

**UAF Master Plan Committee (MPC)****April 11, 2013****Meeting Notes by Gary Newman**

1. Presentation by Chas Jones for the UAF Community Garden (on old Fairbank St. alignment south of the bridge. It was created for summer 2012 with 42 plots, demand for at least 83 plots, asking to expand to the south. MPC agreed.
2. West Ridge Plaza rocket installation. The Geophysical Institute had requested permission to mount a rocket in the plaza roughly south of the Elvey Bldg. This was forwarded from the Campus Landscape Subcommittee of the MPC. The size of the rocket, originally 40' is now 70'. Discussion over exact placement so as to not overshadow the Milepost sign. MPC requested these items be rendered to size and to alternate locations and come back to MPC. Deb Coxon is the lead on communicating with the MPC.
3. Troth Yeddha park area development – a many point spreadsheet of items with approximate costs were presented. Total cost \$3.9 mm to be privately funded. Prioritizing of items such as S. of Yukon Dr. viewing platform, Honors' circles, etc. The group is working with landscape architects Jones and Jones – [www.jonesandjones.com](http://www.jonesandjones.com)
4. Trails Committee – continuing progress on Goals, Objectives and Performance Measures. MPC reviewed the plan outline and discussed a number of the specific areas where improvements were needed to encourage non-vehicular access to and within the UAF campus. The Trails Committee entertained a presentation from Nat and Caren Goodhue. Nat is an alumnus of UAF from the 1960's and had been involved in a number of trails development and planning for the Equinox Marathon, Anchorage area and now lives in Stowe, VT. They were in town, intrigued by the effort of the Trails Committee. It was noted that the Yankovich-Miller Hill bike path plans might be available from DOT in June 2013, with construction 2-3 years out.
5. Discussion about desire to establish a roller ski course. No decision and the \$1.2 mm cost would hopefully be privately funded.
6. Biking on specific N. Campus trails had been approved by the N. Campus Subcommittee and it was agreed that a trial period was in order.
7. A second disk golf course is being looked at for the N. Campus area. Conflicts with existing uses will be looked at and mitigated. Due to construction on campus and the Terrain Park, the existing 18 hole course will likely be reduced to a 9 hole course.
8. Art Subcommittee – the wooden piece in front of Wood Center will be moved for construction. Any repairs and an alternate location is being looked at.
9. Communications: There is a Student Cornerstone electronic newsletter in development.
10. Next meeting April 25, 2013 – 9 am – 11 am – Signers Hall – Chancellor's Conference Room

### CAMPUS COMMUNITY GARDEN *Proposed Expansion*




Chas Jones  
PhD student, Campus Community Garden Committee Chairperson  
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### LOCATION & PURPOSE



- Place to grow organic foods
- Enhance campus community across disciplines and between students, staff, and faculty
- Outreach: workshops, classes, & campus tours
- Mental & physical well-being
- Site beautification

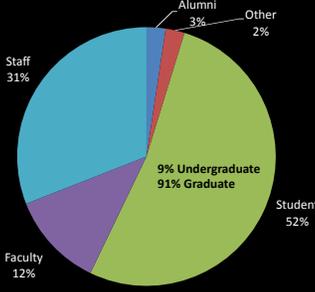
### 2012 Garden Process



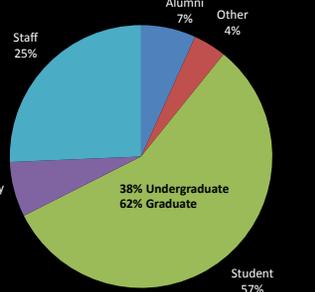
- UAF Lands office
- Facility Services
- CCHRC & Sustainable Village
- Master Planning Committee
- Parking Services
- Environmental Health, Safety and Risk Management
- UAF Police Dept.

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#### 2012 – Actual gardeners (42 plots)



#### 2013 – 82 Plots reserved (as of April 8)



Percentage breakdown  
(as of March 28)

### GARDEN – Proposed expansion

2012:

- 50 ft x 120 ft
- 0.14 Acre

Infrastructure

- 42 plots
- 6 ft wire fence
- 2 Water tanks
- Storage shed
- 2 Picnic tables

2013 Proposed:

- 50 ft x 200 ft (+80 ft)
- 0.23 Acre (+.09 Acre)

Infrastructure

- 100 plots (+48 plots)
- 6 ft wire fence (+ 210 ft)
- 2 Water tanks
- Storage shed
- 2 Picnic tables
- Proposed installation (May 11 & May 18)

### Garden Successes



- Infrastructure
- Committed gardening group
- Email listserve
- Garden Committee (3 students, 1 faculty, 1 staff)
- 2 gardening workshop
  - 24 participants (2012)
  - ~ 70 participants (2013)
- 2 Garden BBQ Social (2012)
- Sun Star / Cornerstone
- Facility Services cooperation (most helpful)

### Questions / Advice?



Chas Jones



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

Date: April 11, 2013

To: Brian Rogers, Chancellor

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Approved

Date

From: Josh Greenberg, Chair

Re: MPC Recommendation 2013-03 – Biking corridor along winter walking trail

The UAF Master Planning Committee recommends allowing winter biking on current walking trail that run north-south from LARS to the ASF antennae, as well as the walking trail immediately south of the stadium, and the walking trail on ASF antennae access road. The impacts of winter biking on the trail system will be reviewed by the North Campus Sub-committee in spring 2014.

