

CITY HALL PROJECT PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD --103 comments--August 5-September 14, 2014	DATE
I would like to see a much smaller City Hall that is designed for efficiency and low maintenance. I think our downtown and community has a wow factor and we don't necessarily need a city hall to project that image. With all the un-utilized buildings in our community it seems wasteful to build something new when a historical building(s) could be renovated. A renovation to a LEED type standard would project a positive image while reducing ongoing costs. City Hall records should all be digitized which would eliminate the need for a huge amount of wasted space. I don't think we should be tied to the area the City Hall is in now as it is the clear desire of County residents for Co govt to remain independent of the City. If City Hall were located on Broadway it would have much greater visibility and would be a quantum leap for downtown. For example, if City Hall were to go in where the collapsed dime store is it would remove a blight as well as revitalize that section of Broadway. The same would be true if it were put in the next block. Downtown is a great place to be. Additionally, the Katterjohn Building could be considered. Lots of parking spaces and it may be able to house Parks to get them out of that antiquated energy hog of a building. In general I would urge the City to choose unconventional, imaginative, options that turn a negative into a positive.	8/5/2014
Redo city hall. Its a landmark. Quit spending money on the riverfront project!	8/5/2014
fix the old i love the way our city hall looks. it is so unique i am 50 years old and i know i am home every time i see city hall	8/5/2014
Over my 30+ years as a citizen of Paducah, I have always wondered how and why anyone was ever possessed to create such a dysfunctional, monumental eyesore as is Paducah City Hall. From an access standpoint, there is limited parking and if one is handicapped, entry can only be gained from the front side of the building. One would surmise that the wheel-chair bound must be very well-muscled in the upper extremities to gain access, given that the length of the handicapped ramp. Or have an electric-powered scooter/wheelchair. Recalling my first trip to this monstrosity of a building left me in wonderment, as I attempted to figure out where, in all the wasted, open space, someone had managed to hide the offices, while providing no visible signage or directory. Furthermore, in our present climate of folks striving to achieve energy efficiency, Paducah City Hall stands as a monument to a time and place where such concern was not considered. One shudders to think of how much tax-payer money is wasted on heating/air-conditioning a building in which open space must certainly comprise more than 50% of the total square footage? It is also truly a wonder that folks, especially the elderly and disabled, have not sustained numerous falls/cardiovascular events in attempting to traverse the horrendously steep staircase. In short, the building layout and design is so dysfunctional that no amount of "rehabilitation" can redeem it. If, as been reported, it will actually cost less to raze and build a new Hall that to renovate the existing structure, PLEASE do the sensible, right thing and destroy, forthwith, a building that fails to accent the historical nature of the surrounding downtown.	8/6/2014
I agree I truly hope this historic and beautiful building can be restored. I walked in just other day and was struck by how fabulous the lobby is.	8/6/2014
I think the current building is an incredible example of all those things. Per image, it is a significant piece of mid-century architecture by world renowned architect Edward Durrell Stone. Per functionality, every square foot was designed for collaboration, public engagement, and customer service. It may not be used that way, but it is inherent in the design. Most notable is the reception area as you enter the building. Per sustainability (people, planet, and profits), it would be interesting to know what grants and programs are available to make the building more cost efficient. Just today WKMS shared the Harvard Endowment project for greening historic spaces. Per connection to our community identity, it seems important to keep our history intact. Our historic buildings tell our story in powerful ways. Thank you for asking for input. It is greatly appreciated!	8/6/2014
I admire the current city hall too but I understand the need for a change due to cost and long term sustainability. Is there a way to keep some parts of that building and turn it into a museum or something that will keep it a part of our community. As for a new location, I think this is a great opportunity for the tax payers to help restore a downtown building and turn downtown back into the epicenter of Paducah. The Kresge or Goodman buildings would make a beautiful restored city hall!	8/6/2014
It is a historic building, designed by a famous architect and beautifully sited. Hopefully it can be restored and the new canopy made to look like the old as far as its major features and decorative elements. While the floor to ceiling windows would have to go, perhaps exterior treatment such as dark brick or tile can be employed over and under the new ones to give a similar visual experience, at least from a distance.	8/6/2014
When I look at City Hall these are the issues that come to mind when you consider redoing it: Is it feasible and practical to bring it up to 2014 seismic standards. While the atrium is aesthetically pleasing, it must be very inefficient to heat and cool. Is it practical to retrofit the building to make its technology needs current and to meet the demands in the long term?	8/6/2014
While the unique style of the city hall architecture is very difficult to give up, the primary focus of the review should remain the efficiency of city government operations. As a structural engineer, with good knowledge of the seismic deficiencies that currently exist, I feel that it would be very wasteful to try to save this 50 year old facility. Besides the prohibitive cost of construction, the cost of relocation and the disruption of ongoing operations is simply too significant to overlook. Considering the critical operations of the city government within the structure, it is simply too risky to continue the existing building's use longer than what is necessary. If the BIG earthquake were to hit today, and it will someday, the city's response will likely be chaotic at best due to damage in the deteriorated building. The construction of a new city hall will be dramatically lower in cost and much less risky. Nice architecture or not, the building's architecture is simply not worth the added risk. I currently live in an adjacent county so in some ways I have no dog in the hunt but I do have a working knowledge of the facility and I hope that my family and friends in Paducah will make a wise decision. And I certainly applaud the efforts of city government to identify the desires of the public, although a decision should take place as quickly as is reasonable because the date of that upcoming earthquake is known by none of us. I truly hope that all goes well. Choose wisely.	8/6/2014
Would it be possible to move City Hall to The Katterjohn Building? I'm not sure if it is close enough in proximity to the Chamber and other government buildings? However, it is a grand building and there could be ample parking in the rear with an access on the left hand side from Broadway. The building desperately needs renovating anyways and I hear it has several fantastic features inside including marble floors, walnut paneling and baccarat chandeliers. It's main issue is the heating and air system needs a college overhaul which comes with a large price tag supposedly.	8/7/2014
It's time for a new city hall. A new update	8/7/2014
I do not live in city but work there so my tax dollars count. I think restoration of old I C railroad hospital (katterjohn building) would make great city hall. It is also near police department.	8/7/2014

