



January 22, 2020

MEMORANDUM

To: Campus Planning Committee

From: Aaron Olsen, Campus Planning  
Campus Planning and Facilities Management (CPFM)

Subject: **Record** of the January 21, 2020 Campus Planning Committee Meeting

Attending: Ken Kato (chair), Hadil Abuhmaid, Emily Fenster, Kassy Fisher, Diana Libuda, Dean Livelybrooks, Terry McQuilkin, Maxwell Mindock, Juliae Riva, Christine Thompson, Chuck Triplett, Laurie Woodward

Staff: Aaron Olsen (Campus Planning)

Guests: John Anderson, Luke Helm, David Reesor, Grace Kaplowitz, Jane Brubaker, Sam Alig, Martina Oxoby, John Curtis

**CPC Agenda:**

**1. New University Parking Lot - Schematic Design**

Background: The purpose of this agenda item was to review and take action on the schematic design of the New University Parking Lot. The university is proposing to construct between 77 - 92 new parking spaces to increase capacity for university parking permit holders and allow for greater flexibility in transportation operations. Ideally, additional parking would be available by fall of 2020. The CPC reviewed the site selection for the new parking lot on November 5 and November 22 and agreed unanimously to recommend to the president that Site A (former ODOT site) be approved as the site for the New University Parking Lot.

CPC staff introduced the agenda item and John Anderson, Landscape Architect with Schirmer Satre Group, gave an overview of the project. John described the main features of the project, which include:

- A new parking area with 77 spaces, plus a potential for 15 additional spaces, to connect with the existing parking lot and drives providing vehicle access from Walnut Street.
- A pedestrian connection to the public way along Franklin Boulevard.
- A large landscape area between the parking lot and Franklin Boulevard with

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vegetated stormwater treatment. The site slopes naturally to the north allowing surface drainage to move stormwater rather than requiring a piped system.

- Landscape buffers between the residential properties to the south and east. An existing right-of-way easement between the parking lot and properties to the south increases the size of the buffer.
- Existing accessible parking along Walnut Street. The project is viewing the new parking lot as an expansion of the existing lot and will provide required ADA parking to meet overall counts along Walnut Street.
- An upgraded existing emergency phone plus the potential for an additional emergency phone in the new parking area. UOPD will be consulted to confirm the need for the additional emergency phone.

Discussion: The following is a summary of questions and comments from committee members and guests:

- A member asked about proposed lighting for the parking lot.
- The member also asked whether the project includes improvements to the existing path to the east. In particular, will lighting be improved?
- A member asked whether there will be pedestrian access to 15th Avenue.
- A member expressed appreciation that vehicle access is only being provided from Walnut Street.
- A member asked how pedestrian access to Franklin Boulevard will work and what the Franklin edge will look like.
- A guest asked what the UO will do to address contaminated soil. The guest is a neighbor and believes that tar was dumped on the site.
- A guest thanked the committee and pointed out that the new parking lot is close to the EmX and meets the university's goal of providing parking at the periphery of campus.

In response to questions from committee members and guests, Anderson provided the following clarifications:

- There are six parking lot lights proposed. The lights will have cut-off fixtures to limit light trespass. The existing evergreen trees on the south part of the site are proposed to remain and will help mitigate light impacts.
- While the existing path to the east is not part of the project scope, there may be some spillover lighting that improves the sense of safety for path users. There is an existing fence between the new parking lot and the existing path that is intended to remain.
- A new pedestrian connection to 15th Avenue is not viable. There is an existing fence between the parking lot and 15th Avenue that will remain. The City sidewalk does not extend east to where the new parking lot could make an accessible pedestrian connection (the City sidewalk stops at the intersection of Fairmount Blvd and 15th Ave). Pedestrian access is provided west through the parking lot or north to the public way along Franklin Blvd.
- A single pedestrian connection route to Franklin Blvd is planned. There is an existing fence along Franklin Blvd that will be removed. Most pedestrians will use the proposed

sidewalk because of the stormwater planters and elevations. There is an acorn style, campus standard, light along the pedestrian walk. Removing the fence along Franklin Blvd will make the parking lot feel more open and welcoming.

- Luke Helm, Owner Representative for the project, indicated that geotechnical borings were performed at three locations and nothing of concern was found. Olsen also indicated the university's Environmental Health and Safety Office has reviewed the project. If contamination is discovered during construction appropriate steps will be taken to address the issue.

Action: With 12 in favor, the committee agreed unanimously the proposed New Parking Lot project is consistent with the *Campus Plan* and recommend to the president that it be approved.

## **2. New Member Welcome - Project Updates**

Discussion: Aaron Olsen, Planning Associate, welcomed new members. Olsen informed the committee the report for the Recreation Field Location Options Study is being completed. Olsen also indicated the Campus Plan amendment process for university land north of Franklin Blvd is beginning. It is a Campus Planning Committee process and the committee will be directly engaged throughout. Ultimately the committee will be providing a recommendation for approval to the president to finalize the amendment. There will be public engagement including open houses throughout the process. Ideally the amendment will be complete by the end of spring term although the timeline may adjust as needed. It is the appropriate time to complete the amendment as there are current projects, for example the ZIRC expansion and future phases of Knight Campus, which will benefit from having the amendment complete. If the amendment is not complete by the end of spring term there will be no request for action from the CPC during the summer break and the amendment process would continue the following fall term.