Last week the Holocaust Memorial Resource and Education Center of Florida unveiled new architectural renderings for its highly anticipated Holocaust Museum for Hope & Humanity just north of downtown Orlando in Ivanhoe Village.

The museum, which will be the world’s first Holocaust museum designed around survivor and witness testimonies, will soon occupy the former site of the Orlando Regional Chamber of Commerce property located at 75 S. Ivanhoe Boulevard, on the shores of Lake Ivanhoe.

When we first shared the news of the new museum in January 2018, the original plan was to adapt the former Chamber of Commerce building into the new design but that plan was scrapped when the organization embraced a larger vision for the land and doubled its original budget demands.

The new 43,000 SF museum, which has an estimated construction budget of $45 million, will be designed to be, “luminous at night, symbolizing a beacon for humanity,” according to a prepared statement shared by the Center earlier in the week. The largest single exhibit area will be more than 12,000 SF.

The City of Orlando has agreed to lease the land on which the Holocaust Museum for
Hope & Humanity is located for $1 per year for 99 years.

“This new space will be more than just a destination; it will be a perfect fit for our community as Orlando continues to send a powerful message to the world that we will always honor history and ignite hope.”

– John Dyer, Mayor of Orlando

In addition, Orange County has pledged $10 million in tourist development tax grants toward the construction of the Holocaust Museum for Hope & Humanity.

“We are proud that our ten-million-dollar commitment will help ensure the Holocaust Museum for Hope & Humanity’s bright future and its global impact.”

– Jerry Demings, Mayor of Orange County

USC Shoah Foundation—The Institute for Visual History and Education, established by Steven Spielberg in 1994 and a world leader in testimony-based research, education, and interactive experiences, will serve as a content and creative partner in the development of the new museum – as we shared in October 2020.