I believe consideration should be given to restoration and conversion of The Katterjohn Building as Paducah's new City Hall. This building is one of Paducah's most beautiful historical treasures and is currently vacant. The Katterjohn building location offers the opportunity for City Hall to be within close proximity to the Paducah Police Dept. and the Fountain Avenue area of Paducah which is currently undergoing revitalization. The architecture of this building is timeless and perfect for the function of City Hall. The building needs considerable repair but this could possibly be accomplished with less time and money than repairing the current city hall. The Katterjohn Building is a registered historical landmark of this city and is not being appropriately maintained. The city has an opportunity to preserve this historic structure and to support vitality of the surrounding neighborhood. The current City Hall building needs to be demolished. The 1960's architecture does not compliment the beautifully classic architecture of our city. Demolish the building, fill the hole with the rubble, and extend the adjacent park to support city festivals and other functions.	8/9/2014
Mike and I would like to see our City Hall renovated and used as per the original intent. Money will need to be spent one way or the other and to improve the structure, put in geothermal and use other energy saving retrofit improvements will help lower or at least maintain the utility costs while extending the life of the structure. It is a landmark we can be very proud. Also, have an architect or an ergonomic specialist do a space assessment to determine optimal use and to continue with the current function of the building. Thank you for asking our opinion.	8/9/2014
I would strongly suggest that the present City Hall structure be demolished. There are so many issues that are bad with this building as it is not a handicapped facility and the recessed lobby is too large and a waste of valuable footage and with the step downs is unsafe. Very difficult to unload and get things into building from basement elevators when setting up exhibits. The Katterjohn Building on Broadway would be the perfect location for a new City Hall. The building is historic and should not ever be destroyed. It can be resurrected either as a City Hall or even a new hotel called the Katterjohn Arms) or even a unique shopping and restaurant venue. Having a City hall on this site extends future possibilities for retail and restaurant development up to 13th Street on Broadway. We don't need a building as large as the one we have now.	8/10/2014
Thank you Bill for your insight. I had not considered the Katterjohn building as an alternative. I think is a great idea. Much more visible on Broadway and preservation of a landmark!	8/10/2014
I think City Hall should be historical and befitting our downtown, which is what people really remember about Paducah most. To do this I suggest we take a blighted building(s) downtown and renovate. The exterior should be historical but the interior interesting and functional, similar to the Chamber office. There should be green space by it which could be provided by removing a less significant structure adjacent to the new City Hall. This would allow a much needed green space in the middle of downtown that would connect pedestrians to either KY or Jefferson parking. The area could serve as a place for people to relax, eat lunch, whatever. The section of buildings across from the mental health office would be a good spot or the collapsed Kresge building. I am not sure if that building has a historical front left on it, if not, one could be replicated and you could have an entirely new, LEED certified interior plus the aforementioned green space. Personally, the grandiose image of the present City Hall is old school and burdensome. The City population is declining as in many similar cities. This is simple demographics, less marriages, less kids, few immigrants coming to Paducah. The new City Hall should be sized to reflect our present size to show taxpayers we are being efficient---but we have to spend money enough to have something we are proud of and that projects a progressive image. Not the 60s- City Hall, Peoples Bank, Paducah Public Library, Paducah Sun. My grandfather was on the City Commission when they built the present City Hall. Not sure it was right then but it's not the image or expense we need today.	8/11/2014
We currently have property in three counties. McCracken in Kentucky, and Bay and Walton in Florida. Paducah is the only city that opted years ago to invest in an architecturally grand focused City Hall. Yes, it is also the only one of the three with a declining population. The others have functional City Halls, and County Court buildings. I am also troubled by the request from the Police and Fire folks for new and more modern facilities.	8/11/2014
Use money to build a new structure. Don't waste it on the old one. You could even have the new one designed to look like the old one.	8/11/2014
I would like to see a sleek, modern, and architectural master piece. With a beautiful lawn and many flower gardens.	8/11/2014
The present city hall is breathtakingly beautiful. It was designed by a world class architect and projects a very positive image for the community. Mechanical issues with city hall are not a new topic. There have been problems with the building for many years. Nevertheless, I believe we should attempt to save and protect the building, if possible. What I fear most is that we will raze the building and replace it with a small and commonplace building. If we do replace the current city hall, I hope that we do something as impressive as our current city hall. If it is on a smaller scale, then fine, but make it visually impressive! When the Carson Center was being designed and built, there were many who said the project would fail. When the cost to build became apparent, many wanted to cut corners and make the building more modest and common. Fortunately, we pushed ahead and built one of the nation's finest performing arts centers! Today the Carson Center and City Hall are the two most beautiful and impressive building in downtown Paducah. I would certain hate to see us lose one of them!	8/11/2014
I think it is important to know the cost of renovation as opposed to a new building. Many of our historic buildings are beautiful and should be saved but sometimes it's just not an economical option. Of course I'd prefer renovation, but it's not that easy when cost is involved. Could there be an assessment and comparisons?	8/11/2014
The A-1 Civic Center Zone has been neglected and the current state of deterioration is the product of well, incompetence! I visited the Kennedy Center last summer to see if it was in a similar condition. Thank GOD IT WAS NOT!	8/11/2014
Tear it down and build a new one. There is a lot of wasted space in this building.	8/11/2014
Does it raise a ? In the mind of taxpayers that some societies build up and preserve like a BILL BLACK JR. Tells us. But others only know how 2 tear up and tear down so politicians can put their name on something that nobody cares 2 remember! Carnegie Library...! oops V. Frank Lloyd Wright House? Europe Egypt etc 2000 yrs old structures preserved by "creative genius"...?	8/11/2014
Take it down. Build a new city hall. It never looked good when it was built.	8/11/2014
I think a replica of the old Paducah Carnegie Library would be an appropriate historical image for a new city hall. (larger if necessary)	8/11/2014
I can't imagine why anyone would want to spend millions of dollars renovating this eyesore of a building. It needs to be rebuilt in a design that is more traditional and more in keeping with the architecture of all the historic buildings and houses downtown.	8/11/2014
Please consider safety and seismic sustainability!! Critical to access during issues!!	8/11/2014

