



NEXT COMMUNITY FORUM:
Thursday, April 14, 2011, 4:30 – 6 p.m.
MATTSSON BOARD ROOM
540 ARAPEEN DRIVE

Parking is available free of charge directly west of the building.

AGENDA:

- Presentation by Honors Think Tank students: "The Alternative Campus Master Plan"
- UMFA curator, Jill Dawsey, presents on two exhibitions: Helen Levitt Photographs and the Smithsonian Effect (Spiral Jetty).
- Update on University House, Chris Lino, Manager, Pioneer Theatre Company

THE FOLLOWING ITEMS WERE DISCUSSED AT THE JAN. 13, 2011 COMMUNITY FORUM

Each year, in compliance with University of Utah regulations (PPM 3-201), an annual public meeting is held to promote meaningful participation by neighbors, businesses, and other organizations likely to be affected by proposed additions or changes to the University's physical facilities and operations. The following information was presented at the annual meeting.

UPDATES TO THE 2008 CAMPUS MASTER PLAN

Mike Perez, Associate Vice President, Facilities

The University of Utah strives to provide a lively campus for its students, faculty, staff, and visitors. To accomplish this, state-of-the-art facilities that support its mission of teaching, research, and community service, with an emphasis on public life and interdisciplinary collaboration are critically important. Functional and sustainable transportation is a priority, and there is a commitment to strong environmental stewardship of the beautiful landscape.

We keep in mind all these tenets of the campus master plan as it continues to evolve. And at the same time, the explosion in online learning continues to grow. For example, one-third of all class sections use web tools in some way; of the U's 30,000 students, 26,257 are active in sections using the web course management system; and the U offers 271 fully online classes.

Because of this, some ask why the U needs to build more buildings. The answer is that, although we are migrating toward more web-based education, the University believes there is great value in face-to-face interaction and the expectation is that there will continue to be a blend of the two into the future. Mindful of these considerations, updates to the 2008 Campus Master Plan were made in 2010/2011. They include the following:

West Huntsman Arena and Business Loop area

The location of a proposed parking garage included in the original master plan will be moved to a new site adjacent to the HPER complex. This change will accomplish the following:

- Provide for better use of the South Campus TRAX Station, including the development of a pedestrian walkway north from the station into campus
- Strengthen sustainable transportation
- Allow for development of a north/south shuttle-only road into campus
- Make room for a pull-out for campus shuttles and UTA buses near the TRAX station, which will provide better transfer service to transit riders who want to continue either east/west or north/south into campus

- Provide safer access into campus for pedestrians using the South Campus TRAX Station

The University is seriously considering closing the Business Loop to through traffic. Vehicle access to the parking garage and any existing surface parking lots would be maintained until the lots are turned into green space at a later date. "We want to create a better pedestrian experience and it's difficult to do that when vehicles are present," said Perez.

Access to the future Sorenson Arts and Education Building, which will include the Tanner Dance Facility, may include a drop off turn-around for the convenience of those taking children to dance classes in the building.

East Huntsman Arena area

The first phase of Honors Legacy Housing is under construction near the Annex Building, which is outdated and eventually will be razed. The location of the new housing takes great advantage of the Fort Douglas TRAX Station.

HPER Mall

Although it's been inconvenient, construction on the HPER Mall has been critically important to the utility infrastructure of the University. The outdated underground high temperature water system has been replaced and a new east/west utility tunnel intersects with another recently built north/south tunnel that feeds the new Sorensen USTAR Building farther north on campus. These repairs and improvements are critically important to the functioning of the University's buildings. The remaining surface work has yet to be completed because of bad weather.

The final design of the HPER Mall replaces the current linear design with tiers, plazas, and drainage to capture rain water into underground aquifers. Bicyclists and skateboarders will be able to move through these areas but will be required to slow down due to traffic calming devices as they intersect pedestrian zones.

PROJECTS PRESENTED FOR FUNDING TO THE 2011 UTAH LEGISLATURE

A report on these projects is included in the Winter 2010/2011 Community Forum Newsletter available online at <http://unews.utah.edu/?action=neighbors>.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

• Comings and goings

After a 20-year career at the University of Utah, Norm Chambers, assistant vice president for auxiliary services and a longtime participant in the Community Forum meetings, retired at the end of January. Board of Trustee member Michele Mattsson commended him for his outstanding service. Gordon Wilson has been hired to fill the position. Wilson comes to the University from Salt Lake Community College where he directed auxiliary services.

