

Campus Land Use Committee Meeting Minutes
July 27, 2005

Attending: Paul Smith, Ken Tabbutt, Rich Davis, Mark Kormondy, Marcus Craven, Susie Seip, Deane Rimerman
Guests: Collin Orr, John Longino
Recorder: Maria Horan

ACTION ITEMS:

1. Comments for updating the MP go to Maria.

2. Paul to meet with Parametrix about suggestions for recommended improvement of Driftwood/Overhulse intersection.

3. Mark to provide cost information to conduct an annual tree assessment on campus.

4. Facilities Services to conduct an annual forest evaluation.

5. Next Meeting: Wednesday, Aug .31 from 1-3pm.

1. May meeting minutes approved.

2. Announcements/Follow up issues

Frederica had publications staff review the interpretive panels. She'll be moving forward with those and will notify the committee by email when she has the proposed locations for the signs at the Organic Farm.

ACTION: Any additional comments for updating and/or revising the campus master plan should be sent to Maria by Wednesday, August 3rd.

Puget Sound Energy notified the college that as part of their routine maintenance they will be trimming trees on Lewis Road, Marine Drive, Kaiser Road, and near the CUP. They will trim the trees underneath the main feeders.

3. Updating the Existing Campus Master Plan

Joslyn Trivett was the editor for the 1998 revision of the campus master plan and will be working on updating the existing plan for the next few months. Joslyn will be working from home on this project, her contact information is (360) 705-0642 and joslynrose@hotmail.com. She welcomes any communication to update the plan.

Maria has provided Joslyn with the comments submitted thus far. At this time, only basic information in the existing campus master plan will be updated. Recommendations for revisions and changes in policy to the plan will be compiled and attached as an added addendum to the CMP. Committee members expressed that issues like sustainability and other policy change recommendations should be added to the CMP (comments about such issues will be compiled and included as an addendum), but no official new text will be generated. At the next meeting the committee will discuss the comments compiled. This may help Joslyn develop a draft CMP update for the September meeting.

The updated master plan will not be reprinted, the updates will be made to the on-line version only. The document title will remain Campus Master Plan 1998, with a notation indicating that it was updated in 2005. A community notice will be sent after the plan is updated, perhaps during the academic year.

4. Driftwood/Overhulse Intersection Evaluation

The intersection evaluation conducted by Parametrix on June 7, 2004 was provided to the committee to review. There is an error in the memo, the consultants recommend option 2, not 3. The cost to implement that option will be about \$60,000, the college received about \$38,000 from the Rock Maple development to help resolve the safety issue concerns for this intersection, therefore the cost to the college will be about \$22,000. The concerns are that drivers make 'california stops' and endanger pedestrians. Also, pedestrians are not easily visible to drivers.

The committee discussed modifications to the recommended option, such as different texture for the crosswalks (i.e., brick work, different cement look, perhaps raise the crosswalk and widen). A suggestion was also made to add bump strips before they get to the crosswalk. A comment was made that students also tend to walk across the street diagonally (not sure how that can be avoided).

There was concern that the changes discussed may make that space look more urbanized, and a request to minimize the 'city look'. A suggestion was made to contact City Repair... "The City Repair Project is group of citizen activists creating public gathering places and helping others to creatively transform the places where they live." Their website is cityrepair.org.

Another concern is that by moving the bus stop turnout, more trees will have to be removed, perhaps replacing the stop with a standard bus stop (instead of a turn out) will minimize the number of trees that have to be removed. It was also suggested that a survey of the trees that will have to be removed be done.

ACTION: Paul will meet with the Parametrix staff to present the issues discussed for the recommended option by the committee, and if a modified proposal is completed in time for the next meeting it will be presented.

5. Tree Recommendations

Mark indicated that he is open to suggestions on the recommendations. He had an arborist review some of the trees and reports have been drawn up for those that they looked at. Not all of the arborist consultants do tree removals, the remark that implied that the arborists make recommendations to remove trees based on their motivation to be awarded the job of cutting the trees down is unfounded. Not all the arborists consulted remove trees. Where habitats will be left, they will be of a size that does not pose a hazard to the road, walkway or parking lot.

The tree near dorm A will be reduced by 30%, will leave a habitat. However, when the arborist was inspecting that tree, he discovered that the one next to it (about 5 to 8 feet from there) has laminated root rot and will have to be removed. This tree will be removed.

Laminated root rot is a fungus that attacks the root system. The tree may appear healthy on the outside, but the arborist is able to detect this condition by noticing a significant shedding of cones. When this is spotted, the tree is tested for the fungus. The danger with this condition is that you can have a full size standing tree without a root system to hold it up.

The Parkway trees will be cut and dropped into the woods for habitat. The tree on Driftwood will be cut to about 18 feet and left in the woods for habitat. The tree in B lot will be removed because its not practical to leave as a habitat.

The committee suggested that the arborists comments be recorded on the hazard tree evaluation for the committee members to review, also to indicate if and what size habitat will be left when possible.

Mark indicated that he has a binder full of reports on trees he's monitoring. Anyone is welcome to make an appointment and go through it to find out which trees are being monitored.

Suggestion made that the trees that are dropped into the woods and left for habitat be tagged to offer a research opportunity for academics. Deane will document this and enter into the database.

Suggestion made that an annual assessment of the trees on campus be conducted each year and indicate which trees may be considered for reduction in height during the year. Send an announcement out the community at the beginning of the academic year informing the community on the 'state of the forest'. This may reduce the impression that trees are being cut on a moments notice and at random. The committee agreed that this would be a good plan.

ACTION: Mark to provide Paul with cost of conducting an overall assessment of trees on campus.

ACTION: Facilities services will have an in-staff or a contracted arborist come out and conduct an evaluation at the beginning of the year.

6. Next Meeting

Wednesday, August 31 from 1-3pm in the Facilities Conference Room, lab II 1254.