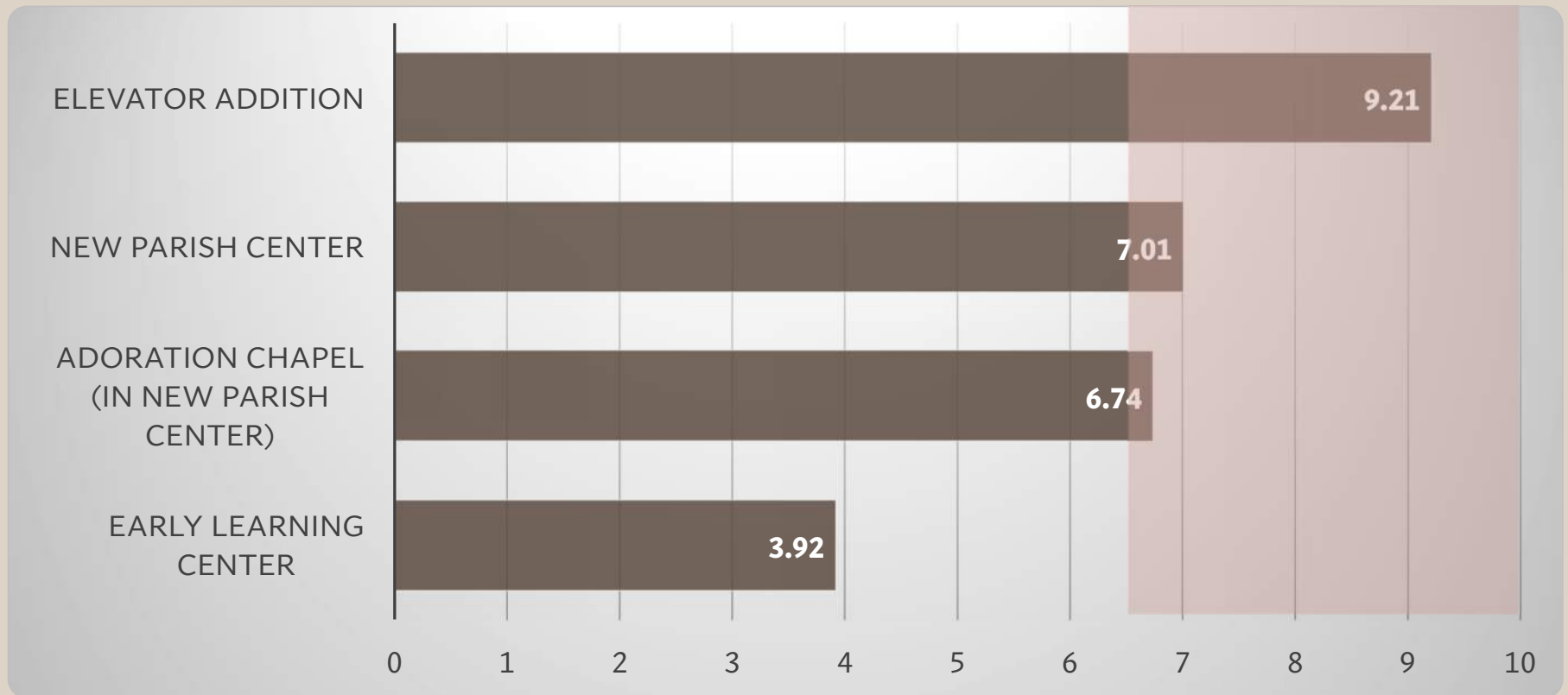
Refine Master Plans ④

PPC Synchronize Master Plans

Approve Strategy ⑤

Parish Information Sessions

Results of Steier Group Study



52 Personal Interview : 89 Mail, Online and In-Pew Surveys : **20%** Total Participation (Target=15%-25%)

6/22/20XX

Comments on Goals

- Parishioners expressed a desire for more detailed and transparent communication regarding the Early Learning Center.
- The Parish Center is viewed as important but there are questions regarding the proposed layout and scope of the project.
- There is consensus that the elevator is a high priority.

Early Learning Center



- Most comments and concerns
- **Recommendation from Steier Group**
Form an Early Learning Center sub-committee, to facilitate in-depth discussions with leadership from St. Isidore's, St. Thomas More and MCS to explore a collaborative effort.
- Will not be proceeding until more collaboration occurs

Parish Center

- General support from Feasibility Study, some questions and concerns
- Plan is to move forward into design with changes in mind
- **Steier Group Recommendation**

Continue to work with the architect and parish ministry leaders to further refine the plans for the parish center.

