

**Master Planning Committee
of
University of Alaska Fairbanks**

MEMORANDUM

Date: June 15, 2009

To: Brian Rogers, Chancellor  6/15/09
Approved Date

From: Deb Horner, MPC Vice-Chair 

Re: Revised MPC Recommendation 2009-03 – University Park Building Site

On June 11, 2009, the UAF Master Planning Committee re-addressed the subject of the old University Park Building site. TVC Director Rick Caulfield and ARSC Director Frank Williams gave presentations relative to their future plans for the site. Chancellor Brian Rogers was also present.

After deliberation, a motion was unanimously passed (11 – 0) to rescind the recommendation passed at MPC's May 21, 2009, meeting. That recommendation was subsequently advanced to Chancellor Rogers for consideration but not acted upon by him (attached and dated May 29, 2009). The MPC motion to rescind states:

"The MPC rescinds its May 21, 2009, motion regarding ARSC's plans to use the Old UPark building and contiguous lands."

At the June 11 meeting, MPC also passed the following recommendation by a vote of 8 to 3:

"MPC recommends that a basic site plan for Old UPark and contiguous lands be developed no later than July 31, 2009, and that consideration be given to all stakeholders including ARSC and TVC."

If you are in agreement with the revised MPC recommendation as stated above, please indicate your approval at the top portion of this document.

dIm

Attachment (as stated)

**Master Planning Committee
of
University of Alaska Fairbanks**

MEMORANDUM

Date: May 29, 2009

To: Brian Rogers, Chancellor

From: Rich Boone, MPC Chair *Rich Boone*

Re: MPC Recommendation 2009-03 – University Park Building Site

	_____ Approved Date
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At the UAF Master Planning Committee's May 21, 2009, meeting, it discussed Rick Caulfield's May 18, 2009, email (attached) relative to the site of the old University Park Building. MPC considered Rick's concerns about plans to establish the supercomputing facility at that site. The following recommendation was made, seconded, and passed by a 6-0 vote and 1 abstention:

Per the May 18, 2009 email (attached) from Rick Caulfield, the Master Planning Committee expresses its concern that a review process for the use of Old UPark by the Arctic Region Supercomputing Center has not been followed. In advance of any specific project we recommend that an overall plan for future use of Old UPark and contiguous properties should be developed as soon as possible.

If you are in agreement with the MPC recommendation as stated above, please indicate your approval at the top portion of this document.

dIm

Attachment (as stated)

----- Original Message -----

Subject: University Park Building site
 From: "Richard Caulfield" <racaulfield@alaska.edu>
 Date: Mon, May 18, 2009 2:40 pm
 To: chancellor@uaf.edu
 Cc: kshedler@fs.uaf.edu
 lzanazzo@fs.uaf.edu
 ffrdb@uaf.edu
 "'Deborah Horner'" <fndgh@uaf.edu>
 "'Jennifer Carroll'" <rnjlc@uaf.edu>

Dear Brian:

I am writing to express concern about apparent planning efforts underway affecting the University Park Building site. TVC staff at Upark received the

email below last week indicating that there is movement to identify a site and perhaps begin to design a new supercomputing center on the Upark site. This is the first I've heard of this plan. I'm told that an RFP was issued inviting

firms to help identify a new building site and that Design Alaska may have already been selected for this work--with a focus on this particular site.

As you know, TVC currently has a significant presence at Upark as do other UAF programs. Moreover, the future of the Upark site has been a significant discussion point in development of our soon-to-be-finished TVC Facilities Plan. This TVC planning process included Facilities Services and UAF Master Planning Committee involvement.

We see the Upark site as a key element in meeting future needs for accessible career and technical education and other related university services.

As you know, Upark offers significant advantages because of its close proximity both to the UAF main campus and our existing UAF/TVC presence in Hutchison Institute of Technology. TVC's facilities plan identifies value in creating a new campus-like connection between TVC facilities at Hutch and Upark--allowing shared use of adjacent classrooms and labs plus access to student services. Upark has obvious advantages for new construction due to university land ownership and access to utilities. But it also has special advantages for higher-volume public (student/community) use because of its location on a major arterial, its access to shuttle bus services, its proximity to two high schools for shared instruction and Tech-Prep partnerships, and its availability of parking spaces not constrained by the main campus.

My intention here is not to prejudge any proposed design and/or construction at the Upark site--indeed I was informed that any construction of a supercomputer facility would only require a small part of the Upark site and perhaps not even that of the current Upark building footprint. While that offers some comfort, my concern is with the prospect of piecemeal planning for this site when its obvious advantages call out for a comprehensive look at all prospective needs--taking into account the full array of site attributes and also alternatives available for various needs. My five years of service on the UAF Campus Master Planning Committee (MPC) brought to light

too many examples of such piecemeal planning here at UAF. This was commonly the result of little or no communication with stakeholders in advance of design or construction. The email below from Design Alaska raises concerns in my mind that we are moving once again in this direction.

It seems to me that the future of the Upark site is something that should have the benefit of UAF Master Planning Committee review before any significant planning for a particular purpose is undertaken. Only in that manner can we as a campus community have the opportunity to identify how best to meet diverse needs and utilize this highly-valuable site to its fullest potential.

I would appreciate your review of this process. My suggestion would be to invite the engagement of the MPC, Facilities Services, and all stakeholders before any site or design work is undertaken.

Thank you.

Rick Caulfield
Director, UAF Tanana Valley Campus

cc:
Facilities Services
Chair, UAF Master Planning Committee

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>> Ms Baldwin-
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>> I am a land surveyor working for Design Alaska, a local engineering
> firm
>> here in Fairbanks. We are part of a team working to expand the
>> University Park Building for the future "Super Computing Center". We
>> are in the very early stages of the project. One of the first steps
> is
>> to identify and locate all existing features including utilities in
> and
>> around the site. As the building coordinator, I would like to meet
> with
>> you and hopefully look at existing development plans for your
> building.
>> I am looking for utility connections to the building and utilities
>> surrounding the site. We are in the planning stages, so the more
>> information the designers have the better decisions can be made.
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>> I look forward to meeting with you at your earliest convenience.
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>> Thanks,
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>> David S. Weissman, PLS
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