

<p><b>UAF Master Planning Committee</b></p> <p>Thursday, June 26, 2003; 9 – 11 a.m. Chancellor's Conference Room; Signers' Hall Room 330</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Welcome and announcements</li> <li>2. Informational presentation by Facilities Services on current design and construction activities</li> <li>3. Opportunity for public comments</li> <li>4. Action on MPC bylaw change regarding public input</li> <li>5. MPC 'College Hill Quad' (aka 'Lower Campus Quad') recommendation (<a href="#">MPC 03-03</a>): responses to date and discussion about future development</li> <li>6. MPC ad hoc committee on West Ridge Plaza: update and discussion about future planning</li> <li>7. Update: MPC subcommittee on circulation and parking</li> <li>8. Other business</li> <li>9. Adjourn</li> </ol>
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## **Master Planning Committee Meeting**

June 26, 2003

Notes

### **Members Present:**

Rick Caulfield (chair), Deb Brownfield, John Craven, Ian Olson, Chris Bennett, Rich Seifert, Joe Hayes, Pamela Davis, Luke Hopkins, Kathleen Schedler

### **Guests:**

Addie Callaghan, Marc Wohlford, Glen Kravitz, Gary Newman

### **Welcome and Announcements**

The chair noted important work underway by the MPC subcommittee on circulation and parking and by ad hoc committees on planning for West Ridge Plaza, 'College Hill Quad' (aka 'Lower Campus Quad'), and landscaping. Reports

about these activities are discussed below. A draft landscaping study by WRT is now being reviewed by the MPC's ad hoc landscaping committee.

The MPC has not yet had a formal response from the Chancellor about its recommendation [MPC 03-03](#) ('College Hill Quad') but discussions continue in Chancellor's Cabinet and elsewhere about it. We expect a formal response when the Chancellor returns later in the summer.

### **Informational Presentation by Facilities Services on Current Design and Construction Activities**

Kathleen Schedler gave a presentation about ongoing design and construction activities on campus. She noted that she has not seen so much construction activity on campus at one time in all of her years here at UAF. That said, design and construction in the next few years is anticipated to be much less intense. We are experiencing challenges due to the amount of work underway, but all projects appear to be on schedule.

A new 6-year capital funding plan is now under development by UAF leadership. Once this is approved, it will be important for the MPC to anticipate how best to engage with design and construction efforts in a timely way. A focused MPC workshop on this topic may be appropriate once the capital plan is in place. The only capital funding expected for the coming year is \$405,000 for upgrading elevators.

Major projects continuing under construction are West Ridge Research Building, the utilidor, UA Museum expansion, Thompson Drive, Wood Center improvements, power plant improvements, and others. We can expect to hear more from proponents of the Cold Climate Housing Research Center (CCHRC) in coming months. A previous request from the FNSBSD for an antenna on Moore Hall continues to be under study.

John Craven made a comment focusing on improvements in sidewalks and lighting on Yukon Drive. He expressed the hope that as new lighting is installed, accommodations can be made for widening sidewalks and developing a consistent and attractive pedestrian path along the roadway.

### **Opportunity for Public Comments**

The chair noted MPC intention at this meeting to act on the bylaw change facilitating public comment. In anticipation of this change, the chair invited any members of the public to comment on any matter relevant to the MPC; comments are limited to three minutes.

Addie Callaghan of the Sea Grant Program in O'Neill Building spoke about the importance of having designated parking near the Sea Grant offices for access by the public. She indicated that two or three spaces should be sufficient and that they could perhaps be shared with other designated parking spaces (e.g. Map Office).

The chair noted that this topic was part of the West Ridge Plaza ad hoc committee's discussions and that the emerging plan anticipates such designated space. Others suggested that this suggestion be placed in writing and sent to Parking Services.

Gary Newman noted that the existing spaces available for the Map Office also serve the Mather Library. Apparently there is concern that these spaces not be shared because of these established needs.

