

**MEETING NOTES OF THE
UNIVERSITY FACILITIES PLANNING BOARD
February 12, 2013**

- Members Present:** University Facilities Planning Board: Nancy Cornwell - Chair, Kurt Blunck, Jeff Butler, Michael Everts, Chris Fastnow, Greg Gilpin, Susan Fraser for Jeff Jacobsen, Patricia Lane, Bob Lashaway for Terry Leist, Linda LaCrone for Tom McCoy, Ritchie Boyd for Martha Potvin, Fatih Rifki, Tom Stump, Cara Thuringer, Brenda York
- Proxy:** Walt Banziger carried by Victoria Drummond, Allyson Brekke carried by Candace Mastel, Jim Rimpau carried by Tom Stump, Jim Thull carried by Kurt Blunck
- Members Absent:** Mandy Hansen
- Guests:** Robert Putzke, EJ Hook, Debbie Drews

The University Facilities Planning Board met beginning at 3:30 pm to discuss the following:

ITEM No. 1 – Approval of Meeting Notes

Butler moved to approve the meeting notes from January 29, 2013. Lane seconded the Motion. The meeting notes were approved unanimously.

ITEM No. 2 – Executive Committee Report

There was no action from the Executive Committee to report.

ITEM No. 3 – Consent Agenda

No items.

ITEM ADDED – Informational – Student Sculpture

Mike Everts gave an update of the student art sculpture gift that was presented on December 18, 2012. An architecture student is working with the artist to come up with a 3D model. Questions regarding the pulleys on top weren't completely figured out and in the process of modeling they are getting them worked out. The model should be done next week. When complete it will come back to UFPB.

ITEM No. 4 – Informational – Student Project: Camera Obscura Display

This item is moved to the February 26, 2013 meeting.

ITEM No. 5 – Recommendation – Harrison Street Punch Through and Reconstruction

Candace Mastel presented an overview of the Harrison Street punch through from South 8th Avenue to South 11th Avenue and reconstruction. In the Master Plan it was always planned to reopen the vacated street. Construction will be this summer and be complete for fall 2013. The design in the staff report only shows parking on the south side of the street for east bound traffic, but recently parking has been added to the north side for west bound traffic. Back in angled parking is proposed as it is a safer option. The project will include pavement and replacement of some utilities, which will provide a better storm sewer system. A new punch through from the Langford lot to Harrison Street will be added. The basketball court will move to the west of the Antelope lot, which is closer to Family and Graduate Housing.

Rifke questioned how the parking would be enforced and Putzke replied that it will be in regulations, and after the introductory period if it continues to be a problem, they will address it with minimal signage and ticketing. He added that a solution was needed to increase pedestrian safety and this model does that. Drummond passed out examples of signage that that may be installed in the area. Butler explained that it's safer to back into a stall rather than back due to increased range of vision.

Lane questioned if it is student parking and Putzke replied that there will be student parking as well as a few ADA and short term spaces. Approximately 18-20 spaces will be added if the north side is included. York inquired about increased lighting on the sidewalks in that part of campus and Lashaway replied that some lighting will be added. Cornwell questioned why punching the street through is in the Master Plan and Mastel replied that it's for the east/west connection, since campus does not have many of those. Drummond added that the long range ideas for the development of that area is to incorporate a

