



MEETING NOTES

Meeting Location: Virtual

Project: Design Review Board – September 2026

Date/Time: 9/15/26 – 9:00 am

Re: DRB Meeting Notes

Notes By: Janine Glaeser, UW-Madison
FP&M, CPLA

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Agenda (virtual):

1. **Music Hall Renovation and Addition – Phase 1 #0485-2501**
Design Development Review – DRB #4, Informational Presentation Updates

 2. **333 East Campus Mall Renovation Pre-Design - #0467-2509**
Pre-Design Review – DRB #1, Introductory Review
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Committee Attendees:

Present:

Heidi Natura
Mary Czyszczak-Lyne
Rafeeq Asad
Al Oberlander
Kevin Firchow
Ex Officio: Scott Utter
Ex Officio: Peter Schlecht

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Chair Schlecht called the meeting to order at 9:00 am. Roll call confirmed quorum.

APPROVAL OF MEETING NOTES

- July 21st DRB Meeting Notes were approved
- Czyszczak-Lyne motioned to approve; Oberlander seconded motion

DISCLOSURES AND RECUSALS

- None

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

- Utter read the Land Acknowledgement

Agenda Item #1: Design Development Review – DRB #4 Design Updates

Project Name: Music Hall Renovation and Addition #0485-2501

Attendees:

- Tim Peters, KieranTimberlake Architects
- Matthew Macchietto, Hoerr Schaudt
- Gina Gianetti, Hoerr Schaudt
- Jonathan Koewler, Hoerr Schaudt
- Bo Muwihad, UW FP&M PM
- Anne Oyamada, UW La Follette
- Gabe Mendez, UW FP&M Transportation
- Aaron Williams, UW FP&M CPLA
- Jonathan Bronk, UW FP&M CPLA
- Lynn Dahlgren, UW FP&M CPLA
- Rhonda James, UW FP&M CPLA
- Sadie Derouin, UW FP&M CPLA – Sustainability
- Ginny Routhe, AVC FP&M
- Ben Schmidt, UW FP&M Reda
- Van VanWyk, UW PM
- Kelly Petty, UW FP&M
- Molly Lenz, UW FP&M
- Troy Green, UW FP&M Manager
- Alder Ellen Zhang, City of Madison Alder
- Brenda Gonzalez, UW Community Relations
- Argyle Wade, UW Student Affairs
- Matt Garret, Flad Architects

Project Description: The UW LaFollette School of Public Affairs (LFS) is working with KieranTimberlake Architects and InSite Consulting on a plan to renovate and preserve the existing Music Hall. The scope of work will encompass a comprehensive renovation of the facility, including architectural, mechanical, electrical, fire protection, plumbing, site, and landscaping upgrades. The building will be brought up to all applicable state building, health, safety and environmental codes, and federal requirements such as the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). The project will follow the Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties.

Entitlements Schedule:

DRB Advanced Plan Review	5/16/23
DRB #1 Schematic Design Review	9/16/25
JCAC Introduction	10/23/25
DRB #2 Design Development Review	4/21/26
JCAC Recommendation to DRB	5/28/26
DRB #3 Final Approval	6/16/26
DRB #4 Design Updates	9/15/26

Project Schedule:

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|---------------------------|-------------|
| - Bid Documents | Fall 2026 |
| - Construction Start Ph I | