



## **Suitland High School Project Update Meeting | September 24, 2024 Questions & Answers**

**Will the auditorium be available for use throughout the remainder of the 24-25 school year? If not, what accommodations will be made for CVPA students?**

Thank you for your question. Yes, the auditorium will remain available for use throughout the remainder of the 24-25 school year.

**Is the construction project on schedule?**

Thank you for your question. The project was initially delayed due to permitting challenges. Since construction started, it hasn't incurred any further delays.

**What type of exterior materials are you using for the construction of SHS? Will you be using brick exteriors, or are you planning to use the same type of exterior as DFMS?**

We're using a variety of materials for the new Suitland High School. Brick is being applied now at Area and we have chosen a very dark color for the brick. It's a very deep and beautiful dark color for the brick, and it will contrast very greatly with the white metal/cementitious/terracotta panels. We've tried to differentiate the material so that in phase 1, you'll have brick and metal panels. In phase 2, you'll have terracotta and brick. Along with the curtain wall glazing throughout, the auditorium will have cementitious panels, metal, and glass.

**Do you have all the money to complete the entire construction project at SHS?**

We went back to the state for an additional request of \$28 million, which they approved for the project. This is a multi-year funded project, so we will be requesting funds for the next three fiscal years to complete it.

**What is Area F?**

Area F is the heart of the building. It is where all the engineering and mechanical equipment is located for the building. This will serve both phases 1 and 2. It is also where the food services and the kitchen are located so that they can feed into the commons.

**What safety measures are being installed to prevent a mass shooting situation from taking place?**

There are a large number of security features, including cameras and other communication devices, that will help keep our school safe. We do not have bulletproof glass, but we do have glass that has been tested and is strong enough to keep people from breaking it. We have security at the main entrance, and the school will be locked down during the day. People will be able to gain entrance through the reception area. The doors have a buzz-in system that allows all doors to be locked during operation. The classrooms also have intruder protection hardware on the doors, where doors will be locked when teachers press a button.



**One question, and I know we're not at this point of the project yet. But, can you speak briefly to the new Suitland HS design and how it aligns with our district climate conscience initiatives through the Climate Change Action Plan?**

Suitland HS will be LEED certified. We are mandated to hit LEED silver, but we might have enough to hit LEED gold. The school has many different features that are energy efficient and good for the environment, including solar panels on the roof, stormwater management, water-efficient plumbing fixtures, and HVAC systems. We are doing our part by going through the LEED program to make sure the school will hit that mark and be a beacon of energy efficiency.

**Will students from the CTE programs be able to work on future projects? Work experience for a career path will help combat youth unemployment in Prince George's County. Someone on the team should be interested in this issue. Please respond. What are your thoughts?**

We're in favor of this, but we are trying to figure out how to implement it from a liability and insurance standpoint.

**Is there a phone number for Kyra?**

Here is my email contact: [Ktyson@tcco.com](mailto:Ktyson@tcco.com)

**Is it still planned for Drew Freeman's parking lot to be accessible and shared with Suitland HS? Also, I recall a discussion about Suitland HS traffic emptying out on Brooks Drive, but I can't tell from the picture of Phase 3. Is that still accurate?**

We are not utilizing Drew Freeman's parking lot. Suitland HS will have its own parking lot area. The point of egress will be from Silver Hill Road, not from Brooks Drive. In the case of an emergency, there is an emergency exit through the property that we can exit along the pathway in front of Imani Temple and Brooks Drive.

**The Suitland Civic Association, Inc. email address is [suitlandcivic@gmail.com](mailto:suitlandcivic@gmail.com).**

Thank you, Ms. Anderson!

**Will students & faculty have access to the phases as they are completed or will those portions not be accessible until full completion?**

Students and staff will be moved into the spaces as the project is completed.

**Wouldn't bulletproof glass be a wise investment? We are talking about the safety of our children.**

From a cost perspective, that will not be feasible. What we try to do is look at all of the other preventative approaches and design implementations that we can incorporate, in addition to staffing our facilities with resource officers.

**Is this call being recorded and if so, will it be posted anywhere?**

Yes, the video is being recorded. All project information and past meetings can be found at the link [bit.ly/DCP-Suitland](https://bit.ly/DCP-Suitland).

**What is the total cost of building Suitland High School?**



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The rough total project cost is \$390 million.