



June 14, 2013

To: Campus Planning Committee

From: Christine Taylor Thompson, Planning Associate
Campus Planning and Real Estate

Subject: **Record** of the June 12, 2013 Campus Planning Committee Meeting

Attending: Carole Daly (Chair), Hilary Gerdes, George Hecht, Dana Johnston, Katy Lenn, Gregg Lobisser, Janet Lobue, Ron Lovinger, Randy McGowen, Chris Ramey, Frances White, Laura Willey

Staff: Christine Taylor Thompson (Campus Planning and Real Estate)

Guests: James Bartik (NSU & AASU), Jane Brubaker (Campus Ops), Mandy Chong (EMU), Timothy Cohalan (EMU Craft Center), Brooke Eisen (EMU), Allen Faigin (EMU Foods), Dan Geiger (EMU Outdoor Program), Larry Gilbert (Cameron McCarthy), Andy Gitelson (OEI), Jodi Hanson (SERA), Joshua Harris (EMU Foods), Terrence Heldreth (EMU Craft Center), Margaret Hoff (EMU Foods), Molly Kennedy (EMU User Group), Natasha Koiv (SERA), Mike Kraiman (EMU), Garrick Mishaga (Campus Ops), Martina Oxoby (CPRE), Eric Philips (SERA), Shelley Pruitt (EMU), Walker Templeton (SERA), Fred Tepfer (CPRE), Dana Winitzky (EMU), Laurie Woodward (EMU), Jake Vasey (EMU), Dave Villalobos (EMU)

Agenda:

1. Erb Memorial Union Expansion and Renovation Project – Schematic Design

Background: Staff reviewed prior committee comments and applicable *Campus Plan* policies and patterns. She reminded the committee that proposals for EMU development are also subject to EMU Board of Directors' review. In addition, she reminded the committee that during prior committee reviews the project team suggested future *Campus Plan* amendments to establish the new south lawn as a designated open space.

Gregg Lobisser, member and User Group Chair, introduced the project. The design team carefully considered prior CPC comments as it refined the design. A few design issues, such as the outdoor Craft Center Courtyard design, are still unresolved. He welcomed committee feedback.

Walker Templeton from SERA Architects and Larry Gilbert from Cameron McCarthy reviewed the proposed schematic design as described in the meeting mailing and PowerPoint presentation.

Larry said the specific design of the covered bike parking is not yet resolved. However, he confirmed that the Straub Green bike parking/trash enclosure would be moved to the south façade of the EMU and integrated with the EMU bike parking facilities. In addition,

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seat walls, stormwater planters, and other built landscape features are being considered, particularly for the east-facing main entry forecourt. He added that the flagpole for the U.S. flag would be removed as part of the project.

The proposed primary building materials are brick, limestone, glass, smooth metal paneling, and ribbed metal paneling. A mix of metal mesh and perforated metal paneling is proposed for the Craft Center exterior courtyard enclosure. A series of mesh gauges are being considered.

Discussion: The chair conveyed strong support for the project from a CPC and User Group member who had to leave the meeting early.

A member expressed concern about the proposed metal mesh for the Craft Center Courtyard enclosure. While security needs are recognized, it should not appear “prison-like” in appearance in this prominent location. Other members suggested using a different material that is more consistent with other applications on campus, for example vertical metal fencing (similar to historic applications, e.g., at Dads’ Gates and modern applications, e.g., at Powell Plaza), particularly for areas in public view. The metal mesh could be used within the courtyard if needed for security.

In response to a member’s question, Larry and staff said the Nine Tribes Flag Amphitheater Pole Project would be brought back to the committee as a separate project when it is ready to move forward. The proposed EMU Project design would not be affected.

A member expressed appreciation for the effort put into improving the north courtyard’s landscape design, but said it seemed too rigid and angular. It should tie in more with the softer undulations and curves evident in the adjacent amphitheater and proposed south lawn designs.

A member said future projects should look at improvements that would better define 13th Avenue as a primary promenade.

A member noted that the main east-facing entry plaza design seemed a bit cluttered (e.g., there are numerous small planting areas). He encouraged integrating design refinements that would relate better to the main building entrance (perhaps through use of similar materials such as limestone).

A member noted the importance of trees in the landscape design (views, shade, definition of space) and questioned the method used to determine tree placement around the proposed south lawn. It was not clear why trees were proposed adjacent to the existing buildings (e.g., Straub) but not adjacent to the new EMU addition and entrance. Others said tree species should be carefully considered.