I had the honor of being around during the decision to build the E.D. Stone City Hall. It may have some repairable problems but it still is an outstanding building. Whatever decision is made, I would appreciate being able to help with the removal and relocation of the Fountain Head, as I assisted the artist in the installation. Most people are not aware that the recessed area in the center of City Hall was designed to be a reflecting pool and the fountains "function" counted on this. The pods are all designed to spray water and one is designed to turn with the water power. Unfortunately, the pool leaked down on the Police Chief's desk and was quickly drained. Let's try to use the building as it was intended and upgrade and repair the outstanding architecture.	8/12/2014
Could Yeiser Art Center function better in the current City Hall? I have lived in Los Angeles, CA outside of Cincinnati, OH, Lexington, KY and Nashville, TN. All of those cities are "arts destinations". From what I've experienced firsthand, for Paducah, KY to evolve into a flourishing arts community, we are missing one integral piece downtown--a large FINE ART museum. Not just the AQS. To me, the current City Hall would work brilliantly as an art museum for several reasons: 1. Its design is mid-century modern which is the perfect time period for an art museum. Most revered government buildings have Roman, Greek, and or Italian architecture (like the Katterjohn building). 2. The current City Hall has high ceilings, great natural light and is approachable from several sides. 3. The first floor could be for touring exhibits while the upstairs could be for permanent installations. 4. There can be wings for different types of fine art; sculpture, ceramics, jewelry, painting, drawing, installations (performance art). 5. Placing Yeiser Art Center there and making a permanent large collection, would bring additional tourism and money to downtown. When people spend hours in a museum, they will need a place to eat, fill up their car with gas, spend the night, etc. 6. Ramps could be added on some of the stairs for wheelchair accessibility. 7. Yeiser Art Center is in desperate need of more space! Yeiser's programming is severely limited by its size including children's arts education, openings of shows, fundraising programs, etc. 8. Placing Yeiser there would provide a beautiful museum in close proximity to the McCracken County Library and the fountain area. People could picnic or walk around the fountain after visiting the museum. 9. Jeff Speck just spoke intelligently on the necessity of pedestrian friendly downtowns. This would add to that goal and to keeping us an "arts destination".	8/12/2014
Visitors to Paducah comment on the many old neighborhoods that are historic and worth preserving. Many cities have torn down their best architectural jewels. They also appreciate our urban canopy, old tree lined streets. Our waterfront, downtown and floodwall murals are appreciated. This is the image we can nurture. These are the character traits that set us apart from many small towns. Therefore, a new city hall would best reflect our heritage. This calls for a new "old" city hall. It needs be a Leeds certified building in a style that reflects our small town river city character. Our current city hall has never done that. It stands apart from our general ambiance. My vision of a city hall would be one that would fit into, say, the Lowertown area, but be fully sustainable. There is everything right to seizing the moment and capitalizing on who we are and our uniqueness. Using best efficient sustainable measures would pay out in the long run. This is an image worth pursuing.	8/12/2014
I believe the City of Paducah should not invest tax payers dollars in a structure that is not sound and is crumbling. Since city hall was first built, laws on structural safety and engineering that safety have been changed. As a city resident and taxpayer, I would like a new city hall that is upgraded to those standards to be built.	8/12/2014
I absolutely agree that City Hall is not just a place for conducting city business; it makes a statement about what kind of city Paducah aspires to be. Please, whatever we end up doing, let's make sure that every avenue of preserving the current building is considered. Uncluttered space does not have to mean wasted space. Also, I've never had a problem navigating through the building. There are signs saying where the different departments are located. What is missing is someone positioned at the front desk to answer questions or just to greet people. The Red Coats or similar volunteers could staff it. The building does need to be more welcoming. The so-called wasted space could serve for exhibitions and receptions. I also agree that in some sense the Edward Durrell Stone building does not fit the image of OLD historic Paducah, but the building itself is architecturally significant, and is itself now a decades long part of our history. After all, we can't limit ourselves to being some kind of Victorian or antebellum museum. Modern is OK. Part of the charm of thriving older cities is how they blend styles of architecture. Save it if we can afford it. If not, consider using some of its features in a garden setting for an enlarged Civic Plaza with urban designers and architects brainstorming possibilities. If we do a new building, let's not make it a bland, featureless, soulless structure that will say all the wrong things about us. The City Hall should never be merely an office building.	8/12/2014
I say repair it, don't believe anyone could or would use it as is, or tear it down and build new one on same spot. Ground level no steps. Customer parking. Ground level floor Mayors office and all offices that citizens need access to if possible. Commission Chamber, HR, and accounting etc. upstairs with 2 elevators that are adequate size.	8/12/2014
While I also appreciate the value of good architecture, I live in reality and the current financial condition for most in our region is far less than what we would like for it to be. I suggest that those that truly desire to spend additional funds during these times to restore a "less than optimal" project by a distant architect might consider pooling their assets and picking up the tab for the renovation that they prefer. Make a citywide project out of the fund and let's see how far that goes. And, if I am wrong, and many millions are collected, then bless you all and have at it. But as long as we are spending money earned by ALL taxpayers, I think the memory of a long deceased architect, whose caliber of design work here was marginal at best, should be well down the list of importance.	8/12/2014
Thank you for the Invite, However I suspect this project is being Administered & Managed by the same Good 'Ole Boy Network that threw \$1,000,000 worth of rock into the Ohio River - Good luck with that ....	8/12/2014
I agree but seismic issues should be considered in building.	8/12/2014
I agree with katterjohn	8/12/2014
I feel that the police station should be included in the city hall plan	8/12/2014
That is a fabulous idea Bill Ford (going to Katterjohn)	8/12/2014
I agree Bill Ford 100 percent. (going to Katterjohn)	8/12/2014
Might even cost less than fixing the mess of a building they have now (going to Katterjohn)	8/12/2014
Amen Bill Ford, what a great idea. Love you (going to Katterjohn)	8/12/2014
I don't like the appearance of our current City Hall. The architectural style has never fit in with my image of Paducah. It's not consistent with our other civic buildings and it sticks out like a sore thumb. I also think it's hard to identify as City Hall. If you ask the average Paducahan where City Hall is, most people couldn't answer that question. I would like to see an architectural style that echoes other Paducah buildings, or maybe resembles the old Carnegie library, or incorporates style elements of a specific iconic building, like the old Coke building or the Irvin Cobb Hotel or Whitehaven.	8/12/2014

<p>To acquire citizens input is admirable. However there will be a tendency for the politicians, in order to preserve their individual popular appeal, to appoint a "citizens' architectural review committee" to "insure the public is protected from ugliness". In the early 1960's a world renowned architect was selected to provide an architectural statement for the city. At that time the selection committee knew exactly what was coming, because that is the only style Mr. Stone was producing at the time. Google..New Deli Embassy...U of K "Housing Complex"..Kentucky Capital Plaza..New York University at Albany student housing..The Kennedy Performing Arts Center Washington DC...The old Bush Stadium...Rockefeller Center...The point being in 1964, Paducah made national headlines with the "new city hall"....but now everyone wanders "how the hell did we end up with this?" But in its day it was a "goin' jessy". A citizen's COMMITTEE would be a grand mistake!</p>	8/12/2014
<p>I agree although I know a citizens committee would be well intentioned. Right now, time is of GREAT importance. Obtain some suggestions, arrange the financing, make a decision and get this project moving. When the big earthquake does hit someday, we need all emergency response ready to respond.</p>	8/12/2014
<p>As a long-time resident of Paducah with a background in architecture, I do have a few thoughts about City Hall. I would prefer to see a new City Hall, rather than renovations on the current one. Here's why. - Renovation would be expensive. - The renovated structure would lose much of the architectural character that makes it distinctive. - The current City Hall represents modernist architecture from the 1960s, a period where historical forms were not valued, and many great structures that fit the context and history of the city were lost [including the old City Hall]. It is a form that makes it very hard to adapt the building for future uses without destroying the original design. As you are aware, it's very inflexible. - The large roof structure is impractical for a place that gets lots of rain, and will be an ongoing expense that doesn't have any real function other than looking modern. So, what would I like to see? - Architecture that fits the historical context of Paducah, like Broadway, the churches, the Courthouse and the Library. [OK, maybe not the library.] - Architecture that is flexible, and can be adapted over time. - The public seems to appreciate "green" design, especially when it's obvious, like solar panels on the roof. But a design that is genuinely "green," i.e., one that saves utility dollars over time, would be appreciated by all of us who provide the "green." And it would be far easier to incorporate green design into a new building, as opposed to trying to retrofit the existing structure.</p>	8/13/2014
<p>What has struck me when visiting this building is a total lack of security AND no reception desk to direct one to the correct office. I am also amazed that the lovely park across from the building is not utilized for concerts in the summer. Kids would love to play in the water and the setting is lovely. I highly recommend, if expanding, you OVER BUILD rather than under build. After sitting on numerous city and state committees the cost for small thinking exceeds the initial output cost of good planning. Saving a dollar now will cost three later. If you choose to abandon the building perhaps it could be utilized as an adjunct to the new high school with a performing arts focus for those so inclined. It is located well for such a purpose and would distinguish Paducah by offering curricula only found in large urban areas. My inclination however tells me to put the City Parks/Waterfront/Recreation/Urban renewal in this building and build something new (and more historic looking) for the Mayor, elected officials, along with state-of-the-art conference/meeting rooms. With technology today there is no need for all to be in one building. Make the large center area a museum that all can enjoy.</p>	8/13/2014
<p>The concept of "taking" has been put on steroids in this CITY. The tax base is being destroyed... Housing? This has been a long standing problem between 2 governing forces in Ky. It is like the Civil War all over again..., if it ever really ended. Now tear down the government house..., and tax the people 2 build it again...! WTW?</p>	8/13/2014
<p>It is clearly 1960's architecture, and while not in style now, it does reflect that era. It looks like a government building, and I find no offense in it at all.</p>	8/13/2014
<p>First, I think the old facility should be demolished. The cost is too high, it has too much wasted space, and it is not energy efficient. It is time to upgrade. With that in mind, the police department's facility is old, not energy efficient, and is poorly laid out. In addition, the main fire station is dated and old. Here are my thoughts. Tear down the existing City Hall and Main Fire Station. Use the police facility temporarily for City operations during the construction. Build one main facility for City Hall, Fire and Police in the same facility on the existing land. Use the area where the existing fire station is for parking for the workers or public parking. Upgrade that entire block. The new facility should be very energy efficient and backed up with the latest systems. Attempt LEED certification for the facility. The main floor could have an entrance for City Hall going upstairs. The main floor from the other side could have police and fire. Utilize the entire block, bringing the large facility close to the street. Dolly McNutt plaza provides the needed greenspace. Utilize the site effectively, instead of large facilities, have it designed to meet the needs of a community our size.</p>	8/14/2014
<p>I think the exterior of city hall should be "architecturally grand and showcase the city." I think Mr. Abraham's thought of a nod to the historical would be nice. A quote-unquote modern look might not look so modern to folks 15 and 20 years from now. The interior should feel welcoming and warm, in colors and materials. One entrance for the public (there could always be a separate entrance for employees only) and detailed signage for visitors. The offices most likely visited by the public might be the ones which are located on the first floor, especially nice for older visitors (I realize that you have an elevator, but...). If you have a waiting area, so to speak, you might include a TV. You have such nice programming on Channel 2. As individuals wait to see the mayor or purchase permits, they could watch. You might reach an audience who might not otherwise see it.</p>	8/14/2014
<p>Image should have the appearance of a business center for conducting the city's business. The exterior should show conservative exterior lines, displaying efficiency in line with LEED. Entrance should be like the current building with lobby and welcoming entry. A lower first floor could reduce the number of front steps.</p>	8/15/2014

