

University of Washington
Faculty Council on University Facilities and Services

Monday, November 17, 2008
26 Gerberding Hall

Chair Bill Rorabaugh called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Meeting Synopsis:

1. Approval of the minutes of 21 October 2008
2. Sound Transit (30 minutes)
Tracey Reed, UW Sound Transit
Andy Casillas, UW Sound Transit Manager
3. Molecular Engineering Building (30 minutes)
Steve Tatge, Capital Projects Office
4. Approval of extending Health Sciences trailer site from Jan. 31 to Sept. 30, 2009
5. Cell phone coverage on campus (30 minutes)
Bob Baldwin, Capital Projects Office; Dan Johnson, Pam Stewart and David Morton
6. New Business

1. Approval of the October 21, 2008 FCUFS meeting minutes.

The minutes of the October 21, 2008, FCUFS meeting were approved.

2. Sound Transit Presentation for University Link Light Rail by Tracey Reed and Andy Casillas

Tracey Reed began her presentation with a slide show of the proposed University Link (ULINK) Light Rail system. She explained that the light rail system arrives to campus from the south. There will be a bridge connection to central campus with intermediate access points to sidewalks and campus. This is a three mile extension plan and she explained that recently voters approved the light rail system to the north. UW is in the last stages of finalizing work to begin in front of Husky Stadium. The projected opening of the line is 2016.

Reed's presentation included discussion surrounding the design features of the U-Link Light Rail as well as various bridges and walkways, stair and elevator locations associated with the rail system. A U-Link Station which will take five and a half years to complete will be built in conjunction with the light rail system. She acknowledged the early segments of the construction phase would be the most disruptive. The schedule is set to commence in the winter of 2010. There will still be access to Husky Stadium, but the construction will impact some work on the Burke-Gilman Trail. Reed stated that they chose the time period lowest in volume so as not to impact the trail users as much. Parking stalls were also discussed and Reed identified the loss of approximately 100 spaces surrounding Husky Stadium at the time of the project's completion.

The truck haul route was discussed and it was stated that construction traffic will be given certain permissions during off-peak hours. There will be an eighteen month period when local traffic will be impacted due to high truck volumes. Noise levels are expected to

increase by a few decibels. Sound Transit has applied to the City of Seattle for a noise variance permit for that period. Beyond that, from 2012 to 2014 traffic will start to diminish and will continue to decrease steadily.

The construction staging area will be approximately six acres for up to 36 months. A number of tree removals will be necessary; however more trees will be planted than will be removed.

Paula Walker asked how deep the tunnel would be. Andy Casillas confirmed there would be 110 feet from the surface ground to the top of the tunnel throughout campus.

Laura Little inquired about the impact on paved roads. Reed responded that Sound Transit is getting data on this and is in the process of determining their responsibility for degradation of pavement. They have not yet come to a conclusion.

Janelle Taylor asked if Sound Transit took into consideration the design plans for Husky Stadium. Reed acknowledged that Sound Transit designed their plans around those for Husky Stadium and that the Husky Stadium footprint and design will not change.

Finally, Reed addressed the issue of signage surrounding the newly constructed U-Link system. The plan calls for University signage and not the use of Sound Transit signage.

Sarah Taylor inquired about the rail users disembarking the line at Rainer Vista. As this was not a Sound Transit issue, the question was suggested as a future agenda item for FCUFS.

3. Molecular Engineering Building presented by Steve Tatge, Capital Projects Office

Steve Tatge opened his presentation with a slide show of the Molecular Engineering Building. He stated that the plans call for the new facility to be built in two phases. Currently, the Capital Projects Office has approval for and is working only on Phase One. He demonstrated that Master Plan 25C would form a courtyard with Johnson Hall. Relocation of the tenants of Cunningham Hall will be necessary due to the technical requirements of the new building.

More images and design plans were presented. New handicap accessible parking was identified. There will be lab space provided underground to conform to technical requirements. Tatge stated that low vibration is required for this lab space. The Institute of Molecular Engineering Science will be housed in the new building. Once finished, the lab space provided at the UW Molecular Engineering Building will be the best of its kind on the west coast. The upper level will contain additional lab space on one side and offices and classrooms on the other. Tatge pointed out that the landscaping will be completed before the project moves on to Phase Two, so as not to look unfinished.

Tatge identified another study underway which proposes the traffic turnaround behind Gerberding Hall be changed. He noted that it would make sense to do that while Phase Two is underway.

The drawings illustrate a relatively glassy building, surrounded by light limestone or perhaps light colored brick. Tatge stated that the idea was to keep the building light so that it would feel lighter and more inviting.

Laura Little asked how someone would access the courtyard/plaza from the south end of campus. Tatge stated there would be a new set of stairs up to that level. UW is widening the loading dock area at Johnson Hall and will build a stairway there.

Tatge said that approvals for construction would be sought in December with plans calling for the new building to be occupied in 2012. If the university decided to move forward with Phase Two, Tatge acknowledged some experiments, specifically those sensitive to noise/vibration, would have to be shut down, relocated or scheduled during hours when no construction was going on.

There was some discussion around the table regarding the aesthetic value of the new building. A few council members offered suggestions about the possible addition of sculptured art to the front of the building or in the grassy area.

4. Approval of Extending Health Sciences Trailer Site from Jan. 31 to Sept. 30, 2009

A motion was made to approve the extension of the health sciences trailer site. After a brief discussion the question was called and the motion was approved.

5. Cell Phone Coverage on Campus, presented by David Morton, Capital Projects Office

David Morton of the Capital Projects Office began his presentation by pointing out the current challenges of cell phone coverage on the UW campus. He stated that his office went through the procurement process to identify vendors the UW would like to work with. Morton identified safety, communication and education as three topics of concern affected by the lack of cell/mobile coverage on campus.

Morton stated that his office identified four vendors the UW considered contracting for cell coverage options. They were: AT&T, T-Mobile, Sprint and Verizon. His office selected both AT&T and T-Mobile for their services offered as well as their price points. UW wants to foster the relationships with both companies to improve cell coverage by adding additional towers on campus and building good commercial terms to benefit the users.

The emphasis of the improved coverage will be placed on infrastructure. Morton acknowledged that both vendors will be offering tiered discounts to various types of customers identified by the UW.

AT&T will build two new rooftop cell sites north of Pacific and one outside of the UW Medical Center. T-Mobile will install four new cell towers, three sites north of Pacific and one site south of Pacific. The Capital Projects Office is considering the installation of the cell sites on the rooftops of Haggett Hall, Suzzallo Library, the Chemistry Building and the UW Medical Center.

5. New Business

There was no new business.

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The meeting was adjourned at 11:26 a.m.

Minutes by Kelly Baker, Council Support Specialist, kcbaker@u.washington.edu

Present: Faculty members: Bichindaritz, Chizeck, Rorabaugh, Gates, Little, Taylor
President's designee: Charles Kennedy
Other ex officio members: Vannatta, Walker, Zuchowski

Absent: Faculty member: Moore, Treser, Ozubko
Other ex officio members: Albrecht

Guests: Tracey Reed, UW Sound Transit
Andy Casillas, UW Sound Transit Manager
Steve Tatge, Capital Projects Office
Bob Baldwin, Capital Projects Office
Dan Johnson, Capital Projects Office
Pam Stewart, Capital Projects Office
David Morton, Capital Projects Office