



**Facilities Planning  
& Management**  
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

## NOTES

To: P:\SHARE\Design Review Board\2023 MEETINGS\10-17-23 MTG  
Re: Design Review Board: In-Person Room 1106 @ 21 N. Park Street – AW Notes  
Date: 10/17/23

**Agenda (in-person):**

- 9:00-10:00am: DD - Engineering Academic/Research Building #21L3J – SmithGroup/Continuum
- 10:00-11:00am: Intro - West Campus District Plan #9950-2308 – Perkins + Will

**Committee Attendees:**

Heidi Natura  
Mary Czyszczak-Lyne  
Kevin Firchow  
~~Rafeeq Asad~~  
Terry Steelman  
Lindsey Stoddard Cameron  
Ex Officio: Aaron Williams  
Ex Officio: Peter Schlecht

**DRB #3 –Engineering Academic/Research Building #21L3J – SmithGroup + Continuum**

**Attendees:**

A/E: Tom Rodgers, Paul Urbanek, Andrew Mannion, Lana Zoet, Tom Rodgers, Aaron Gibbs, Bob Barr  
CoE: Ian Robertson, David Noyce, Pete Nemmetz  
FP&M: Cindy Torstveit, Ginny Routhe, Dennis Rodenberg, Missy Nergard, Nathan Jandl, Jonathan Bronk, Rob Kennedy, Molly Lenz, Lexie Baslington

**Presenter Presentation Comments:**

- Master plan amendment process discussed. Extents and general schedule presented.
- Current design presentation includes material selections and reference 3D model.
- Glacial, undulating landscape, woodland shade zone.
- Cross sections through Henry Mall and across the Engineering campus were displayed.
- Building broken up by the program modules and expressed on the façade.
- Putting engineering on display to engage future students and the community more broadly.
- Materials: lighter color terra cotta rainscreen, formed metal panels for penthouse, composite metal, darker base weathering steel.

**Committee Comments:**

Mary

**Facilities Planning & Management**

University of Wisconsin-Madison 21 N. Park Street 6<sup>th</sup> floor Madison, Wisconsin 53715-1211  
(608) 263-3000 [www.fpm.wisc.edu](http://www.fpm.wisc.edu)



## Facilities Planning & Management

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

- Penthouse seems looming and large?
  - o It is large to accommodate the stacks and equipment. All are currently shown screened in this 20' tall penthouse area.
- Weathered steel at doorways with salt? Will it show wear and tear?
  - o Intent is for material to touch the landscape, but still working on details where it touches pavement and may become a maintenance concern.
- What is the lifespan of weathering steel?
  - o 80+ years
- McCardle lab look, which is a cell structure. Is there a reason to the window patterning?
  - o Windows are set with a mix of vision and spandrel glass to break up the horizontal nature of the building. No specific reference to engineering.

Heidi

- Check out Chicago Civic Center detail for drainage and pavement with corten. You can have the steel meet the ground eloquently.
- Steel over the doorways might be the biggest concern for staining/rust movement. Potential to bring bar structure material over into this area.
- Greenroof is extensive – seems disingenuous through the renderings.
  - o Want to be able to see the green roof from the ground. We will revisit this area.
- Plaza is getting stronger. Have we committed to bird friendly glass?
  - o Glass will meet City ordinance.
- What happens in the NW corner roof at the overhang?
  - o It is occupiable space that has a covered seating component and 'sandbox' type area of different materials for testing small rovers.

Kevin

- Materials and relating to engineering is appreciated. The steel and amount seems harsh that close to the pedestrian experience. Struggling with the heaviness and harshness of the material.
  - o Steel is around 30' high.
- The façade articulation is much better.
- Cohesion of the window patterning – could it be tied to the stronger horizontal banding pattern.
  - o The building is very long, so the windows go vertical to break up that length and define the different programming within.
- Timing with master plan amendment. Master Plan amendment should be approved prior to DRB taking action.
  - o This is the plan. There will be a DRB meeting where the master plan is requested for approval and then the building is requested for approval. This recommendation will

## Facilities Planning & Management

University of Wisconsin-Madison 21 N. Park Street 6<sup>th</sup> floor Madison, Wisconsin 53715-1211  
(608) 263-3000 [www.fpm.wisc.edu](http://www.fpm.wisc.edu)



## Facilities Planning & Management

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

then be sent to the Plan Commission/Common Council. Is Kevin wanting the Common Council to sign off on the this prior to DRB?