different type of residence area that has retail and other opportunities on the first level that mirrors private development across the street. Future development for the LRCDP allows for a plaza and a bus stop. The idea is to have a beautiful portal that opens up from Harrison Street and residential units up to Montana Hall. Everts added that it will give access to the future parking garage and drop off point to Montana Hall. Cornwell raised concern about adding another street through to South 11th Avenue because the traffic is already bad when classes let out or closing South 11th Avenue. She suggested making it right turn only. Mastel replied that there are no restrictions turning left, but it could be proposed. Drummond commented that MSU does not have full jurisdiction over South 11th Avenue, but does over Harrison Street. She also mentioned that anything we do is sensitive to our neighbors, as well as students. Putzke commented that neighbors want traffic routed down South 11th Avenue, rather than South 8th Avenue, and it gives people the option of what is most convenient to them. Thuringer commented that adding parking is never a complaint from students. A public comment from Debbie Drews was that \$6.2 million was spent enhancing two dormitories, one of which was Langford Hall, and it seems like a step backward to pave closer to the building and lose that student and staff enhancement space. Residence Halls have a different character where they have busy areas with a lot of people sitting and eating. She questions if the north side of Harrison Street is the right location for more parking. Lashaway commented that the Master Plan addresses urbanization, maintaining quality interior green spaces and not setting back far from the street. Butler commented that some areas are blocked out to maintain green space so the north side is not all parking. Everts clarified that they are bringing the street to the building, not the building to the street. He also commented that spaces are lost by angling parking, and believes that the north/south axis from Montana Hall should be a much more designed space. Blunck commented that currently, the ADA spaces are on the wrong side of the street. Adding parking to the north side will move them to the right side for access to the buildings. Boyd questioned if crosswalks could be raised since MSU owns this street and Lashaway replied no because it's a public right to pass by ordinance. Boyd expressed concern with adding another shortcut to campus because they are interpreted as places to drive faster and people will do that in this area that has a lot of pedestrian traffic. He believes a visual plan is needed as this is not an attractive part of campus. Putting in a shortcut is not going to enhance the overall feel. Thuringer suggested speed bumps to address the shortcut issue and Lashaway said that it can be looked into, but believes the city would discourage it. Cornwell suggested separating the two issues of the opening of the street and having the parking on the north side and Butler added that the opening is not at issue. Gilpin expressed concern with people leaving the parking lot across South 11th Avenue and Harrison Street at the same time since they don't line up, causing a potential accident. He's concerned with creating more congestion and taking traffic away from the commercial area on College Street where it's wanted, and also taking traffic from South 8th Avenue, where the park is, to South 11th Avenue that is all residential. Cornwell clarified that opening the street is not at issue, it was already decided. The recommendation is for the parking design of both the north side and south side. Lashaway commented that opening the street can be revisited if it is a strong enough issue.

Drummond stated that Facilities Planning and the LRCDP supports the reopening of Harrison Street, relocation of basketball court and south side parking – but will vote in opposition to the plan to include parking on the north side as Banziger's proxy vote. If approved, it will be the only street throughout campus with dense parking on both sides of the street. A comparison is South 7th Avenue – it has parallel parking, but it is not adjacent to the core of campus and residence halls. The urban model is like Grant Street with the street close to a building, but no street parking so it has clear visibility for pedestrians crossing the street. The LRCDP encourages multi modal streets – this design only accommodates private vehicles, it does not include a transit stop for Streamline users (which we promote) or a bike path. Mastel relayed proxy for Brekke who also opposes just the north side parking.

Lashaway moved to recommend approving the design as submitted, which includes the new parking design and additional north side parking. Stump seconded the Motion. Everts made an amendment to the Motion to include an enhanced streetscape pedestrian connection to the area at the terminus of walkway from Alumni Plaza. Butler made an amendment to look into a traffic calming strategy. Amendments were approved by Lashaway and Stump. The design pedestrian connection and traffic calming options will be reported back to UFPB.

The vote:

Yes: 13
No: 4 (Gilpin, Lane, Brekke, Banziger)
Abstain: 2 (Boyd, Thull)

This meeting was adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

VCD:lk

PC:

President Cruzado

Jayson O'Neill, President's Office

Maggie Hammett, President's Office

Allen Yarnell, President's Office

Lisa Duffey, Provost Office

Diane Heck, Provost Office

Victoria Drummond, Facilities PDC

ASMSU President

Heidi Gagnon, VP Admin & Finance

Jennifer Joyce, VP Student Success

Linda LaCrone, VP Research Office

Bonnie Ashley, Registrar

Robert Putzke, MSU Police

Becky McMillan, Auxiliaries Services

Julie Kipfer, Communications

Jody Barney, College of Agriculture

Susan Fraser, College of Agriculture

Robin Happel, College of Agriculture

JoDee Palin, College of Arts & Arch