



Master Planning Committee

Date: November 3, 2023

To: Daniel White, Chancellor

From: Brittany Van Eck, Interim Chair

DocuSigned by:

Brittany Van Eck

A07AC911BE83483...

RE: Proposed Hotel Sites

The Master Planning Committee was asked to discuss and recommend potential locations for a hotel on campus to help guide the work currently underway on the Campus Master Plan update. The Committee ranked six locations across campus, and recommends the following locations be considered, with preference given to the order listed below (map attached):

1. Site B – East corner of Geist Road and Thompson Drive
2. Site C – South of Tanana Loop
3. Site A – West corner of Geist Road and Thompson Drive
4. Site F – Farmer's Loop / Alumni Drive
5. Site D – West of SRC
6. Site E – near core campus, east of Patty Center

The following comments and concerns were stated during the meeting and the subsequent voting:

- Not on the sledding hill, also impacts Equinox and other events historically in this location
- East of Thompson is walkable to Campus, easy to service with a shuttle, better parking opportunities.
- Without a parking garage, Sites C, D and E are not viable.
- Would like to see conference facilities within the hotel, as well as a restaurant
- The locations on core campus distract from the educational purpose of the campus, are limited in space and would preclude other campus uses, have parking challenges (on top of existing).
- 700 Fairbanks Street (old/burned College Inn property) – this property is owned by the FNSB and expected to be included in a tax foreclosure sale this month. This blighted property is an eyesore for the community and visitors/students/staff at the University, and if UAF acquired the property and redeveloped it as a hotel it would demonstrate an

Master Planning Committee

incredible community partnership with not only our local government but also our residents that drive by it each day.

- Option B – this site seems to have the most space available for flexibility in scale of a new hotel and parking lot size and is ideally situated for campus shuttle service.
- Option F – though this site seems a little constrained, it is ideally located for close walking distance to campus buildings/dorms and food/shopping venues across the street.
- Option A – this is a good location like Option B, but would hinder the opportunity to expand the agricultural operation on this parcel. The trees may also provide habitat for wildlife that access the field.
- Option C – though I like this location for close walking distance to campus buildings/dorms, I hesitate to support a hotel being located adjacent to rail tracks that have early morning trains (noise, vibration, etc).
- Options D & E – these locations do not seem ideal as they may conflict with future expansion of campus buildings/infrastructure.

While the committee, in general, supports a hotel on campus, a formal recommendation to support a hotel and the proposed locations will be provided upon completion of the Master Plan update.

