

<p><b>UAF Master Planning Committee</b></p> <p>Thursday, May 22, 2008; 9 – 11 a.m. Chancellor’s Conference Room; Signers’ Hall Room 330</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Welcome and Introductions</li> <li>2. Subcommittee reports <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Campus Landscape and Outdoor Art</li> <li>Circulation and Parking</li> <li>North Campus</li> </ul> </li> <li>3. Facilities Services Update</li> <li>4. Public comment period</li> <li>5. Harper Building access issue</li> <li>6. CMP 5-year update</li> <li>7. Other</li> </ol>
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## **Master Planning Committee Meeting**

May 22, 2008

Notes

**Attending:**

Deb Horner  
Josh Greenberg  
Bill Krause  
Dianne Milke  
Dave Miller  
Lydia Anderson

**Guests:**

Gary Beaudette, UAF Safety Officer  
Frank Chythlook, UAF Interior-Aleutians  
Annette Chism, UAF Risk Manager  
Annette Freiburger, UAF Interior-Aleutians  
Kristy Malamute, UAF Interior-Aleutians  
Brandon Metson, ASUAF President

**Welcome and Introductions**

As ASUAF president, Brandon Metson will make a recommendation to MPC Chair Rich Boone for an undergraduate student to replace outgoing member Mariah Acton. Deb Horner suggested to Brandon that someone be identified who would be able to make the time commitment to serve on MPC, as regular attendance by the student representative has been a continuing challenge.

## **Subcommittee Reports**

### **Campus Landscape and Outdoor Art**

Deb Horner reported that the 5/19/08 Arbor Day celebration and West Ridge Plaza dedication was a success.

During the summer, the number and types of tree stands, and the level of needed maintenance, will be determined.

### ***Circulation and Parking***

No report.

### ***North Campus***

No report.

### **Facilities Services Update**

Dave Miller reported that the work at Fine Arts is beginning to impact campus. Delivery access to the Bookstore and Post Office is being worked out. Deb commented the sculptures moved from Fine Arts to West Ridge have been well received. Future plans are for a rotating sculpture garden.

There are curb, gutter, and road repair projects scheduled throughout campus this summer.

It is still unknown how some capital projects will fair in the state budget. The west wing of Arctic Health hasn't yet been funded. Facilities is moving forward on projects funded in the R&R package. Dave is not aware of any funding for the installation of sidewalks along Tanana Loop near Butrovich.

### **Public Comment Period**

None

## **Harper Building Access**

Safety Officer Gary Beaudette of UAF Environmental Health, Safety and Risk Management, presented concerns about unsafe conditions and hazards at the entrance/exit to the Harper Building on Geist Road. The majority of issues arise from eastbound traffic turning north, because there is no turn lane. There also are no turn lanes or traffic signals to create safe entry from the Harper exit onto Geist during peak travel periods.

Gary has conferred with DOT on the issue. DOT's position is that there have been no accidents in front of the building, so they cannot submit it as a viable project for the Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP). Gary states there have in fact been accidents, but due to the manner in which the accident reports were prepared, there is no documentation that the accidents happened in front of the building. Gary has asked Harper occupants to track and report accidents and near misses. Facilities has cut some brush and trees to improve visibility and will install a way-finding sign. It has also been suggested to employees that they drive to Fairbanks Street and do a turn-around. There have been approximately three accidents in the last four years, one as recently as last month.

Frank Chythlook, who works in the Harper Building, related the difficulty turning left into Harper with no turn lane; vehicles from behind are often not alert to slowing or turning traffic, causing accidents and near misses. His vehicle was struck from the rear. With two high schools along Geist Road, Frank believes there are many inexperienced drivers traveling in the area. Kristy Malamute also works in the Harper Building and related her frightening experiences with traffic, including a 4/16/08 accident in which she was struck by a westbound vehicle. Annette Freiburger, the third Harper Building employee present at today's meeting, described the experience of a former employee who was rear ended just as Frank was. Frank emphasized that it is not just employees in the Harper Building who are risk, but students and other visitors to the building.

Deb asked whether posting a no left turn sign might help. Gary responded that there would still be a problem with eastbound traffic coming from behind a vehicle attempting to turn north into Harper, but he will check to see what's involved in posting no left turn signs. The U.S. National Park Service, whose

building sits across Geist Road from Harper, reports employees with similar traffic concerns.

Traffic congestion near the Administrative Services and Old University Park buildings were discussed. Annette believes traffic congestion on University Avenue is different from the stretch of Geist Road upon which the Harper Building is situated, for the reason that there are multiple driveways on University Avenue, therefore, drivers have greater awareness of turning vehicles. Gary added that unlike Old University Park and Administrative Services, Harper has only one road for entry and exit. Deb pointed out that of the three buildings, Harper is the only site that involves UAF property and at which UAF has the control to enact a solution, even if there is a price tag associated with it. There was general consensus that constructing road access to the Harper Building from Fairbanks Street was likely the best solution; once such a road is constructed and opened, the current entrance/exit on Geist would be closed. Dave Miller indicated permafrost and well sites would need to be taken into consideration if a new road is constructed in the area. He did not relate problems with the existing road to CCHC. Josh Greenberg expressed concern with MPC making a recommendation without cost information or knowing the exact location of well sites. Facilities anticipates future reconstruction of Geist Road by DOT in approximately a decade, an alternative would be for UAF to work with DOT to ensure that reconstruction plans provide for access to Harper from a new entrance road.

Bill Krause is not willing to require employees to turn right from Administrative Services and Old University Park, but that Risk Management could recommend it. Bill and his staff present stated this is not a worker's compensation or OSHA issue--it is a matter of risk tolerance. One of DOT's functions is to gather accident data and assess areas where traffic safety is in question. Annette Chism will seek advice on whether it is prudent for MPC to address and make recommendations on access to all campus facilities, rather than just the Harper Building, and will discuss with Deb as soon as possible.

MPC postpones discussion of this topic and consideration of a motion until its next meeting on 6/5/08. MPC may consider making two motions--one specific to Harper and one with a broader scope that asks the MPC Circulation and Parking Subcommittee to determine whether access to other campus facilities needs to

be assessed. Deb and Dianne will work to craft motion language. Members with suggested language for motions, should forward it to Deb.

### **CMP 5-Year Update**

Rich Boone and Deb presented the update to chancellor's cabinet and it was well received. Buck Sharpton did ask MPC to define sustainability at least generally in the plan. Deb has sent proposed language to Buck and is awaiting his comments. After that addition, the plan will again go to chancellor's cabinet for approval.

At the next MPC meeting, Dave Miller will report on the status of proposed revisions to the master plan policy.

### **Next Meetings**

The next MPC meeting is Thursday, 6/5/08, at 9 a.m. in the CCR. MPC will meet monthly over the summer on 6/5, 7/17, and 8/28. If pressing issues arise, MPC can schedule additional meetings during the summer. MPC will commence meeting every other week beginning 9/11/08. All meetings are at 9 am in the chancellor's conference room. Dianne Milke will update the MPC website to reflect MPC's meeting schedule.