

# BUILDING TOGETHER

A New Church and  
Dilijan's Spiritual  
Renaissance

**ddf**  
DILIJAN  
DEVELOPMENT  
FOUNDATION





## Vision

A new church is under construction in Dilijan which will serve as both a spiritual center and a symbol of cultural renewal, becoming a vital part of the town's evolving communal, cultural, and educational landscape.

## Significance

- First church construction in Dilijan in over **85 years**
- Currently the only town in Armenia with a population over **1,000 without a church**
- Will serve as a vital spiritual center for the local community of **19,000 residents**
- Represents the **restoration of historical, spiritual and cultural heritage**

## Historical Background

- Historically, Dilijan had five churches, all of which were destroyed over time
- Current religious services are held in a temporary facility at the Old Dilijan Hotel thanks to James Tufenkian and Reverend Shavarsh's dedication to serve the community

# Architectural Concept

Designed, pro bono, by distinguished architect **Maxim Atayants**



## THE CHURCH FEATURES

**Height** | 37 meters

**Floor space** | 375 square meters

**Capacity** | 300 people

*Traditional Armenian church architecture with modern elements*

**Unique feature** | Facades decorated with Armenian alphabet letters and biblical texts

**Materials** | Travertine stone construction

**Location** | Central Dilijan, near the River Aghstev

## Project Background

- Initiative launched by **Ruben Vardanyan**
- Supported by the **Mother See of Holy Etchmiadzin** and **Dilijan Municipality**
- Part of broader Dilijan development program - **the holistic development of the town**
- **Located strategically** near memorial sites and reconstructed town park

# Project Implementation

Constructed with philanthropic contributions, the church building, fixtures, and associated assets, shall fall under the ownership and canonical and pastoral jurisdiction of the Armenian Church.

## 2019–2028

### CONSTRUCTION

- Solemn ceremony of the 16 columns blessing by the Catholicos of All Armenians Garegin II with participation of the founding benefactors and the main donors
- Reinforcement and concreting of the foundation slab
- Construction of a monolithic reinforced concrete altar wall
- Implementation of backfilling with compaction
- Reinforcement and concreting of the building walls up to a height of +18.75 meters
- Cladding of the interior and exterior church walls with travertine up to a height of +17.25 meters
- Furnishing
- Landscape

## 2014–2018

### PLANNING

- Development of the church architectural plan
- Getting approvals and permits
- Ground-blessing by the Catholicos of All Armenians Garegin II

