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ELEVATIONS: EDMOND PUBLIC SAFETY CENTER



Plans for Edmond's new public safety center. COURTESY RENDERINGS

Building into the skyline

BY BRIANNA BAILEY
The Journal Record

EDMOND – Frankfurt Short Bruza's design for a new public safety center is designed to blend in with the existing buildings of downtown Edmond, as well as serve as a functional home for the city's emergency services and municipal jail.

The \$25.65 million, 70,000-square-foot public safety center will be built at First Street and Littler Avenue in downtown Edmond to replace the city's existing aging facility.

The new building will house Edmond's police headquarters, emergency medical services and 911 dispatch center and a community meeting room, as well as jail holding cells in the basement.

The building, rising three stories above grade, will become a prominent part of downtown Edmond's skyline, said Philip McNayr, executive vice president of FSB.

In designing the center, FSB tried to make sure the building would blend in with the existing architecture of the downtown area, which includes

many older brick buildings with cast stone accents.

"We tried to be sensitive and respect the architecture of downtown Edmond," McNayr said.

The exterior of the new public safety center will include red brick and cast concrete design elements, as well as arched windows, mimicking the look of many of the existing buildings in the area.

"The building will not only complement the area, but also enhance the look of downtown," McNayr said.

Construction is expected to begin

in spring 2013 and wrap up by the end of 2014.

Fitting the large building onto a small lot downtown was one of the biggest design challenges FSB faced in designing the building, McNayr said.

"The site was a bit on the small side, but it was the best the city had to offer, and we had to make it all work out," he said. "We think the citizens will be very pleased with the way it has been designed."

The building will be paid for by a half-cent sales tax increase Edmond voters approved in 2011.

