

Land Use and Facilities Planning Committee
February 06, 2024 at 2:00 PM
Planning, Design & Construction Division, 245 Gale Lemerand Drive
ZOOM Minutes

ATTENDEES:

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Ronnie Cooper, Project Director, IFAS Facilities Planning
Laura Dedenbach, Instructional Assistant Professor, Urban and Regional Planning
Carol Demas, Lecturer, Department of Mathematics
Linda Dixon, Planning, Design & Construction
Carlos Dougnac, Executive Director, Planning, Design & Construction
Margaret Fields, Associate Dean, Liberal Arts & Sciences
Megan Forbes, Chair, English Language Institute
Robert Gonzalez, Building Code Inspector, EH&S
Shannon (Lexie) Holliday, Associate Professor, Orthodontics
Jacob Kanfer, Student
Mark Leeps, Assistant, Journalism
Michael O'Malley, Academic Advisor, Honors Program
Ericka Olgaard, Clinical Associate Professor, Department of Pathology, Immunology & Lab Medicine
Matt Williams, Director, Office of Sustainability

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Ann Baird, Librarian, UF AFA Library
Prabir Barooah, Professor, Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering
Mike Castine, Planner, Growth Management for Alachua County
Nancy Chrystal-Green, AVP – Division of Student Life
Daniel Dickrell, Associate Director, Student Programs
Sarah Gamble, Lecturer, School of Architecture
Gail Hansen De Chapman, Chair, Lakes, Vegetation & Landscaping Committee
Ira Harkness, Instructional Assistant Professor, Material Sciences & Engineering
Robert Hatch, Professor & Director of Medical Students
Mark Helms, AVP, Facility Services Division
Racheal Levings, Sr. Scientist, Orthopedics and Rehabilitation
Matthew Martinez, Student
Cydney McGlothlin, AVP, Planning, Design & Construction
Andrew Persons, Director, Department of Doing, City of Gainesville
Brandi Renton, Assistant Vice President, Business Affairs
Joseph Riley, Professor, Community Dentistry
Mason Solomon, Student
Hannah Vander Zanden, Assistant Professor, Biology
Scott Washburn, Professor, Civil & Coastal Engineering
Jay Watkins, Associate Director and Associate Professor, School of Music

VISITORS:

Rachel Mandell, Sr. Planner, Planning, Design & Construction
Melissa Thomas, Administrative Assistant, Planning, Design & Construction
Melanie Heflin, Project Manager, Planning, Design & Construction
Sean Mountain, Project Manager, IFAS
Jamie Lindsey, Architecture Designer, Planning, Design & Construction
Frank Javaheri, Director of Construction, Planning, Design & Construction
Laurie Hall, CHW
Caeli Tolar – CHW
Jim Harriot – CHW
Gaurav – Walker Architects
Guest - Unknown

CHAIR: Megan Forbes chaired the meeting.

CALL TO ORDER:

Megan called the meeting to order at 2:07pm.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES:

Mark Leeps moved to approve the October minutes and the agenda; Ericka Olgaard seconded; motion passed unanimously.

MP08578 – Buckman Drive & Fletcher Drive One Way Pairs Study & Design

PRESENTING: Melanie Heflin

DISCUSSION: Melanie introduced herself and the project. The study and design proposed installing one-way pair traffic flows on Buckman and Fletcher Drive. Jim Harriot, Laurie Hall, and Caeli Tolar from CHW were also presenting.

Jim explained that they were asked to examine Buckman and Fletcher Drive to create one-way pairs to align with NW 17th Street and NW 18th Street. He showed the project schedule, its location, and existing traffic flow. Prioritizing pedestrian and bicycle travel and reducing conflicts with vehicular traffic was another component of the project. The study also looked at accommodating transit buses and emergency vehicles to improve facilities operations and safety on West University Avenue. Another objective of the study was to improve loading zones for service vehicles.

The project team conducted volume counts at Buckman Drive and Fletcher Drive, assessing the feasibility of various options. From the initial nine options considered, the project team narrowed them down to just four. Jim elaborated on the evaluation process, which included traffic analysis and criteria assessment. He also illustrated the current layout of the streets and suggested improvements. Jim discussed the traffic flow for each option and their impacts.

The committee raised concerns regarding the need to divert vehicles and large trucks away from campus between Buckman and Fletcher, citing current backups. There was concern the new traffic pattern would worsen the problem. To address this, they suggested scheduling deliveries within specific time frames to alleviate congestion. Moreover, there were concerns about electric bikes and scooters in pedestrian areas and the necessity of implementing rules regulating motorized vehicles on sidewalks.

MOTION: Shannon Holliday made a motion approve the project as presented. Pawel Petelewicz seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

IFAS 24011 – IFAS Building 0981 Microbiology & Cell Science Teaching Lab Addition

PRESENTING: Sean Mountain

DISCUSSION: Sean introduced himself and stated he was present to discuss a teaching lab addition to IFAS Building 0981. CHW and Walker Architects gave the presentation. Caeli Tolar from CHW discussed the project's location and the existing building. The proposed 5,000 SF addition will be built onto the side of the existing structure. No additional stormwater improvements or parking lot upgrades are planned; the focus is solely on the lab addition.

Caeli highlighted the existing building entrance to the south and explained that nine cabbage palms may be impacted by the construction, necessitating some trimming. However, she assured that another live oak tree on the site would not be impacted.

MOTION: Mark Leeps made a motion approve the project as presented. Carol Demas seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

INFORMATION:

Chair Report

Megan Forbes

Megan stated that there was no chair report for this meeting.

Committee Orientation

Rachel Mandell

Rachel explained that the Committee Orientation was to provide insight into how the committee operates. She emphasized the purpose of the committee within the framework of shared governance, where administrators and faculty collaboratively participate in decision-making.

Rachel outlined the approval process for construction projects. She explained the difference between Major and Minor projects and provided a detailed breakdown of the phases involved in Major projects. She reminded the committee members that meetings are subject to the Sunshine Laws and committee matters should not be discussed outside of official meetings.

In response to inquiries from the committee regarding building aesthetics, Rachel briefly spoke about the role of Architectural Review Council Committee and the standards for buildings on campus.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 2:51 pm.