



City of Seattle
Seattle Department of Neighborhoods



UNIVERSITY OF
WASHINGTON
OFFICE OF REGIONAL AFFAIRS

City of Seattle - University of Washington Community Advisory Committee

DRAFT Meeting Notes
Meeting # 140
March 10, 2015
UW Tower
4333 Brooklyn Avenue
Seattle, WA 98105
22nd Floor

Members

Matthew Fox (Co Chair)
University District Community Council

Yvonne Sanchez
Eastlake Community Council

Jan Arntz
University of Washington Staff

Alex Bolton
University of Washington At-Large

Jean Amick
Laurelhurst Community club

Dave Eckert
Roosevelt Neighbor's Alliance

Ashley Emery
University of Washington Faculty

Brett Frosaker
Ravenna Bryant Community Assoc

Daniel Nguyen
University of Washington Students

Lionel Job
Montlake Community club

Eric Larson
Roosevelt Neighbor's Alliance

Douglas Campbell
University District Partnership

Cameron Miller
Wallingford Community council

Barbara Quinn
University Park Community Club

Betty Swift
Portage Bay/Roanoke Community council

Alternates

Jorgen Bader
University District Community Council

Kerry Kahl
University of Washington Staff

Ray Larson
University of Washington At-Large

Heather Newman
Laurelhurst Community Club

Tom Roth
Ravenna Springs Community Council

Ruedi Rislser
University Park Community Council

Sharon Scully
University District Community Council

Larry Sinnott
Ravenna Bryant Community Association

Matthew Stubbs
University of Washington

Ex-Officio Members

Steve Sheppard – DON
City of Seattle, Dept. of Neighborhoods

Theresa Doherty – UW
University of Washington, Office of Regional Affairs

Members and Alternates Present

Matt Fox	Betty Swift	Eric Larson
Kerry Kahl	Emma Slager	Douglas Campbell
Brett Forsaker	Barbara Quinn	

Staff and Others Present

Steve Sheppard	Theresa Doherty
Kristine Kenney	Steve Harrison

(See sign-in sheet)

I. Welcome and Introductions

The meeting was opened by Matt Fox. Brief introductions followed. The agenda and past minutes for January and February were approved with minor changes.

II. Campus Landscape Framework – Kristine Kenny

Editor's note: much of this presentation was from a series of power point slides and was not easily converted into a text format.

Ms. Kristine Kenny, University Landscape Architect, was introduced to provide an updated on the Campus Landscape Framework. She noted that this was the second presentation to CUCAC on this subject, the prior update having occurred in September 2013.

Ms. Kenny spoke from a series of power-point presentations. She stated that the landscape of the University is viewed as a major resource. This study has been ongoing for two years and is intended to both preserve the

The City of Seattle-University of Washington Community Advisory Committee advises both on the community impact of planning and development activities at the University of Washington and surrounding area. For more information on CUCAC activities call either: Steve Sheppard – City of Seattle (206) 684-0302 or Theresa Doherty – University of Washington (206) 221-2603.

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landscape on campus and show how it contributes to the University's mission for research and teaching. .

The purpose of the Campus Landscape Framework is to communicate back to the community and understand the need to fund these vast resources in order to preserve its legacy.

The study has been ongoing for about two years. It went through three phases: 1) inventory of the existing landscaping; 2) evaluation of how the campus landscaping interacts with the community; and 3) looking at stewardship design principles. There is now a document that will soon be available online. It is over 400 pages and is currently being edited.

The study utilized a series of case studies and then attempted to test their possible impacts on the ground. This evaluation resulted in recommendations that we believe have been tested and are achievable. The document explains the framework and recommends a toolkit that the administration will be able to use to adopt the stewardship goals for the university into concrete actions.

The document describes how the campus landscape functions in different areas. The team looked at existing circulation patterns to better understand how people move around campus. In November 2013, the team put out a survey to faculty staff, alumni members, etc. and asked them to look at the various aspects of the University. Slides were presented that showed both circulation patterns and key landscape nodes and environments. Ms. Kenny briefly described each slide.

Ms. Kenny noted that the university is a dynamic and changing environment and that groups often perceive it differently. The team asked participants in the surveys to place icons on their favorite places on campus. The survey showed where the active core areas were. The survey also asked demographic information to understand how different groups on campus use these areas. About 38,000 icons that were placed around campus and about 2,000 people participated to look at their favorite places on campus. The most common place identified was the Quad but there were many others as well.

The study also looks at each space within its historical context. It looks at 20 year increments and evaluates different styles common to each era. The study is also evaluating campus signage. The goal is to provide a wayfinding based system, a map-based system rather than finger pointing as the people move around the campus. Mobility for pedestrians and bicycles is major focus as well as improving existing spaces. Specific storage for bicycles is being addressed as is access to the waterfront. She noted that one space that is seen as an opportunity for improvements is Red Square. While it is a central open space and well used, it is not well regarded.

The end product will be a series of priority improvement projects. Funding will be requested to implement these over about a ten year period. This is requiring looking at funding strategies and maintenance funds.

Betty Swift noted that there has been discussion in the community regarding open space along 43rd. Ms. Kenny responded that they are looking at this. Brett Frosaker asked how this project relates to the upcoming Master Plan. Ms. Kenny responded that this will inform that effort but that the Campus Master Plan will be much more comprehensive. The Landscape project is identifying spaces that are very important. These spaces will likely be

considered off-limits for additional buildings. She provided examples of how this has worked in the past. Denny Field re-development was cited as an example. Theresa Doherty noted that this document will not trump the new master plan but will be taken very seriously

Mr. Steve Sheppard mentioned that the Red Square is clearly a focus point but very unappealing. He asked if there are strategies being developed to improve this space. Ms. Kenny responded that the underground garage complicates this but that the team is looking at how to use adjacent spaces that are beyond the edge of the underground garage to introduce additional landscaping into this area. Improving this space will clearly be a challenge.

III. West Campus Utility Plant – Steve Harrison

Mr. Steve Harrison from the Capital Projects Office was introduced to provide an update of the West Campus Utility Plant design. The plant is located near the intersection of University Way AND NE Pacific Street. The plan will provide emergency stand by power

The site is small which constrains designs somewhat. The project design will use a fast track method with construction in the fall of this year and opening on February 2017. This aggressive schedule relies on the use of a “Progressive Design Model” rather than the more standard design build. Progressive design is more collaborative. A design team is selected, This design team coordinates with a construction team. This is a more seamless process without multiple bid sequences.

On October 2013, the project was approved and finalized. Mr. Harrison went over design drawings. The building will be 63 ft. and the code height is about 65 ft. It is a fully enclosed plant. He noted that it is a relatively simple design with windows along some of the first floor. However, the main feature is a large screen wall that goes around the roof that shelters the actual generators and cooling equipment..

The designers are looking at a variety of screen wall options that include three dimensional aspects that have some depth and transparency and translucency where the sunshine can shine through the back and can see the equipment behind it; the wall needs to exist due to acoustic reasons.

Mr. Harrison noted that when this is seen as a “gateway site” Not all are thrilled with this as the location for the utility plant; The plant is designed to be remotely operational but with 24/7 monitoring.

Brief discussion followed during which several members observed that the building is very industrial and that this is likely unavoidable given its function. The nature of the use restricts design options. Members recommended that great care be taken to look at the best quality screening possible for this facility.

IV. New Business

No new business was presented.

V. Adjournment

No further business being before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned.