UAF Master Planning Committee

Thursday, February 20, 2003; 9 – 11 a.m.

Chancellor's Conference Room; Signers' Hall Room 330

- 1. Welcome and announcements
- 2. Informational presentation by Facilities Services; update on Tanana Loop funding & DOT
- 3. MPC Powerpoint presentation given to Staff Council; discussion about West Ridge construction and parking
- 4. Discussion and action on building user committees
- 5. Discussion about recommendation from MPC subcommittee on circulation and parking
- 6. Other business
- 7. Adjournment

Master Planning Committee Meeting

February 20, 2003 Notes

Members Present:

Rick Caulfield (chair), Deb Brownfield, Luke Hopkins, Ian Olson, Patrick Lovejoy, Mike Supkis, Lydia Andersen, Terrence Cole, Gerry Plumley, Clark Milne, Rich Seifert

Guests:

Gary Newman

Welcome and announcements

The chair noted the ongoing activities of the subcommittees on circulation & parking and North Campus area. For the former, a consultant has been hired to conduct a study of parking and circulation needs and issues on campus. MPC members will have an opportunity to meet and talk with the consultant—Kittelson and Associates of Portland—on Tuesday, February 25.

The chair noted a resolution received from the Staff Council of the GI about West Ridge construction and parking issues. Copies will be distributed to all MPC members.

Information Presentation by Facilities Services (S. Titus)

Steve Titus of DDC/FS shared important news that the Tanana Loop project is now on the draft DOT STIP plan. It scored higher than many expected. A final STIP document should be completed in March. It is possible that funding might be available for design as early as 04-05 and construction in 06-07. Planning continues for major West Ridge construction this summer. Projects include utilidor, Museum, WRRB, BICS design and site work, USDA Toolik staging site. Others include Wood Center renewal projects and several rural campus projects.

MPC Powerpoint Presentation about Campus Master Plan and West Ridge Construction

Rick Caulfield and Steve Titus shared the Powerpoint presentation recently shown to Staff Council. It includes an overview of the campus master plan and specific discussion about temporary and long term parking issues on West Ridge. Discussion focused on methods and means of minimizing disruption of WR parking in summer 2003 when the WR mall will be completely excavated.

Discussion focused on how best to be proactive in informing WR faculty, staff, and students about alternatives during construction, and about long term solutions to parking challenges on WR.

MPC members are encouraged to share any ideas about this with Mark Wohlford, utilidor project engineer.

Discussion about Building User Committees

At the MPC's February 6 meeting, it was agreed that a draft recommendation about establishing building user committees should be presented for consideration. The chair presented a draft that was discussed at some length. Some additional refinements to the draft are required. Deb Brownfield also reported that the Provost is supportive in principle of having such committees, consistent with ongoing space planning efforts.

Deb Brownfield will collect additional comments about the draft recommendation from Facilities Services and from MPC members. She will bring a new draft to the MPC meeting for action on March 6.

Discussion about Recommendation from MPC Subcommittee on Circulation and Parking

The MPC subcommittee on circulation and parking submitted a recommendation about West Ridge parking and design to the MPC just prior to its February 6 meeting. The MPC recognizes the importance of responding appropriately and in a timely way to this recommendation.

Discussion about the recommendation focused on those elements that can be addressed easily within the context of the current master plan and those that appear to present an alternative to the plan. The chair was instructed to write a letter to the subcommittee responding to the former.

The latter part of the subcommittee's recommendation proposes reconsideration of the master plan's concept for the WR mall area that calls for removal of parking there following utilidor construction. Discussion ensued about whether the MPC should revisit this topic or not, and to what extent the campus master plan is a 'living document' that can be changed over time. Concern was expressed that the subcommittee recommendation was based on an incomplete understanding of the MPC's thinking about the mall's redesign.

In light of this discussion, it was agreed that a joint session involving MPC members and subcommittee members would be desirable to share information and ideas about the WR mall concept. The chair was instructed to invite subcommittee members to the March 6 meeting for this purpose.

Other Business

The chair noted discussions underway with Facilities Services (C. Adamczak) about hiring a consultant to develop a campus landscaping plan, as envisioned in the master plan. Funds exist to do so. A small ad hoc committee is under development to work with FS on this project. Members of the MPC who are interested in serving on this ad hoc committee are invited to contact the chair about their interest.

Next Scheduled MPC meeting: March 6, 2003, 9-11am, Signers Hall.