



# TPC Architects, Inc.

8680 Greenback Lane, Suite 107  
Orangevale, Ca 95662

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## TPC Architects, Inc. Newsletter

### Small Firms Make Huge Impacts

*(Article from the AIA  
Government & Community  
Relations News)*

When people hear the words "small business," mom-and-pop grocery stores or software start-ups usually come to mind. But increasingly policymakers in Washington are being clued into what AIA members already know: few professions are composed of more small business people than architecture.

More than nine in ten AIA members own or work at a small firm. In many communities, small architecture firms are as vital a job creator as any other entrepreneur, with nearly a quarter of a million Americans employed by design firms. As the current economic crisis shows, issues like a lack of financing and burdensome paperwork laws hurt small firms especially hard.

The good news is that Washington is beginning to take notice...In 2010, the House Small Business Committee asked Baltimore architect Jim Determan, AIA, to testify about the need for small business financing; his testimony led the committee to pass legislation to expand lending, which eventually became law. In addition, when the U.S. Small Business Administration proposed last year to raise the size standard

### Restoring A Church Campus

As our economy has continued to challenge the availability of funding for new projects, many churches have been forced to reevaluate their development dollars. Here at TPC we have continued to emphasize comprehensive planning with a focus on ministry planning. It is refreshing to see a church rethink their physical needs from this perspective. The results of this planning can be surprising, often producing renovations, adaptive use, and carefully selected new improvements. Sunrise Community Church in Fair Oaks, CA used the word, "**restoration**" in describing the effect of this approach on their campus. Here is their story:



1. EXISTING

SUNRISE COMMUNITY CHURCH 10 ACRE PARCEL

*Existing 10 Acre Site with dense building campus*

The church began in the 1970's by constructing a small sanctuary near the Greenback Lane frontage. Subsequent buildings housed children, youth, and administration, and a 1,200 seat multi-use worship center was constructed in 1986. The result was a highly usable array of building space, but a loss of identity and connection with the community.

for small architecture firms from the current \$4.5 million to \$19 million, Congress again called on the AIA to provide expertise.

This newfound recognition of the role architects play as small business job creators has come in part because architects are showing they are ready to speak up. Thanks to the efforts of thousands of AIA members, in 2011 Congress repealed two separate laws - a new Form 1099 requirement and a three-percent withholding - that would have burdened small architecture firms with additional paperwork and tax liabilities.

Small firms face unique challenges. Whether it is securing lines of credit, winning government contracts, or developing a business plan, small firms must provide top-quality service under tight budgets and timelines.

## Useful Links

[Worship Facilities Magazine](#)

[Faith and Form Website](#)

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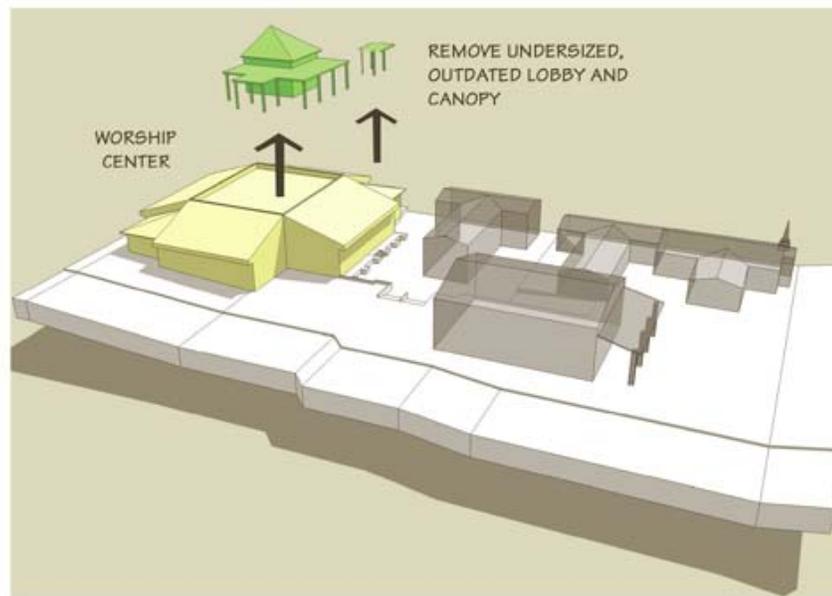
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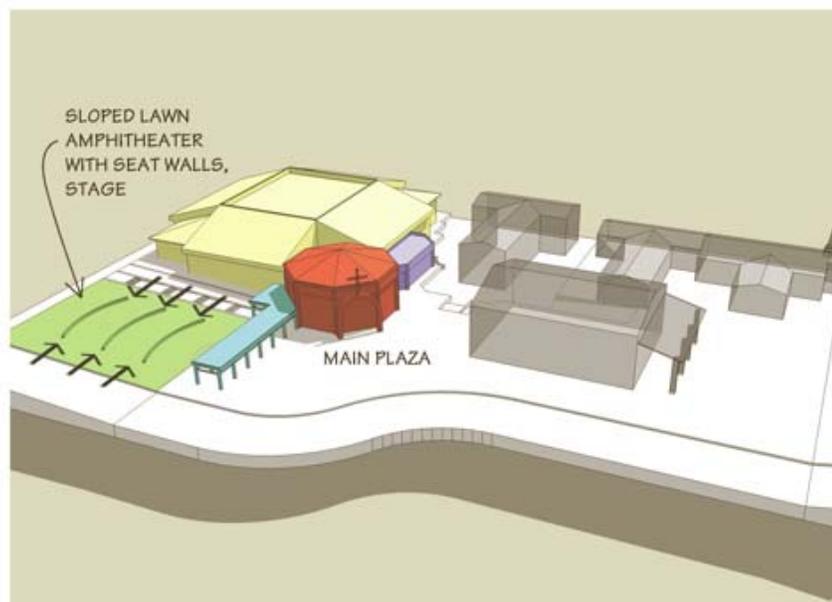
Campus circulation was cramped, confusing and lacked an obvious focus.



### 3. DEMOLITION

*"Selective Demolition"*

With a little direction from TPC, the church leadership conducted a ministry evaluation of the entire campus. A few primary needs came into focus: a large "campus lobby", a strong community identity, and easy vertical/horizontal circulation. The first part of the solution was to plan for some pruning, or "selective demolition" of under-performing elements.



### 8. MULTI-USE SOFT SPACE

*New Features, New Identity.*

Using the ministry evaluation and fresh visions for future ministry, new features and functions were planned for the old campus. For Sunrise Community, these took shape as a new "grand lobby", a coffee venue (social space), a covered arcade leading to parking, an outdoor amphitheater, new plazas, and clear visual connection to Greenback Lane.



**9. RESTORED CAMPUS**

*Site Plan of Restored Campus*

The result of this planning is an increase in caliber and function of the entire campus. With the new Grand Lobby drawing people in from the campus and from Greenback Lane, the campus is refreshed and restored, a lively house for ministry. The dollars spent have a "high ministry yield" and are an encouragement to the congregation. This project was financially feasible, and in fact has been accomplished entirely within the church's pledged and received funds.



*Vision of the Restored Campus*

We believe many churches could benefit from this type of restorative project. We encourage you to consider your church's ministry needs and develop an affordable plan to increase the ministry yield of your facilities.

I encourage you to contact me personally with any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

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