

Metropolis Art and Architecture Committee

Guidelines for Parishes

Recently, it has become apparent that it is necessary to re-emphasize the role and duties of the Metropolis Art and Architecture Committee. This important committee has been entrusted with the responsibility to uphold and further standards of excellence in Church art and architecture within our Metropolis. The members of this committee offer a wealth of knowledge and experience free of charge to parishes that are embarking upon building or remodeling projects.

Article II Section 4 of the Archdiocese Uniform Parish Regulations specifies that parishes shall maintain the architectural, iconographic and artistic integrity of all Church edifices in accordance with orthodox tradition. For that reason, Parishes shall submit to the respective Hierarch, for his prior approval related to aesthetic and dogmatic concerns, all preliminary plans for:

- A. The erection of a church structure or other Parish building;
- B. Any major structural alteration to an existing church structure or other Parish building;
- C. The installation of iconography or any appointments and furnishings, fixture and /or artifacts to a Church structure.

Upon timely submittal (before the formal Parish and Local Regulatory Approval Process) the proposed plans for above are reviewed by the Hierarch in consultation with the Art and Architecture Committee in order to ensure that the project is suited to the near and long term needs of the parish and conforms to the Metropolis's requirements and standards of excellence.

In order to ensure that these standards are met, please observe the following requirements:

BUILDING TYPE PROJECTS

1. All proposals for construction, structural modifications, or decoration of the Church or parish buildings must be submitted in preliminary form at a Conceptual or Schematic Level to the Metropolis for review by the Metropolitan and the Art and Architecture committee. This would occur prior to the preparation of final (detailed) plans for their submission to local authorities for approval and permits.
2. All final plans for construction, structural modifications, or decoration of the Church or parish buildings must be re-submitted to the Metropolis for final approval by the committee before the parish enters into any contract for the implementation (fabrication and or installation and /or construction) of the work.

INTERIORS, ICONOGRAPHIC and ARTIFACT, FURNISHINGS TYPE PROJECTS

1. All preliminary proposals for artistic work (i.e., installation or modification of iconography, iconostasis, throne, art glass, mosaic, etc.) must be submitted to the Metropolis prior to the

selection of an iconographer or artisan, in order that the Art and Architecture Committee may review both the proposal and the list of potential artisans/iconographers.

2. After approval of the preliminary proposal and selection of an approved iconographer or artisan, a final proposal for all artistic work shall be prepared and submitted to the Metropolis for final approval by the committee.

If there is a question as to whether a particular project requires review and approval by His Eminence and the Art and Architecture committee, please contact the Metropolis Office.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter, which will help to ensure that a uniform artistic and architectural standard is upheld throughout the Metropolis of San Francisco.

Contact:

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