



**Design Review Board (DRB) Staff Report**  
*Prepared for the September 6, 2023 DRB Meeting*

Lighting, Landscaping, and Sidewalk

Case # 23-60: MOC Greenspace  
69 N Cleveland St  
Memphis, TN 38104

Applicant/Project Manager: Jim Kurtz  
Executive Director  
Catholic Charities of West Tennessee  
1325 Jefferson Ave  
Memphis, TN 38104

Property Owner: Rev. Bishop Dozier Carroll  
1325 Jefferson Ave  
Memphis, TN 38104

Project Manager: Jim Kutz  
Sr. Dir. of Administration  
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Background: DRB review is required for this project because it received Good Neighbor Grant at the August 16, 2023 CCDC Board Meeting.

The subject property is lot on the northwest corner of North Cleveland Street and Court Avenue. The applicant will receive assistance with final stage amenities for the greenspace located here like lighting, flowerbeds, a water fountain, and curb cut improvements.

Project Description: The exterior scope of work will improve upon the existing greenspace to make it more useful, safe, and attractive. The scope of work includes the following design details.

- Four (4) large outdoor lamps with downward facing light and metal posts will be installed around the pavilion structure.
- An outdoor bottle filling station tri-level in red will be installed by the seating space outside of the Midtown Outreach Center office. It will have two drinking fountain and one bottle filling station.

- The existing curb cuts for the exit and entrance for the mobile food distribution will be redone making the space safer and more accessible.
- Twelve (12) flowerbeds made of cinderblock will be added to the west of the existing to double the existing community garden. Fifty-six (56) cinderblocks will be used for each bed resulting in a beds that are 5 ft. 4 in. (w) by 13 ft. 4 in. (l).

**Staff Report:**

The proposed design for the Midtown Outreach Center's Greenspace is in alignment with the goals of the Downtown Memphis Design Guidelines of ensuring high quality design and creating an attractive pedestrian-oriented environment. The space will be a green respite in an urban environment for neighbors. And, it will complement the resources available next door like free hot meals.

The green space is a private lot owned by Catholic Charities of West TN. It will be open to the public during business hours, typically sun-up to sun-down. Onsite management and security will be available. The organization also relies on a robust volunteer network to help service and maintain the space. Volunteers groups include local nursing programs, police trainees, and corporate groups completing community service hours.

The space will have robust spillover benefits for the neighborhood on this main corridor. It is primed to encourage additional investment in the neighborhood while also supporting neighbors in need.

**Staff Recommendation:**     **Staff recommends approval.**