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### **Franklin First United Methodist Church's Building Committee Approves First Stage of Ferrum Plans**

After months of church visits, planning meetings and focus groups, Franklin First United Methodist Church's Building Committee has approved the initial report from Ferrum Group. This decision was met with 100% approval from the Franklin First UMC Building Committee which met on Tuesday, May 24, 2011. With this approval we will move to the next step in this process by initiating communication between The Ferrum Group and the architects of Tuck-Hinton Architects, the firm that will be designing the church.

Based on the information acquired, they will begin to draw out preliminary plans for a facility at the North Campus of over 78,000 sq. ft. All spaces have been optimized and adjacencies have been utilized at a proposed preliminary budget of just under \$22 million. One exciting outcome of the work done by Ferrum is a significant projected cost savings from earlier estimates. Interior furnishings and finishes may now be included in the plan without exceeding the cost figure originally budgeted for construction alone.

The Franklin Board of Mayor and Alderman (BOMA) granted approval of the property rezoning and of the concept plan on July 27, 2010. The concept plan approval has a one year expiration if a regulating plan (the next step of the site plan approval process) has not been approved. A one year extension is allowed if approved by BOMA. We have requested the one year extension, which is tentatively scheduled to be heard at the June 28 BOMA meeting.