Terry

- What public space is in the building?
  - o Very little programmed public space. the building is primarily lab and research space. Smaller intimate public spaces are provided throughout at circulation corridors. The upper floors have huddle spaces outside the labs. There is a spectrum of study spaces to support CoE needs.
- Outdoor space is great to have, but the vast majority of people will need to use space inside during inclement weather and should incorporate social space.
- What is the materiality of the solid surfaces of the intermediate band.
  - o Terra cotta with spandrel and glass.
- What is the ratio of teaching to research?
  - o 50/50 – teaching is lab based and not classroom lecture format.
- The building is still out of scale. I will accept it at this point unfortunately.
- The building is still conceptually flawed. The long bar is flawed.
- So, if this is the building we are going to get, how can we make it the best building?
  - o TS: Base is missing opportunity to be more pedestrian scaled.
  - o TS: The bar is to levitate, and the two tonal colors are contradictory to the flow. The truss sits hard on a base and not levitating. To levitate you would leave the base lighter in color and create a darker bar. This inverse creates a stark wedding cake effect not supportive of your intended concept.
  - o Corten steel absorbs all light and doesn't reflect like copper. The other buildings on campus do use it well, not sure this building will also. Reference Richard Serra structures and reason for use of material. It doubles the weight and doesn't reflect light.
  - o So little space to open out onto the landscape. And the size/scale of the steel will make the open space less than desirable.
- Penthouse. It's a 4 layer cake with minimal integration. Can the base form come through to the top?
- Integrate truss into the 7<sup>th</sup> floor...not programmatically, but volumetrically.
- Add pattern frit on glass that is more integrated and supportive of engineering.
- Want this to be better than an accumulation of pieces. Break 4 layer cake but taking the lab volumes up taller.

Lindsey

- The windows remind me of microchips and computer engineering. Bridging science and forms from mechanical engineering.

## Facilities Planning & Management

University of Wisconsin-Madison 21 N. Park Street 6<sup>th</sup> floor Madison, Wisconsin 53715-1211  
(608) 263-3000 [www.fpm.wisc.edu](http://www.fpm.wisc.edu)



## Facilities Planning & Management

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

- Corten steel is velvety and needs landscape to soften.
- What is the support space in the labs purpose and why located there?
  - o They are for equipment that might be noisy, dusty and can be readily flexed to accommodate teaching needs.

Cindy

- I also have some concern about the material based on Terry's comments. The mass of the active learning space.

### Recommendations:

- o UW will need to debrief with A/E team.
- o Complex problem about fitting this much program into the space given.
- o Corten steel is not approachable and feels harsh.
- o Penthouse needs attention and work. Can engineering be on display with this mechanical equipment?
- o Positive reaction to the bar, with some additional fritting and attention to breaking down the horizontal nature of the façade.
- o Connect the 4 layers of the cake to be more integrated.
- o Need to approve the Master Plan first, then the building.

### Study Intro – West Campus District Plan #9950-2308 – Perkins + Will (Paul Seitz of VCFA Office)

#### Attendees:

A/E: NA

VCFA Office: Paul Seitz, Vanessa Herald, Brianna Charnski,

FP&M: Cindy Torstveit, Ginny Routhe, Missy Nergard, Nathan Jandl, Jonathan Bronk, Rob Kennedy, Molly Lenz, Lexie Baslington