In reading about the potential City Hall project in Paducah Sun, I feel compelled to comment though I would prefer to mind my own business. I have 40 years experience in Project Management and retired as ExxonMobil's worldwide most senior Cost/Schedule Engineer and Project Execution Planner. I continue to provide consulting to ExxonMobil and BP on their potential projects. My First comment is that the "City Hall Project" appears to have landed on two options (New Build or full refurbish) and is moving ahead on the "five design considerations" while ignoring two other obvious options: 1. Do NOTHING Or 2. Stage Project (doing only limited critical/cost effective repairs). These two options are historically ignored as viable options since once "Project Concepts" have been developed it is often difficult to look back. All options have to be reviewed for the optimum return on investment. This includes not only the capital cost (and timing of expenditures) but taking into account other costs such as future expenses (utilities/maintenance/insurance), Time Value of Money and incidental such as costs of alternative City Hall location during construction/repairs. The version of the chart below is common in Project Management (this is version I used) that displays the concept that it is more cost effective to change things "on paper" BEFORE commitments are made ... this reinforces my concern that we are moving along the influence curve (losing influence) too fast without having fully explored all options. Although I have not seen inspection reports, my experience is that they overstate the need for action and can make even a sound structure sound like the cabin of the Clampetts of the Beverly Hillbillies. I am not presuming that there are not valid and critical issues, but phrases such as "design life" are generally meaningless for decision making compared to the actual condition of a specific structure or utility system. Any thought for upgrade/replacement has to be compared to costs for doing nothing (ongoing repairs/utility expenses etc). Only issues that could result in significant additional damage/failures should be addressed initially. (e.g leaking roofs, ongoing settlement, critical plumbing near failure). In "real life" most of the homes in would be assessed as "New Build or full refurbishment", some of course should have critical work done but the majority are "fit for purpose" ... the same criteria needs to be considered for the City Hall. Additional Thoughts: Based on what I have read, here is my "two cents" (which may be the value of my comments). 1. Quality of Cost Estimates This is the most critical component in project decision making and the one most often not critically reviewed. On gross inspection it would not be surprising that "new build" would be cheaper than refurbishment. But the questions that come to mind are whether the cost estimates are on the same basis (done by same firm and have same quality of technical basis) and are all inclusive. Historically refurbishments have the softest technical basis and chance for greater surprises, but they offer the greatest flexibility in staging the amount and pace of work. A New Build is easier to estimate but often ignores "hidden costs" which include significant costs of alternative accommodations (loss of use), design creep, site selection issues (soil stability can lead to massive cost surprises, road work, new utility routing). The New Build, once committed to offers no chance for turning back or revisions. 2. Design Considerations Have read about the following and offer comments on challenging the need ... this challenging would apply to all types of design considerations ... not just those listed below. a. Security What is the issue? In my visits to City Hall it is generally a ghost town except for a few people visiting Building Dept. Any normal business establishment has more traffic and no security screening. This is not to say that "Government" may not be a target for a random act of violence, but any prevention of that "random act" would likely just move that act to a different venue. b. Seismic This is of concern, it appears that City of Paducah has adopted a rigorous seismic design criteria (compared County of McCracken). This code (perhaps with many others) significantly increases costs for ALL work within city limits with no obvious cost justified comparison of adhering to minimum criteria. Considering the age and construction of 99% of the structures in City of Paducah, any major seismic event will effectively end the viability of the town. Having the City Hall survive intact (which it won't) would be of little comfort. More probable moderate/minor seismic events would still leave the existing City Hall in better condition than the rest of the City. I seriously doubt any difference in insurance premiums (if any) could justify the additional cost. Summary I appreciate the opportunity to input/comment. I guess my bottom line is to consider GOING SLOW, rigorously challenge all perceived needs/scope and to keep options open. This approach may appear to cost more since it reflects conscious decisions to delay that may increase costs. However the alternative of fully committing to a New Build or Full Refurbishment ignores the costs associated with unknowns that may arise and cannot be avoided since those project concepts don't have the low cost ability to stop or recycle the plans. Although I would be happy to input further I don't want to have my name banded about or see it in the newspaper ... I am just a concerned and proud Citizen.