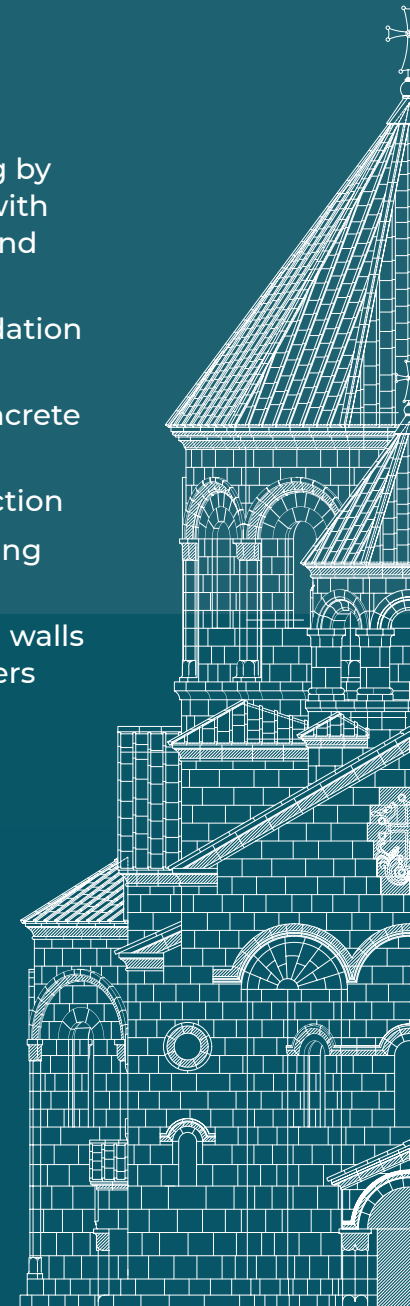
## 2010–2014

### PREPARATORY

- Concept development
- Stakeholder engagement

### POST CONSTRUCTION

- Naming
- Consecration
- First Mass
- First Marriage
- First Christening



## ESTIMATED COST

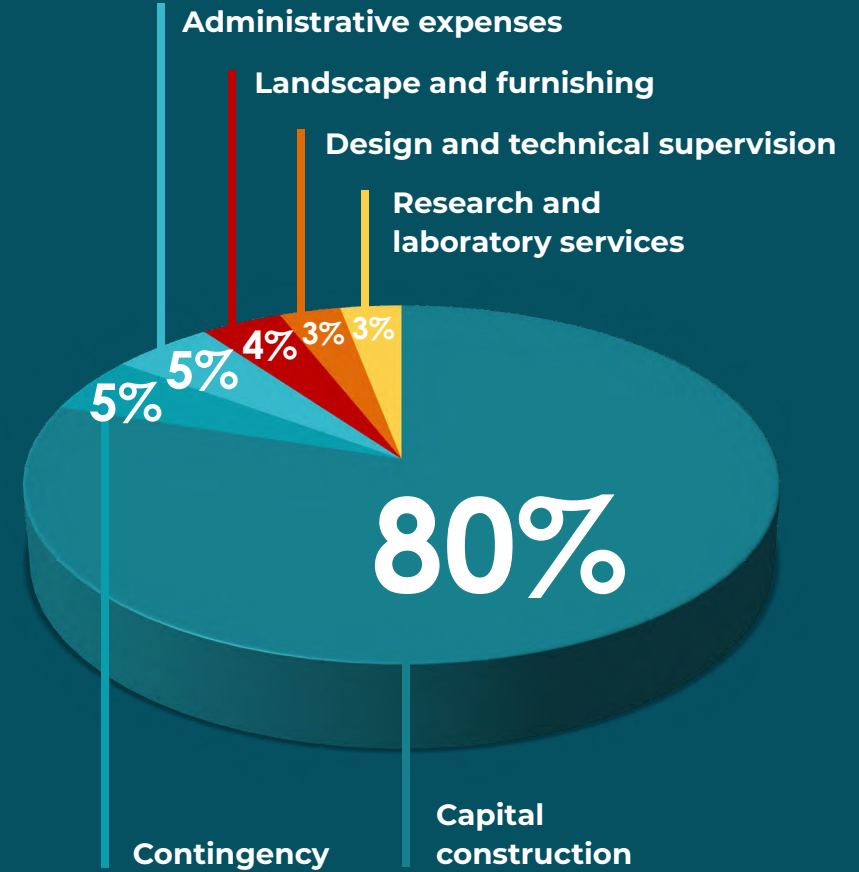
Total Project Cost **\$6 550 000**

## FUNDING PLAN

Current donations collected **\$3 480 000**

Amount still needed **\$3 070 000**

Project completion planned for **2028**



## PARTNERS

- Mother See of Holy Etchmiadzin
- Dilijan Community
- IDeA Foundation
- Tourism and Urbanism Foundation

## FOUNDING BENEFACTORS

- Ruben Vardanyan & Veronika Zonabend
- Noubar & Anna Afeyan



# INVEST IN THE CHURCH AND DILIJAN'S SPIRITUAL RENAISSANCE

**Our offering to the potential partners includes but is not limited to the following:**

- An opportunity to contribute to the Dilijan community right now deprived of a permanent place of worship
- Interaction with spiritual leaders of the Armenian Church
- A named contribution to a specific part of the church to underscore the partner's interests

## Funding opportunities

ITEM	COST
One stone (depending on the size)	\$10 to \$200 each
Bells	\$40 000
Choir gallery	\$45 000
Furniture	\$50 000
Doors & windows	\$60 000
Bell tour (2)	\$153 750 each
Roof	\$200 000
Cornices	\$242 500
Dome	\$787 500





Contact

**Arpen Ghahriyan**

 +374 93 206 104

 [www.ddf.am/project/church/](http://www.ddf.am/project/church/)

**ddf** DILIJAN  
DEVELOPMENT  
FOUNDATION ●