West Campus folks: Quinn Purkey, University Research Park

- UW-Madison's west campus is home to robust research enterprises, hospitals, recreation, and academic activities. With a world class hospital, diverse community and beautiful natural areas, the potential exists to make this space even more valuable and vibrant. Our vision hopes to innovate for the public good, create new career pathways, and design new solutions to important problems facing our community and the world.
- The development of this part of campus is about reciprocity...when we talk about land we tend to talk about the use, which is important, but balance this with the responsibility. Reciprocity can look like science, respect for resources, circular economies, education and understanding

### Facilities Planning & Management

University of Wisconsin-Madison 21 N. Park Street 6<sup>th</sup> floor Madison, Wisconsin 53715-1211  
(608) 263-3000 [www.fpm.wisc.edu](http://www.fpm.wisc.edu)



## Facilities Planning & Management

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

the gifts of this place, how can we support and return them back.

- Reciprocity creates balance, through sustainable actions and resilient thinking.
- This is a project funded by University Research Park in partnership with the Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administration and Facilities Planning & Management.
- It is the first project out of the Real Estate Revenue Strategy.
- Consider the following questions when listening.
  - o What does it mean for DRB's role on projects delivered under this method?
  - o What design standards should be adhered to or reached for?
  - o Opportunities and/or constraints around West Campus growth?
  - o How do we engage the DRB going forward.

### **Presenter Presentation Comments:**

- o Industry and corporate engagement were seen as potentials from the Revenue Innovation Study
- o Research, teaching, public outreach is our mission. Continually hear that lab space is critically needed. Because of this deficiency we are recruiting a different type of faculty.
- o Market vacancy is currently 2-3% in Madison.
- o BOR will not be 'approving' the West District Plan which aligns with what occurred during the Campus Master Plan process.

### **Committee Comments:**

Terry

- It appears the study today has been around the open spaces possible. Are you considering replacement of existing buildings?
  - o Yes, all building uses within the 'L' will need to be accommodated somewhere prior to adding new facilities in these locations.
- Are we evaluating if that is the best place for the Recreation to stay.
  - o We conceptually looked at other locations, including their removal, but student experience and health and well-being are important drivers in providing this amenity.
- Northwestern tries to occupy their lakefront. If some of the current uses were not anchors. Do we have the best use dedicated to the best parcel?
  - o Based on all constraints we believe this to be yes. The RecWell facility does not need direct adjacency to the lakefront, but no other location easily exists.

Mary

- I am on the Regent Neighborhood Association and the WCDP Advisory Committee.
- I appreciate how we have changed the discussion from market to affordable housing.

Heidi

- Traffic management jumps out. What are we doing to address increases in volume?
- Stormwater will be an issue since there is not physical space.

### **Facilities Planning & Management**

University of Wisconsin-Madison 21 N. Park Street 6<sup>th</sup> floor Madison, Wisconsin 53715-1211  
(608) 263-3000 [www.fpm.wisc.edu](http://www.fpm.wisc.edu)



## Facilities Planning & Management

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

- Sustainability and Native Nations should be through lines.

Kevin

- Aspirational nature of a compelling vision. The master plan is really an implementation piece. These two need to align.
- There are things that would need to be considered.
  - o Currently there are uses that are not allowed by the current C-I District
  - o City needs to be in the loop about how to implement since this is not currently approvable.

Lindsey

- Will no longer be on the DRB come June 30, 2023.
- In 300 years when this area is crammed with steel and concrete. People will thank us for the 'green' and the other habitat.
- Value slide – it's not just about what words are on the page, but where they are at. Elevate the stakeholder meetings up toward collaboration with Native Nations.
- Looking at this through an Allied lens we can do better.
  - o Native Nations and engagement with them is difficult.

NEXT MEETING November 21, 2023 – virtual

- DRB #1: Camp Randall Sports Center Replacement Project
- DRB #1: Water Mural H.C. White

## Facilities Planning & Management

University of Wisconsin-Madison 21 N. Park Street 6<sup>th</sup> floor Madison, Wisconsin 53715-1211  
(608) 263-3000 [www.fpm.wisc.edu](http://www.fpm.wisc.edu)