8/17/2014

government of the city. But it also has things to say about the city. Grandeur is appropriate as a symbol for the city. Grandeur imbues the citizen with the importance of what goes on in that building. It houses the day to day work of the city's professional administration, and it bestows honor on the work they perform. The elected political leaders hold discussions, listen to the constituent citizens, and make decisions there. City Hall's grand dignity reminds the leaders that theirs is a high calling. All these functions are important, and a landmark building well designed says so. Edward Durrell Stone designed Paducah's City Hall, and shortly afterwards, Barkley Lodge in the LBL. He was a renowned architect and had designed buildings throughout the U.S. and the world. One is the U.S. Embassy in New Delhi, India. I have always understood that our City Hall was a downsized revision of that earlier design. Now as I look at images of that U.S. Embassy, I realize our City Hall actually is a refinement of it. Though the similarities are obvious, and our City Hall is appropriately smaller, I believe it has a more beautiful design than the Embassy. We do not serve our community well if we deliberately diminutize the seat of our City Government, cheapening its finishes and reducing its size and height. It is a self-confident city that is willing to risk flamboyance. Half a century ago city leaders boldly accepted a sophisticated landmark building, designed by a world renowned architect. We are both the beneficiaries of their wisdom and the stewards of their treasure. We actually send a very clear message of efficiency with our City Hall when we invest to preserve the grand treasure we already have. We don't build a city hall very often, and we shouldn't. Our previous City Hall served us for 80 years. Our present one should serve us for 100. We might even decide to keep it after that. Our City Hall has the distinction of being an historic modern building. That is not an oxymoron, but rather an unusual combination of qualities that give the building twice the power of most monuments. This year is the half-way mark toward its first century. In America, though, it is entering the most dangerous quarter century of its existence. It is still young enough that most people do not yet recognize its historic importance. Yet, it is old enough for maintenance and technical upgrading to become obvious needs. Paducah's Carnegie Library was abandoned and demolished in its third quarter century, after a serious fire left it damaged but restorable. Most recall that loss with regret, but seem curiously unable to connect its painful lesson with a currently threatened landmark. A few days ago I drove down to City Hall to refresh my memory of its details. As I walked on its wide concrete walk from the street, I looked at the pattern of its joints, which reflect the coffered beams of the buildings' expansive roof sections. As I looked up, and took in the openness, I felt as though the whole west side of the building was welcoming me. I recalled having brought visitors to City Hall who found Paducah interesting, and delighted in the sophistication they had not expected in a town of our size. (Corporations who have plants in our area tell a similar story. When they first assign their people to Paducah, they have a hard time getting them to come. But after several years, when another assignment approaches, they have a hard time getting them to leave.) Paducah is an interesting city with many facets, and our City Hall exudes that. Inside City Hall I treated myself to the happy experience of the central atrium. An engaging cluster of giant bronze flowers rise out of the coffered floor. (Are they carnivorous? I'm not sure.) High above, a pyramid projects through the flat roof. We are treated to a Pharaoh's view – from inside, looking up. This custom-designed skylight makes the atrium's two-story height seem like three. I love the wall finish on the interior public space. I had heard years ago that the wall surfaces were mahogany veneer. Yesterday I took the time to touch the walls and feel the texture, and to look closely and see the grain from different angles. The grain varies from piece to piece. It is real wood, in veneer thickness, glued to a dense particle board, whose edges are painted flat black. These panels look nearly new and seem (properly) to still have their original finish – after fifty years use by the public. From the second floor walkway and balcony which encircles the atrium, I walked into the empty commission chamber, recalling several public meetings I had attended in that room. Though the front row has been removed, some 86 comfortable theater seats remain for the public. I stood in one of the vertical windows that project outward through the wall and extend from floor to ceiling. It is a dramatic view of City Hall's enormous two-story porch that surrounds the building. I was able to perceive some of the sag reported in the four outside corners of the porch roof, at least in the two corners I could see from that perspective. Then I turned to focus on the interior wall finish. I remembered, during a commission meeting, a prominent wood grain pattern that seemed to be repeated as my eye moved around the room. Yesterday I studied it closely. It seemed to be the same mahogany species I had earlier observed on the atrium walls, except that in this room there were no panels. This mahogany veneer appears to have been glued directly to the plaster like wallpaper. Furthermore, the grain features vary slightly from one to the next – in the ordered sequence they came out of the log! I like to think that Paducah's leaders, City Hall workers, and the public alike, knew they had something special in this City Hall building, and took good care of it. Now, as City Hall enters its third quarter century, I hope we will rise to the challenge of good stewardship – even intervention where necessary – to preserve this useful and marvelous building.

8/17/2014

When I come to City Hall - I get a feeling of cold, emptiness and it is like there is no one there. The design has never been my favorite. I feel locating in some of the empty buildings downtown or the Katterjohn building should be considered.

8/17/2014

I believe our City Hall should feel inviting - not something architecturally grandiose. City hall is highly frequented by a very small sector of our community. Funds would be better invested in the riverfront project which has a much more far-reaching benefit to our community as well as visitors. My vote is keep it simple and functional.

8/17/2014

I would favor a new building for City hall in the same location. However, I would consider renovating the Katterjohn building on Broadway. That would be a nice link between downtown and midtown.

8/18/2014

In response to the City's request regarding improved service when a citizen visits City Hall: Almost every time I am in City Hall, in the foyer/entrance on 5th Street side, someone walks in, wanders around looking up and around and asks where a specific department is located. I understand not having a full-time employee there, but a large visible directory-layout of the facility might be helpful for those who rarely come to City Hall or who might be visitors to our town. If it hadn't happened so many times thru the years, I wouldn't think it was needed. It might even be a place for a Paducah Ambassador to volunteer for the purpose of welcoming and giving directions. Another possibility would be a large lighted directory like in a medical pavilions where the office names and locations are displayed by the elevator. Maybe we already have this and I've missed it.....that's certainly possible.	8/18/2014
I think the message a city hall should communicate is one of collaboration, openness to new ideas, citizen engagement, and a feeling that we as citizens know our leaders and they are accessible.	8/18/2014
I have always enjoyed the outside appearance of our City Hall. Not so impressed with the interior. I have been inside many times and always question the layout. In its day, the City Hall design was very modern and unique. Based on the info that I have read so far, I feel like a new city hall is in order. I suggest that the building be razed and a new facility be built on the current site. Temporary relocation of the offices should not be a big problem.	8/19/2014
I would like to see a new City Hall, tear down the old one, salvage the Stone display, and build a new one, that has Neoclassical Revival Greek architecture; is always timeless. For example many Washington, DC buildings have that look; and also many buildings in US State or many European capitals and other European cities. This time use the steel pitched Roof system that will last a long time; and as for utilities; make it where you can change out the HVAC, if other models are available in the future. There are many instances of stone being used on the outside that have lasted for hundreds of years, I have seen some that are over 1500 years old. You can then change the inside when needed.	8/19/2014
While the design of Paducah's current City Hall might not be to everyone's liking, the fact of the matter is that the building is SIGNIFICANT from an architectural standpoint. In fact, It may well be one of the most significant buildings in Paducah today. The fact that you have a structure designed by a world-renowned architect, Edward Durell Stone, speaks volumes of the forward thinking that occurred in the early sixties when Paducah was at a similar crossroads. It would be easy to scrap / demolish your current building in the name of economy and efficiency. But it should be noted that the quality of life in a particular community depends greatly on the quality of its structures, and once a landmark is lost it is all but impossible to reclaim or recreate. Preserve what you have. Be proud that you have it and be responsible with your own architectural legacy.	8/19/2014
City Hall is a Paducah icon and appears often in public media. The building is unique and will certainly never be reproduced. The quality of the interior space is outstanding and the formal approach and siting distinguishes it as a valued piece of civic pride. Ed Stone, the architect, was internationally known with buildings around the world. He designed the Museum of Modern Art in New York, the U.S. Embassy in New Delhi, India and Bush Stadium in Saint Louis to name a few. Structural and mechanical issues and space requirements are elements that can generally be attended to and any decision demands careful analysis to weigh the benefit of renovation of the existing structure against the unknown of demolishing it and hoping for a satisfactory new replacement. A new structure designed only for function and utility will leave a psychological void and sense of loss. A last point is the disconnect in message of the City saying to owners of historical downtown buildings to fix up their property but we are going to demolish our 50 year old building that is a recognized national and international piece of architectural history.	8/19/2014
Here's some food for thought for a future Paducah City Hall: Why not acquire the Katterjohn Building at 1501 Broadway and renovate it? It is large -- about 32,000 square feet -- and there's plenty of land for expansion if more office space is needed. It is a solid concrete building. There's plenty of space for parking. It has easy access from Jefferson and Broadway. It is an important part of Paducah's history and needs to be brought back to life. It probably could be renovated at a cost equal to or even lower than building a new city hall. With minimal new construction, it also might be possible to incorporate a new headquarters for the police and fire departments. Some might not like the idea because it isn't in downtown, but it is only 10 or 11 blocks from the current city hall. That's close enough to help the downtown economy and also boost development in that area. The site of more than three acres has a rich history and was used as a staging area by Nathan Bedford Forrest's troops during the Battle of Paducah in the Civil War. The current building was construction about 95 years ago by Illinois Central Railroad for a company hospital. It is a beautiful inside with stain glass windows and ornate wood paneled offices on the third floor. Although the building has been vacant for several years, the current owners have done an excellent job of basic maintenance, including making sure the roof doesn't leak and keeping the grounds looking good. Turning it into city hall really isn't new. Some suggested the idea in the early 1960s when the city began discussing plans to replace the city hall that was on Kentucky Avenue. It is ironic that the new, modern city hall that was built in 1964 has deteriorated to such condition that the best and most economical option might be to tear it down, while the Katterjohn Building that was constructed in 1919 is still solid. Some love and tender care will bring it back to life and make it one on the most unique and beautiful city halls in the state. It is an idea worth giving serious consideration.	8/19/2014
Paducah values its historic resources. There are many advantages to restoring --repurposing, historic buildings including : State & Federal tax incentives, neighborhood revitalization, increased heritage tourism, economic development, strong community investments as well as preserving a valuable part of Paducah's rich history. Reviving historic buildings has been proven successful --- for example : nationally recognized Whitehaven welcome center, our Visitors Bureau, Chamber of Commerce housed in former Freight Office, Mc Murray & Livingston in new 2nd & Broadway location, River Heritage Museum housed in downtown's oldest structure and the recent renewal of the iconic Coke plant with rich architectural significance. Please consider a landmark building such as the Katterjohn building (IC early hospital) or perhaps another treasure for use as city's government operation center.	8/20/2014