A member supported the idea of pursuing a *Campus Plan* amendment to establish the new south lawn as a designated open space as well as clean up the boundaries of adjacent open spaces – Onyx Axis would terminate at the Craft Center courtyard’s south edge and the Promenade would terminate at the eastern boundary of the new south lawn open space. This would protect the south lawn as an open space and define the potential location of a future addition.

A member emphasized the importance of ensuring that the proposed landscape design of the south lawn and Onyx Axis terminus ties in with future pedestrian improvements to the entire length of Onyx Street and 15th Avenue. A design for this larger area is needed.

Another member indicated that a full design of the larger region is beyond the scope of the project; however, a diagrammatic assessment could meet this need.

In response to a guest's question, Gregg summarized opportunities for student participation during the planning and design process.

Members expressed appreciation for the design team's thoughtful attention to addressing prior CPC comments.

Action: The committee agreed unanimously to recommend to the president that the Schematic Design for the **Erb Memorial Union Expansion and Renovation Project** be approved subject to the following conditions:

1. Refine the design of the covered bike parking facilities and bring it back to the Design Review Subcommittee for review.
2. Refine the design of additional built landscape features (e.g., seat walls, stormwater planters, etc.) and, if any, bring it back to the Design Review Subcommittee for review.
3. Carefully consider the design and materials for the Craft Center Courtyard outer fencing to ensure it is not "prison-like" in appearance. Consider materials other than metal mesh that are more consistent with other applications on campus, for example vertical metal fencing (similar to historic applications, e.g., at Dads' Gates and modern applications, e.g., at Powell Plaza), particularly for areas in public view. Bring it back to the Design Review Subcommittee for review.
4. Consider ways to simplify the design of the main east-facing entry forecourt (e.g., perhaps remove some of the small planting areas) and better relate it to the main building entrance (perhaps through use of similar materials such as limestone).
5. Look for ways to integrate softer undulations and curves into the north courtyard landscape design to better link it to the existing campus landscape (e.g., the EMU amphitheater) and the proposed south lawn design.
6. Carefully consider the placement and species of trees that encompass the proposed south lawn.
7. Direct staff to pursue a *Campus Plan* amendment to establish the new south lawn as a designated open space as well as clean up the adjacent axes boundaries – modify Onyx Axis so it terminates at the Craft Center courtyard's south edge and modify the Promenade so it terminates at the eastern boundary of the south lawn open space.
8. Assess how the proposed landscape design of the south lawn and Onyx Axis terminus would fit into future plans to convert the entire length of Onyx Street and 15th Avenue to a pedestrian area. Diagrammatically identify future options for this larger area.

Please contact this office if you have questions.

- cc. Vicki Arbeiter, Geological Sciences (Columbia & Volcanology Bldg Mgr)
RaDonna Aymong, Environmental Studies (Columbia Bldg Mgr)
Vince Babkirk, Campus Ops
James Bartik, NSU, AASU
Patrick Bartlein, Geography (Columbia Bldg Mgr)
Gwen Bolden, Parking and Transportation
Jane Brubaker, Campus Ops
Carolyn Burke, Eugene Planning
Linda Campbell, Linguistics (Straub Bldg Mgr)

Kathy Cashman, Geological Sciences (Volcanology Bldg Mgr)
Darin Dehle, Campus Ops
Allen Faigin, EMU
Mandy Chong, EMU
Timothy Cohalan, EMU Craft Center
Brooke Eisen, EMU
Allen Faigin, EMU Foods
Dan Geiger, Outdoor Program
Larry Gilbert, Cameron McCarthy
Andy Gitelson, OEI
Keith Gonzalez, Biology, Willamette Bldg Mgr
Jodi Hanson, SERA
Terri Harding, Eugene Planning
Joshua Harris, EMU Foods
George Helbling, Psychology (Straub Bldg Mgr)
Terrence Heldreth, EMU Craft Center
Laura Hinman, ASUO
Margaret Hoff, EMU Foods
Diane Hoffman, EMU
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Molly Kennedy, EMU User Group
Karen Hyatt, Community Relations
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Mike Kraiman, EMU
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Gus Lim, Housing
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David Opp-Beckman, Housing
Martina Oxoby, CPRE
Eric Philps, SERA
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Geri Richmond, Chemistry (Willamette Bldg Mgr)
Jessi Steward, EMU
David Strom, Physics (Volcanology Bldg Mgr)
Walker Templeton, SERA
Fred Tepfer, CPRE
Garrett Watkins, EMU
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Laurie Woodward, EMU
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