Motion made by:

Seconded by:

Passed:



## UAF COMPLETE SIDEWALK AND TRAILS PLAN

### Definition

The University of Alaska Fairbanks' (UAF) Complete Sidewalk and Trails Plan focuses on non-motorized users. This include sidewalks, recreational activity trails, and specialty trails both on and connection to campus. Sidewalks are portions of a roadways or pathways connecting buildings that are intended for pedestrians. Trails are pathways for recreation and/or travel within natural environment, parks, greenways or designated corridors that are not designated as roadways. The Complete Sidewalk and Trails concept is a derivation of the Complete Street concepts by the National Complete Streets Coalition <http://www.smartgrowthamerica.org/> where sidewalks, trails and roadway elements are considered for all users during design and construction. The main principles are to design and accommodate user safety, prioritize pedestrian movement, sensitivity to the surrounding context while at the same time mitigate environmental impacts. For UAF, the intended users are: runners, walkers, strollers, bicyclists, hikers, snowshoers, roller skiers, skier, and wheelchair users.

### Vision Statement

UAF strives to increase overall active living, mobility and wellness by providing an integrated non-motorized sidewalk and trail network of facilities throughout the campus for the purposes of recreation, athletics, conservation, education and research, and alternative modes of commuting. This network should be safe, convenient, efficient, and ease to travel for all ages and abilities.

### Goals, Objectives and Performance Measures

The following goals, objectives and performance measures will support the vision statement:

#### Connectivity and Integration

***Goal:***

Promote connectivity and integration of new and existing sidewalks and trails to both UAF and adjacent Fairbanks North Star Borough's (FNSB) network.

***Objective:***

1. Identify and prioritize closing gaps or uncompleted sidewalks and trails that currently exist.
2. Provide sidewalks where pedestrians currently walk with no sidewalks (major goat trails).
3. Provide sidewalks on both sides of major and popular campus roadways.
4. Improve and expand the existing sidewalks and trails system, by completing and connecting to FNSB network and adding segments in high priority corridors.
5. Connect visitors' destination points such as the Museum of the North and UAF Botanical Gardens.

6. Promote Fairbanks regional coordination, communication and information sharing amongst agencies on non-motorized plans.

***Performance Measure:***

1. Number of destinations/activity centers connected to sidewalks and trails.
2. Track the percent reduction in the presence of gaps in inaccessible sidewalk system per year.
3. Number of completed sidewalk and trail connections per year.
4. Number of projects in partnership or by other agencies such as DOT/FMATS and FNSB impacting UAF per year.

**Accessibility**

***Goal:***

Improve and provide greater access to existing and future sidewalks and trails for all ages and abilities.

***Objective:***

1. Provide safe and convenient roadway crossings for all pedestrians and trail users.
2. Create and implement a plan to eliminate barriers to sidewalks and where appropriate to trails using best practice and current ADA (Americans with Disability Act or PROWAG - Public Right of Way Accessible Guidelines) accessibility standards.
3. Perform periodic safety inspections to identify potentially harmful or dangerous conditions and create an itemized and prioritized list of necessary repairs, replacements and improvements.
4. Focus on partnering with FNSB and AKDOT/FMATS to achieve ADA compliant sidewalk and appropriate trails within a half mile radius of UAF of noncompliant sidewalks and trails.

***Performance Measure:***

1. Number of ADA compliant curb ramps installed or improved per year.
2. Number of physical obstructions that have been removed from sidewalks and trails per year.
3. Measure compliance towards achieving a fully accessible walkways network by 2025.

**Recreation, Fitness and Athletics**

***Goal:***

Promote health/fitness benefits of physical activity.

***Objectives:***

1. Continue to facilitate a high quality outdoor varsity and intramural athletic training, conditioning and competition venue.
2. Provide trails for a variety of users including runners, walkers, strollers, bicyclists, hikers, skaters, and wheelchair users.
3. Provide recreation trail amenities such as distance markers, drinking fountains, fitness stations, benches, litter receptacles and lighting where appropriate.
4. Provide trailheads at locations where parking and other amenities currently exist.

***Performance Measure:***

1. Total number or linear miles of designated bicycle/pedestrian lanes.
2. Total number or linear miles of designated athletic trails.