In reference to the City Hall project and your request for comments regarding the value of "Customer Experience" from Paducah City residents, I offer the following thoughts and comments for your consideration: Location can greatly impact the customer experience. The current location of City Hall is in a great place. It is near the heart of the city and located amongst other government offices (i.e. the county courthouse). Both of these aspects make City Hall easy to find for new residents and less stressful when visits between multiple government offices is required. If a new location is considered, City Hall should be placed within a reasonable distance to its current location to maintain these attributes. The layout of City Hall also influences the customer experience. A logical grouping and flow to the offices and departments within any renovated space or new location should exist. Most visited departments and offices should be located in areas or spaces that are inviting and easy to access. In addition, the likelihood of residents to attend the commission meetings or visit with the Mayor and commissioners is greatly reduced if the meeting hall and offices are buried or hidden within the layout of City Hall. Though most of my life has been spent in Paducah, I had the opportunity to live in Lexington, KY for two years. Like other city offices, the majority of Lexington's government offices, City Hall included, are located in its downtown. One interesting thing about their city hall is the location of the mayor's office. Being located in the heart of their downtown in one of historic buildings, there are many people throughout the course of the day walking up and down their sidewalks. The mayor's office is located in one of the first offices on the first floor with a large window looking out on to the sidewalks. As former resident who would walk by during the work day, I developed a sense of pride and a need to my part in making Lexington better by simply being able to see the hard work and dedication that Mayor Jim Gray brought into that office. I appreciate that the Paducah city officials are seeking input from the residents. I intend to offer my thoughts and ideas each week as the City seeks input on the other areas. Through this process, the City Hall Project is an opportunity to grow and strengthen the connection between the city and its residents.

8/20/2014

Although the city hall has unique architecture, repairing it is not warranted by the expense involved. I think the current city hall needs to be razed and a new one built either in the same location or some other property already owned by the city. Aside from the structural issues with the old city hall there are other problems with it including wasted space inside it which had to be heated and cooled. The atrium is attractive but ultimately wasteful. I am reminded about a consultant the city hired to look at the Executive Inn and give recommendations on how to make it viable. The consultant recommended the city raze the building and the same city officials who hired the consultant were aghast but a few years later came to see that was the only sensible solution. If the city had seriously considered and then acted on the recommendation at the time it was made we would already have a new hotel in place. Instead Bhupinder Singh was allowed to extort money from the city for several years. If the city opts to repair the present city hall they will most likely tear it down and replace it within the next twenty years costing many times what they could spend now on replacing it. An attractive and efficient city hall could be built that would not only save money but would continue to save taxpayer's money by being energy efficient. The new city hall doesn't have to be a simple brick box but could be architecturally significant. We have many beautiful and distinctive new buildings in the city; you only have to look at the Carson Center, River Heritage Museum and several of the marine service buildings that have been built in the past 15 years to see examples of what can be built to reflect the history and culture of the city. Although the current thinking is to make the new building quite a bit smaller my thinking is that it should be large enough to accommodate offices for various city departments which are scattered around the city. Has anyone really looked at how many buildings the city owns and maintains to house all the city departments? Housing, transportation, planning, school administration, utilities, police, fire, parks, engineering, tourist bureau, etc. Many of the departments are currently housed at city hall but many more are scattered around the city costing the city in utilities, rents and maintenance. The police department and fire department have been pushing for new headquarters so they could be in the new city hall building. I would also like to see the utilities on the ground floor of the new city hall so someone moving to Paducah could go to one place to sign up for electricity, water and Atmos and could also pay their utility bills in one spot. The fact that offices for utilities are scattered throughout the city is a major inconvenience for city residents.

8/21/2014

Keep existing City Hall since it flows nicely with the rest of buildings in the area. There is plenty of space in the existing building for future needs. It seems Paducah has spent and wasted too much money lately. With this project, be economical and not spend lots of money. Remove the bad portion of the roof and utilize steel structure. Put economy over aesthetics and don't build new building. Went on to comment about electric rates and problems with former inspection department.

8/22/2014

Build a new efficient building that is more that just plain, but not a wasteful as the current structure. Sized as necessary, not too big. Utilize the parking lot at 5th & Clark, that is already city owned. After the new building is built move in and remove the old to enlarge Dolly McNutt park on half of the space and regain the parking lot on the other half.

8/25/2014

If the space in City Hall is adequate, why don't you remove the porch roof and just have a building with a veranda. The idea of building a smaller City Hall is really stupid. How many times has the Police Department moved because they didn't have enough room!?

8/25/2014

Right now, one walks in to a vacant large foyer and a huge middle room. No people present. This is not welcoming or efficient or helpful to visitors. I would like to see easy access to all departments. Records and maps organized and easily accessed. Clear direction. And people. The parking along the street seems adequate. Handicap accessible needs to be a feature, not an afterthought.