### **Action by MPC Bylaw Change Regarding Public Input**

The chair noted that voting on a MPC bylaw change requires two-thirds vote by the full MPC. A vote must also follow a 30-day period in which the proposed change is posted on the MPC website. This proposed change has been on the website for over 30 days.

The chair confirmed the presence of 10 of 15 MPC members. A vote on the bylaw change as posted on the web was taken. It was passed unanimously: 10 yeas, 0 nays, 0 abstentions. The Chancellor is required to approve all bylaw changes. The chair will send this as a formal recommendation to the Chancellor (MPC 03-04 "MPC Bylaw Change").

### **MPC "College Hill Quad" Recommendation (MPC 03-03): Responses to Date and Discussion about Future Development**

The chair noted the MPC recommendation on 'College Hill Quad' ([MPC 03-03](#)) sent in June to Chancellor Lind. A formal response from him has not yet been received. However, reports are that he intends to approve several elements in the

recommendation but not all. For the immediate future, Facilities Services intends to remove the fountain and add circular seating in its place. It will also retain the flags in a circular manner and improve landscaping and pedestrian walkways. Twenty-two parking spaces will be retained (those open during construction) but others (those not available during construction) will be permanently closed.

The MPC discussed how to proceed with a longterm plan for the Quad that would fulfill the aspirations for the area in the master plan. It was agreed that the MPC would make this a major agenda item at its July 24, 2003 meeting. Our goal will be to finalize a longterm concept plan for the area--working with consultant WRT and building on the ad hoc committee's recommendations.

We anticipate a period of widespread public comment on the revised concept plan in August and early September. With this input, and with anticipated support from the Chancellor, Facilities Services will develop cost estimates so that potential sources of public and private funding can be identified and pursued. Pamela Davis asked to be closely involved in developing this concept plan and to have Paul McCarthy from Rasmuson Library involved as well.

### **MPC Ad Hoc Committee on West Ridge Plaza: Update and Discussion about Future Planning**

Glenn Kravitz from Facilities Services described the latest draft alternative ("Alternative 6") for the West Ridge Plaza that draws on the excellent work of an ad hoc committee representing all major WR units. Key elements include a one-way road open to the public running from east to west, drop-off and delivery access to all major buildings, new handicapped parking, shifting of plaza parking to adjacent lots, public gathering areas with landscaping, and a central heated shelter for shuttle users.

After considerable discussion about the draft plan and its potential implementation, the MPC voted to endorse West Ridge Plaza concept plan "Alternative 6" as presented at its June 26, 2003 meeting—as developed by the MPC ad hoc committee on West Ridge Plaza—with an emphasis on establishing a roadway consistent with the plan in this construction season. The vote on this recommendation was as follows: 9 yeas, 1 nay, 0 abstentions. Making this recommendation now is expected to help guide further design and construction efforts by Facilities Services.

The intent of the MPC in making this formal recommendation is to make clear its support in concept for the major elements included in it. It is also the MPC's intent that this will encourage an active public comment period during the months of August and September 2003. With comments received, the MPC may revise its recommendation and forward that to the Chancellor. Our hope is that a final plan approved by the Chancellor can be implemented in spring 2004.

#### **Update: MPC Subcommittee on Circulation and Parking**

John Craven reported on continuing work by the MPC subcommittee on circulation and parking with consultants Kittelson and Associates. The subcommittee met recently with the consultant to discuss two technical memoranda central to the forthcoming report on campus circulation and parking. The consultant will continue working on the first draft of the final report. It will first be reviewed by the subcommittee and then brought to the MPC for review and action.

It was anticipated that the MPC would be able to review a draft in July-August 2003. The chair will seek clarification from the subcommittee chair about the schedule for review.

#### **Other Business**

There was no other business.

#### **Adjourn.**

#### **Scheduled MPC Summer Meetings**

Thursday, July 24, 9-11am, Chancellor's Conference Room

Thursday, August 28, 9-11am, Chancellor's Conference Room

Others called as needed (notice provided by email)