• Traffic & Transportation Committee meetings

If you have a particular interest in campus traffic and transportation issues, plan to attend the Traffic & Transportation Committee meeting, co-chaired by Mike Perez and Gordon Wilson, which includes representatives from Salt Lake City Traffic Division, Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT), UTA, and other agencies. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 6, 2011, from 12 noon to 1:30 p.m. in Conference Room 645, Rice-Eccles Stadium Tower. All are welcome to attend. For more information, contact Jennifer Reed at 801-581-4033.



<http://unews.utah.edu/?action=neighbors>

For more information or to be added to or deleted from our mailing list, call 801-585-9244.

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Shuttle road

As mentioned earlier in this report, a new shuttle-only road will run north/south between the South Campus TRAX station, across HPER Mall, and feed into Central Campus Drive, providing north/south access through campus.

Eccles Broadcast Center

A new office building for IT support of the University would be constructed north of the Eccles Broadcast Center, currently the site that was identified as a possible location for golf instruction.

George Thomas Building

The George Thomas Building on Presidents Circle, originally built as the University's library, and for the past several decades home to the Utah Museum of Natural History, will become the new Crocker Math and Science Building and home to the main office of the College of Science. A renovation of the interior and construction of an addition on the south side for laboratories are planned. Preservation of the historic building is important as is the need for a state-of-the-art laboratory.

Law school

The law school plans to develop new facilities at the current site of Carlson Hall. The University will develop mitigation strategies for the eventual demolition of Carlson Hall. Parking garages, as required, are also planned directly to the east of the current law school or further east next to the library.

Art & Architecture Building expansion

An expansion of the gallery on the arts side of the Art & Architecture Building will be tucked into the grade on the west end of the current building, preserving most of the current parking area and not greatly affecting the surrounding area.

Stadium expansion

Shortly after the 2002 Olympic Winter Games, with Opening and Closing Ceremonies held in Rice-Eccles Stadium, the University considered opportunities for expanding the stadium. Now, with the University joining the Pac-12, plans are under way to close in the south end of the stadium, which will result in 10,000 additional seats.

Off campus housing

The U has purchased two off-campus apartment complexes, one located at 349 East First Avenue and another at 400 East Alameda Avenue. The housing, which is almost fully occupied, provides apartments primarily to the U's international students.

COMMUTER SERVICES

Alma Allred, Director Contractor parking

To address the growing problem of contractors (construction workers) using campus parking spaces meant for faculty, staff, and students, Commuter Services has worked out an agreement with Utah Transit Authority (UTA) to allow the contractors to participate in the UTA bus pass program. The contractors will purchase UCards for their employees just as the U of U does for its employees, so construction workers have the option of taking transit to get to the job site. Allred expects this new plan to reduce the demand for parking by contractors by several hundred within the next few weeks. "We have been too generous in accommodating parking for construction crews on campus," noted Allred. "We need to let them know that offering them as much parking as they would like does not fit with our sustainability program, so there will be higher restrictions to the parking facilities."

Toward a Compressed Natural Gas fleet

Commuter Services continues its shift toward a compressed natural gas (CNG)-powered shuttle fleet and expects to convert all shuttles by 2018, buying two new vehicles each year. To accommodate this transition, a CNG fueling station will be built in August in the area where the shuttles are staged at the east end of Fort Douglas. The station is projected to cost between \$400,000 and \$500,000. A CNG station is required because it takes longer to fill tanks with CNG than with gas or diesel fuel because of foam. "It's like trying to fill a bucket with beer," says Allred. "The indicator says it's full, but the foam takes up most of the room." The new station will allow the tanks to be filled during the night. Utah State University has converted all its shuttles to CNG and their system can fuel for six to eight hours overnight. The U of U is the second largest mass transit provider in the state next to UTA so a new fueling station will be a boon to its facilities.

UTA bus service to campus

UTA is redesigning many of its routes due to revenue shortfalls. To ensure that faculty, staff, and students continue to be served by those changes, the U is working on a way to provide UTA with the ZIP codes of U of U employees. The information will help UTA ensure that the changes they make will continue to provide good service to those who work at the U. "One thing we've found," said Allred, "is that the more route service we have, the more riders we have."

RED BUTTE GARDEN OIL SPILL

Marty Shaub, Director, Environmental Health & Safety

Marty Shaub is the University's lead liaison to the unified command—the decision-making body that includes responders affiliated with the crude oil spill that took place in December 2010 near Red Butte Garden. (The University was not part of the unified command during an earlier spill, which occurred in June 2010 near the Williams Building in Research Park.) The unified command for the December 2010 spill included representatives from the Utah Department of Water Quality, the Salt Lake Valley Health Department, the

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Utah Department of Health, Chevron Oil, and the University of Utah as shared decision makers. The following five guiding principles were embraced by the unified command as they dealt with this second spill:

1. To ensure the safety of first responders and citizens

From the beginning, there was a commitment by first responders from Salt Lake City fire departments, valley and state health departments, Chevron, and the University of Utah to ensure that everyone was safe, prepared to enter the site and do the work, and to come out as safe and healthy as when they went in.

