

Frequently Asked Questions About Temple Rodef Shalom Building Project

1) Why are we considering a renovation?

By any measure, Temple Rodef Shalom is thriving. We've created a sacred community, *Kehilla Kedosha*, where we worship, study, celebrate, work to repair the world, and share our lives together. While it's easy to walk around TRS and be impressed by all the energy and activity, it's also easy to miss the fact that there are events that we can't accommodate due to lack of space.

2) What are we planning on adding during the renovation?

We're looking to redesign parts of our existing building to get greater use out of them and add a small sanctuary, meeting rooms, classrooms, parking, and clergy and administrative offices.

3) Why are we planning this renovation now?

We purchased an adjacent parcel of land in 2014 between TRS and Haycock Elementary School. Zoning laws limit our building's size to a certain percentage of our total property and the new land gave us the opportunity to expand our buildings' footprint. It's important to note, however, that the new buildings will NOT be on the new property. The fact that we now own more acreage allows us to explore adding onto our current building.

4) Are we renovating because we plan to grow?

We are renovating to better serve our existing congregation, not because we expect exceptional growth. TRS has grown by fifty percent over the last ten years and we cautiously predict future growth at a net gain of forty families per year. Our clergy and staff have also increased to support the growth. We're simply out of space.

5) What about parking?

We're planning on adding 98 parking spaces, which will nearly double what we have now. We'd like to get more cars off of Westmoreland St. and make it safer to walk across the parking lot.

6) What environmental issues are being addressed?

Our architects and engineers are keeping in mind sustainable design principles, storm water run-off, lighting and noise issues, and the need for overall site improvement as they come up with a plan.

7) Where are we in the process?

We have a preliminary design and will be meeting with community groups in January, 2017 to present our plan and discuss their concerns. After those conversations we'll submit a formal application to the Fairfax County Board.