8/25/2014

I believe a very functional building is desirable. Attractive but not ostentatious. It should have a small atrium space where employees and citizens can converse. It should have a commission chamber, similar to the one in the existing City Hall with fixed seating. There should be no public meeting space. The City already has more meeting space than we need, Cherry Civic Center, WC Young Center, McCracken Co Sr Citizens and the convention center, that are all under-utilized. What utilization the Cherry Civic Center and WC Young get is far below the market cost for providing those facilities. Should City Hall have "meeting space" it will drive a need for an unnecessarily large building and be a distraction for employees and City Leaders from the business of running the City. Some outdoor space would be nice as a place for citizens and employees to enjoy the outdoors but, again, we don't need an inordinately large outside area. We have plenty of outdoor spaces, Dolly McNutt plaza for instance. Our existing City Hall had incredible outdoor spaces that were little utilized. Should City Hall be located downtown, an outdoor courtyard could be created in the adjacent empty space by removing a non-historical building or leaving the historic façade of the building for a grand entrance into the courtyard. Regarding security and safety. We do not need the same level of security as the courthouse. Access should be controlled and monitored. Though City Hall is a public building it is primarily there for the employees to run the City's business and we need to keep them safe. Very few Citizens have a need to go to City Hall and, as more records are made available electronically, the trend toward fewer visitors should continue. Access to certain parts of City Hall should have access controls that require employees to have badges. A receptionist should be located in the atrium of the first floor to help control access. Recommend that the Mayor and City Manager's offices be on the second floor and the receptionist be able to control access to the second floor. The receptionist could be a park police type person with a great personality but someone who can project authority when necessary, similar to the type of people you see staffing office buildings in larger downtown areas.

8/25/2014

My vision for our future is to have a metro government for all of McCracken County. This would be the best efficient means of serving the area. It would cut out duplication of services and enhance communication. Perhaps the new city hall needs to include just such a configuration of offices and conference rooms. It would then be a community center that would consider the needs of the whole area. It would solidify the county courthouse, Dolly McNutt Plaza and the new building into one group serving the single purpose of leading the area. There might be other buildings included in this group. There are already some buildings included in this group. This would mean designing a whole area for growth and efficient delivery of services. It doesn't seem citizen friendly as it is. It would mean considering how to make the buildings Leeds certified and functional for the future. It would mean better communication and a solidifying of goals for our future. This is a bigger challenge, but a worthy one to consider. We should all be on the same page, city and county.	8/26/2014
I completely agree with those who want to see the current city hall restored. I actually encounter several architects in my day to day life. "Hey, my hometown has an Edward Durrell Stone building... and they're thinking of tearing it down" is a fast way to put a look of admiration on their face, followed quickly by one of complete horror. All have dismissed the idea that a mid-century modern building isn't restorable and still useful. Paducah is lucky to have such a beautiful, citizen-scaled city hall, in an era where so many buildings are designed around parking lots rather than people. Yes, it needs restoration and perhaps some modernization, but these things are doable and worth the dedication of tax dollars.	8/26/2014
Not sure where I stand on this. One of my concerns is how efficient is it? Both energy and work wise. A new city hall could incorporate solar, natural gas, and be more space efficient. It is of unique design. Some have suggested the old Katterjohn Building. I agree something needs to be done with this wonderful older building but I believe turning it in to a new city hall would be cost prohibited. Good luck with the project and please no rash decisions. Think long and hard and spend the monies wisely.	8/26/2014
I'm afraid this reply will take several days and likely ramble all over the place but my thoughts are more than a single paragraph. My background before moving to Paducah was in the Engineering/Public Works for a Oklahoma town of 80,000 (give or take a few dogs and cats). First off- We have renovate existing, build new, or renovate another location entirely. At this point, none should be taken off the table. Second- We have function, this would include ample room for all departments in the city as consolidation (do away with rentals around town). The city offices should be a one stop shop. No need to go anywhere else. And a plus would be extra meeting rooms for groups, perhaps a museum room and flexibility in configurations. Economics- Yes, solar, wind, geothermal or whatever works should be considered in the retrofit or new build. As should existing water, sewer, fire suppression and the hidden problems such as mold or asbestos. Those are expensive to fix. Aesthetics- Yes, design and beauty do have their place in a choice. But does the existing building have that appeal. It bears little resemblance to the US consulate in India, at least from the pictures. And if you google recent pictures then with the concrete barriers you can see almost none of the building. Frankly, Stone was better suited to buildings housing art where function was a minor concern. He was all about open space and beauty. Nothing wrong with that but it's not what a city office should be about. The sign on the street said the building had 60,000 square feet. I think about 18% is utilized. My next post will be about the existing structure.	8/27/2014
I have written a letter to the Paducah Sun regarding this option of the Katterjohn building. Supposedly that letter will be published soon. Perhaps, with your connection Mr. Bartleman, you could suggest the Sun include a link to this page for public input.	8/28/2014
If you can please provide some answers to questions about the existing building? And it would be nice to see the yearly inspection reports and the latest study that led to this crisis. A PDF on this page is fine and I'm sure I'm not the only one that would like to read the study. I would even like to see the original plans scanned in and placed on line. #1- I've seen water down under the building, in what was at one time the jail? Is that correct? Is there sump pump that needs running to keep this area dry? Has that area and the rest of the building been checked for signs of mold? We would call in the health department to do our testing but not sure who would do this in Kentucky. #2 Are there any known issues regarding asbestos in the building? Depending on location then encapsulation is one method that is less expensive than removal. #3 Are there issues with water or sewer in the location? #4 What besides the overhangs have shown movement? I noticed the entire center is roped off at this time? #5 What is the cost per person for utilities? I am guessing that it's very high with the vaulted open ceilings and the closed up office spaces. I was there yesterday and the Mayors office was hot and it was not yet 10:00am. #6 It is readily seen that there is serious sulphate attacks on the reinforcement rods in the entire roof. Around salt water then you have to make sure you have a 3" barrier of dense concrete but I'm not sure what it should have been in Paducah. It looks very thin but maybe that is just lack of sealing over the years allowing the process to take hold. Once the rebar starts to decay it expands and will destroy the concrete encasing it. #7. Parking. I only found one handicap (but maybe I missed them) next to the west entrance and it was not handicap accessible. You would still have to disembark street side and ride in the street to the ramp up. The parking used is the larger parking lot across the street on the south side. That's a long walk for those elderly and surely for those handicapped. If I seem critical, then please forgive me. That is not my intent. I love Paducah but I want my city to make a rational decision based on facts and not on emotional responses.	8/28/2014
LED lighting and controls are a big part of the states stipulations for meeting the buildings watts per square foot requirements. This should be a very important topic when designing a new building. The right controls can make a big difference in the amount of energy used. A LEED certification can sometimes be above and beyond what is practical however if the tax incentives and rebates make since then the city should look into it.	9/2/2014
My thoughts for City Hall. 1. Being an old building does not automatically mean it is a historic building. Some buildings are not worth the money to fix up. 2. City Hall has served its function, but is now outdated for future needs. 3. Either build a new structure that can be expanded in the future or find an existing building with enough space for future growth. The Regions Bank building is one that is not utilized fully and it is still in the downtown area.	9/3/2014
My suggestion is to be conservative. Make it nice, but be fiscally responsible. Spending extra money to make it aesthetically beautiful is not worth the money. The economy is not good. We have to watch our city dollars.	9/3/2014
That the new or renovated City Hall be sustainable is of the greatest importance. Local leadership is what will take us forward to face the challenges of the 21st Century. Leeds certification would help us along the way. If we look upon global warming as an economic opportunity to find new and healthier ways to live with nature and her laws, the building can be an education in itself. It would set the tone of our goals for more efficient best practices. It would be a step toward awareness of how we can cut our footprint and pollute less. People seem to resist change. It is easier to have things as they were. However, fighting to keep our status quo won't help us be best stewards of our resources. For example, when our power company went all in for the coal plant and mine, I wrote them to ask what their plan B was, explaining why coal was not the best future energy source. They replied they did not have a plan B. So now they are in a pickle because they did not find imaginative ways to deliver power in a changing world. We need to depend on ourselves to be the change we would like to become. Locals helping locals. I want our local government to step up into a leadership role. The new city hall can begin such a progression.	9/3/2014