- Input is very much welcome
- Please reach out to the parish office or to Brayson Benne (braysonbenne@gmail.com, 913-481-5288) to provide input



Parish Center FAQs

Q: Before demolishing the current parish center, has the parish conducted thorough electrical, mechanical and structural assessments of the building to see if renovations are possible?

Q: We've heard that Catholic Charities determined that the two food pantry programs do not align. What is the long-term plan for the Food Pantry? Can it be incorporated into the new parish center?

Q: How will our parish ministries benefit from the four multi-purpose classrooms or meeting spaces?

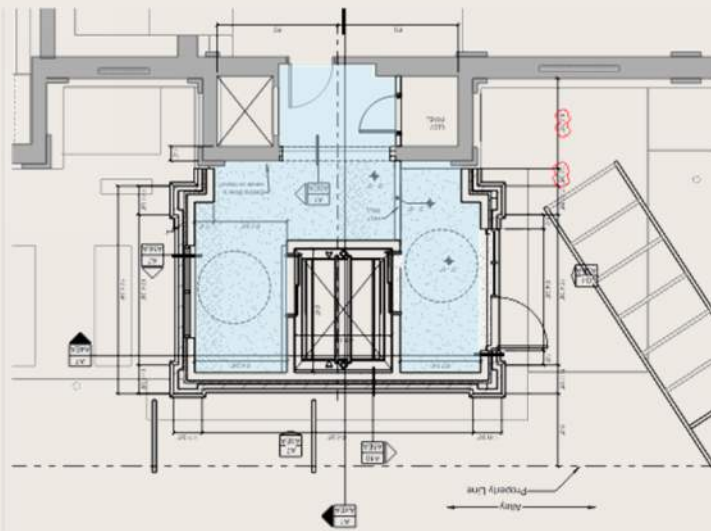
Q: Why are the offices all located on the second floor?

Parish Center FAQs

Q: What is the purpose of the courtyard?

Q: Would the courtyard space be better suited to a large meeting room or event space? For example, has a large parish hall been considered instead of classroom space? Something similar to the Utopia Room at St. Thomas More?

Q: What amenities are included in the kitchen e.g., oven, stove, refrigerator, freezer?



Elevator Addition

- Minimal comments and the most support
- Design moving forward
- Permitting will take some time due to Historic Landmark

Campus Wide FAQs

Q: Are there plans to address the lack of parking near the church?

A: To better understand how parking is being used and where true demand exists, it would be beneficial to conduct a parking study focused on this block and its surroundings. Sub-Committee should be formed.

Q: Will the Budget Shop Building be impacted by these projects?

A: No, there will be no impact to the Budget Shop Building.

Action Items

- Pursue the Elevator Addition
- Receive input, make adjustments to Parish Center
- Collaborate with Food Pantry
- Establish Sub-Committee to Address Concerns with ELC
- Establish Sub-Committee to Address Concerns about Parking



Steps Moving Forward



Share

Share the results of the Feasibility Study with the Entire Parish



Listen

Listen to feedback, questions, and concerns from the study



Respond

Respond to frequently asked questions (FAQs) and concerns



Communicate

Use a variety of methods to communicate



Repeat



Communication



Monthly Listening Session Until May



Regular Updates on Parish Strategy



Table/Booth at Upcoming Parish Events

(Soup Suppers, Fish Fry, Breakfasts, etc)



Regular updates to the Parish Website



Announcements in Bulletins

Financial FAQs

Q: What percentage or dollar amount of the Heidel Family estate gift has already been allocated to an endowment fund?

Q: Do we have a target for the endowment fund to cover a specific percent of annual parish operating expenses?

A: Answer

Meet the full committee



Ex-Officio and Supporting Members

Fr. Leo Blasi

Pastor, Seven Dolors Parish

Ulises Martinez

Director of Maintenance, MCS, Seven Dolors, and St. Patrick's

Jeremy McGuire

Strategic Planning and Communication

Dale Anderson

In House Historian

Brayson Benne, PE

Civil Engineer, Olsson
Chair

Diane Noll

Retired, Chair of Finance
Council
Finance Council Liason

Lisa Johnson, AIA

VP, KSU Division of Facilities
Planning Design & Construction
At-Large, Architect

Oscar Bonilla

Hispanic Community Liason

Craig Ronnebaum

Design Engineer, BG Consultants
Secretary

Maria McAnerney

Youth Minister
Parish Staff Liason

Ray Buyle, DBIA

Former Dean, KSU Arch
Engineering and
Construction Science
At-Large, Construction
Science

John Strawbrich

Project Manager, McCown
Gordon
Young Families and New
Parishioners Liason

Questions



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