3. Number of students who use trails for training.
4. Number of collegiate or intermural athletic activities conducted in the trails per year.
5. Number of UAF and community-sponsored bicycle/walking/running recreational events.

## **Maintenance and Stewardship**

### ***Goal:***

Properly and regularly maintain sidewalks and trails to increase user safety and to enhance the quality of existing amenities and infrastructure.

### ***Objectives:***

1. Design and construct trails, sidewalks and amenities for low maintenance.
2. Uniformly maintain all sidewalks and trails by developing a maintenance program which ensures that trails are inspected and maintained on a regular schedule.
3. Promote sustainable and balanced development and maintenance to protect and preserve the open spaces and natural environment.
4. Establish standard signage along the trails for regulatory, identification, and to educate the users about local ecology and ongoing research activities.
5. Provide context sensitive design guidelines and standards for developing and maintaining sidewalks and trails.

### ***Performance Measures:***

1. Number of pedestrian wayfinding signs in place.
2. Type and number of sidewalk and trail improvements completed.
3. Existing sidewalk and trail facilities assessed for retrofitting or improvements.
4. Miles of winter trail miles groomed.

## **Sustainability and Environmental Education**

### ***Goal:***

Continue to develop sidewalk and trail network that protects greenway corridors that will enhance the environment and conserve wetlands and the natural habitats.

### ***Objective:***

1. Promote the use of recycled materials in all aspects of sidewalk and trail development.
2. Provide interpretive signage along trails to highlight the natural resources, cultural and historical attributes, the educational and research sites.
3. Utilize trails to educate the users about the best resource natural management practices.
4. Enhance and protect the already conserved natural habitats and environmentally sensitive areas such as wetlands.
5. Minimize the amount of land devoted to automobile parking.

### ***Performance Measures:***

1. Miles of trails in scenic / interpretive/educational corridors.
2. Miles of sidewalk in scenic / interpretive/educational corridors.
3. Percentage of projects that incorporate environmentally friendly and context sensitive designs.

## Sustained Funding

### ***Goal:***

Identify sustained funding and staffing resources for planning, construction and maintenance.

### ***Objective:***

1. Identify and create a prioritized sidewalk and trail project list for inclusion into the yearly Deferred Maintenance List.
2. Develop a Capital Improvement Plan based on priorities, needs and available resources.
3. Reduce backlog of needed maintenance projects and transition the needs into a preventive maintenance program.
4. Apply for local, state or federal funding/grants for sidewalks and trails.
5. Require and establish a method that new and future capital developments provide connected sidewalks and trails.

### ***Performance Measures:***

1. Miles of sidewalks and trails constructed as part of a capital projects.
2. Number of projects constructed that included sidewalks, and bike parking spaces.
3. Percentage of funding dedicated during each year's capital improvement program for projects that primarily serve sidewalks and trails.
4. Number and dollar value of sidewalk, bicycle, and trail projects funded each year.
5. Number and amount of grant funding applied for and obtained for sidewalks and trails.

## Alternative Commuting

### ***Goal:***

Promote alternative modes of commuting to and from UAF using non-motorized methods.

### ***Objective:***

1. Support wellness programs and create physical environment and amenities that promote pedestrian travel on campus and alternative commuting.
2. Provide pedestrian links at major entry points to the campus and the areas of interest and destinations.
3. Provide and improve existing amenities (i.e. showers, bicycle parking, lock-ups) at appropriate locations.
4. Whenever possible, promote sidewalk and trail projects in tandem with planned roadway improvements to minimize cost and disruption segments.

### ***Performance Measure:***

1. Total number or linear miles of designated and constructed sidewalks and trails.
2. Number of faculty, staff and students who use non-motorized modes of commuting.
3. Percentage of streets with sidewalks or trails.
4. Identify bicycle amenities such a bike racks and bike boxes.
5. Percentage of buildings with bike parking accommodations.
6. Number of shower facilities installed in non-residential buildings.

## Safety

### ***Goal:***

Design and manage all components of the trail and sidewalk system to maximize safety and security of users.

### ***Objective:***

1. Provide appropriate signage and lighting in areas of high usage that are open and used in the winter and at night.
2. Enhance crossings in locations without signal and provide safe cross-walks and signaling where appropriate.
3. Reduce the number of pedestrian related collisions, injuries, slips and falls.
4. Design and construct sidewalks and trails to national standards for user safety.
5. Perform periodic safety inspections to identify potentially harmful or dangerous conditions and create an itemized list of necessary repairs and improvements.

### ***Performance Measure:***

1. Number of miles of separated sidewalks and trails.
2. Maintain and compare number of non-motorized users and motor vehicle collisions by location and intersections. Identify if intersection signalized or non-signalized.
3. Number of signalized intersections with bicycle and pedestrian detection systems.

# PROPOSED UAF SIDEWALK AND TRAILS PLAN