Only because it's now basically dictated. Seems the where & how needs to be strongly considered first. Guess I'm old enough this LEED stuff, etc is all expensive hype to save the planet & monies for such things could be better spent.	9/3/2014
Well first, supply the plans for the original building and the recent 'study' on the existing building. We need all the information to provide input. Not just input based on gut feelings. Base it on the science please.	9/3/2014
One of the unintended consequences of being ranked #5 according to the National Geographic poll is that Paducah will be expected to step up and become a "greener" city. Leeds certification has many levels each increasing the cost of the building considerably. For this reason, I would advocate for the lowest level of Leeds participation.	9/3/2014
I think a LEEDS certification would be great. Not sure if we should pay to reach the highest certification though. The most sustainable building will be one that does not have grand, unused spaces like our existing City Hal does. It would be great to take an existing building and convert it to a LEEDS City hall. That would be the ultimate in sustainability.	9/4/2014
I own and operate a business in Paducah so I must remain anonymous. I want to respectfully say that I have no interest in sustainable practices. I am trying to sustain my own business, and it is getting more difficult day by day with the increase in power bills, taxes, and regulations. So I hope you can understand that I suggest we move City Hall to an existing building and try not to waste anymore taxpayer dollars. Our local government has made quite a few blunders lately, some devastating to our citizens. So, we respectfully ask you to drop the whole agenda of sustainable green crap and give us a break for a while. (anonymous letter to Pam)	9/8/2014
City Hall is a historic and iconic building. I like it. It was designed by a world-reknonwed architect. (verbal comments to Pam directly)	9/8/2014
I would like to see the city take a proactive stance on whatever they do and meet LEED standards for environmental and efficiency. These are tough standards but will payoff in the long run. With energy costs, especially electric, rising and with the ability to lead the way in building standards, LEED should be followed.	9/8/2014
I think It's time to build a new city Hall ! Also is a brick ever going to be laid for the new on the river Hotel?	9/8/2014
I think functional workspace is most important. This is the part of the building that communicates a culture of open conversation and government. The spaces do not need to be massive but conducive to brainstorming and decision making. A human centered design approach could be beneficial.	9/8/2014
The LEED items that either lead to cost savings in the long term and/or financial incentives seem to be a good benchmark for making this decision.	9/8/2014
We're the fountain is would be the best place , then build more modern fountain were the old city hall is	9/8/2014
It's sad that the grand architectural design of the existing city hall has not stood the test of time. Because of seismic concerns, the entire basement is unusable, and the cantilevered concrete porches have deteriorated to the point that they might collapse. The only real repair for those porches is to take them down and rebuild. Access for employees and those with city hall business is difficult. I'd bet it is also a nightmare for maintenance and energy efficiency. City Hall and County Courthouse are the anchors for the downtown government mall. Close 5th. street, and build a new, efficient, accessible structure between the existing structure and Dolly McNutt Plaza. Don't go overboard with fancy mechanical systems or try to be "America's Greenest City Hall" ...go with quality, simple systems, good insulation and windows, brick, a 50 year metal roof. The magnificent willow oaks can be saved, and the atrium sculpture and planters could be incorporated into the new design. As soon as the new structure is complete, and the existing building is gone, build a new HQ for the police department in that space. I love the Katterjohn Building, but I just don't think it's the best fit for City Hall.	9/8/2014
I think that the katterjohn building would be a double win for the city. Could renovate an existing historic building and be central to midtown and lower town. Near the police station and right in the center of paducah successful revitalization projects.	9/8/2014
I believe that we, as a city, need to honor the original philosophy of architect Stone about the creation of a "mall" that connects city hall, through the plaza, to the County courthouse. That said, I would favor erecting a new city hall in the same location as the old one (aside: the current structure was terribly neglected by many administrations; I remember a thriving place, with comfortable orange couches, a working fountain, and a person manning the information booth). I would also favor salvaging "something structural" from the Stone building - the fountain, railing, steps, or ??? to remember a building that Paducah so long touted and advertised as one of our wonders.	9/9/2014
When thinking of where to put the offices that house city services, one consideration is the following: "Where are the county services?" It seems most user friendly to have all services in the same area. Sort of like an area center. The city is after all a part of the county... Maybe the leaders of both would have friendly access to each other also. There is too much "them and us". Think all of us working for and with each other.	9/9/2014
The reasonable alternative to seeking LEED certification....which can add substantial cost in order to receive an etched glass wall plaque....is follow LEED recommendation(s) without the full-blown documentation requirement....is not the ultimate goal to have a sustainable solution....or is the goal to have an etched glass award? Nick I warren...architect retired	9/9/2014
I admire the current structure in many ways, but also realize that it has some costly structural problems and some serious functional limitations. It does not hold many city departments. The commission chamber is relatively small. Accessibility issues abound. That's on top of the structural issues already widely disclosed. One thing that the current building does not have is a sizable exhibition space for larger crowds. Being able to host events, dinners and other things in a... larger atrium could be a way to both make the space more productive and popular. A final thing is more artistic: some sort of tower like a clock tower. Rather than be an after-thought, it should be part of any building design. It helps to make the building more of a landmark. There are many options that I could envision. Just a few: 1. Move the post office to another location since they will no longer be using the space, and build a new signature City Hall there for half of the departments in the current building. Once the move is completed, the current City Hall could be shut down and overhauled and used for those departments sited in other places. 2. Swap City Hall with the McCracken County Library. A renovated City Hall building would seem to make an excellent library. To do this, part of a new City Hall building could be placed in the library parking lot on Kentucky Avenue. The existing City Hall building could be renovated and converted to the library, and then the existing library could be renovated and linked to the new City Hall. 3. Utilize the Second and Broadway site to construct a completely new City Hall that could also feature both an exhibition atrium and a river view. The design could mimic things like the current City Hall or a Mississippian pyramid. Just like Stockholm's City Hall hosts the Nobel Prize dinner, Paducah's could host the Quilt Show and other things.	9/11/2014
Keep building we have and put metal roof on it. Be fiscally responsible. If can't salvage then look at Katterjohn or the empty building at 13th and Broadway near Paducah Police. Went on to say he has lost confidence in Mayor and there was little foresight with Paducah Power issue.	9/17/2014