2. To contain and recover the spilled material

Members of the unified command learned enough from the first oil spill (June 2010) to effectively and quickly contain the oil from this second one. Reports show there was no oil released into Red Butte Creek. All soil, surface, and air samplings were well within standards and expectations for an event like this.

3. To protect sensitive resources

The sensitive resources—Red Butte Creek and Red Butte Garden—were protected. A barrier was put in place to keep the deer out of the garden and Shaub is hoping to keep foot traffic detoured to allow the natural growth to come back, which may take up to two years.

4. To clean the impacted areas

The latest data show the valve box and the hillside adjacent down in front of the greenhouses are clean. "I'm very pleased with the samples we've received back," noted Shaub.

5. To keep the stakeholders and public informed of activity

The University, as a member of the unified command, has been at the table with the other representatives who are committed to ensure that every stakeholder group represented has an opportunity to share its issues and concerns. The group works until there is a solution that makes everyone comfortable and meets everyone's objective.

"The samples are clean, but we're not finished," said Shaub. "But we'll be ready for Red Butte Garden's summer concert series which begins May 30, so we're on track."

RESEARCH PARK

Charles Evans, Director

Research Park includes 258 acres of leasable land and has just 20 acres of undeveloped land left for building sites, making the park more than 90 percent complete. Employment in the park has increased and the vacancy rate is low.

Sidewalks

The first phase of a project to install more sidewalks was completed last summer. The new sidewalk runs along the southwest side of Wakara Way from Chipeta Way to the University Credit Union building. The demand for pedestrian access was not anticipated when the park was originally designed so sidewalks were included on just one side of the roads. Ongoing requests for additional walkways by those who work in the park have resulted in this first phase of an effort to provide sidewalks on both sides of the streets where

needed and practical. Employees in the park are encouraged to use public transportation and the additional sidewalks will make it easier for them to comply.

Williams Building / 295 Chipeta Way

Under the terms of the ground lease, the Williams Building would have reverted ownership to the U in 2028, but the U's Health Sciences has taken early ownership. This allows them to own the building now instead of waiting another 18 years. Goldman Sachs has moved out, and the Department of Pediatrics has moved in.

Building 606 / 606 Blackhawk Way

This building, which has been vacant for the past year and a half, has been purchased by ARUP. They will use it for their IT services until it is replaced by new facilities.

Utah Museum of Natural History

Currently under construction at the east end of Research Park, the new natural history museum is considered a University of Utah building and not a Research Park building, but it is a focal point in the park. The building is scheduled to be completed by the end of 2011.

University Neuropsychiatric Institute / 501 Chipeta Way

A new parking lot was completed in June, and an expansion project to provide private rooms broke ground July 7, 2010. The project is expected to be completed this fall.

Watson Building / 577 Chipeta Way

A 17,000-square-foot addition enclosing the area now used as a loading dock is currently in the design phase.

Lack of incubator sites

The U has been remarkably successful with its spin-off companies, this year surpassing MIT to be ranked #1 in the nation, and most of the park's employees are directly related to those spin-off companies. But one thing missing in Research Park is incubator space or an innovation center—a place where a small company can spend a few years to see if it can put together a successful enterprise. But innovation centers generally need to be subsidized and the current economic climate makes that impossible. The U's Technology Commercialization Office (TCO) offers part of its leased area as shared space to some of the U's spin off companies. "TCO would love to have its own building, but can't fund it at this time," said Evans.

Additional building in the park

Could more building sites be provided in Research Park by replacing surface parking lots with multilevel parking structures? "Most lease holders would not want to incur the expense," said Evans. Once the land has been leased to a developer, they have control of their lot during the terms of the lease, subject to review for approval. Currently, the parking lots are located in the interior of the blocks and are landscaped so they aren't too visible from the streets. Evans, who has been involved with the park since its inception, says the park has lived up to expectations in terms of the economic contribution to the area and the number of employees it supports. "The park is pretty well done," he said. "Hopefully the community feels that way too."

*How to access the Campus Master Plan online:
Go to www.facilities.utah.edu, look in the middle of the page under "Project Resources," and click on the link to "The Campus Master Plan."*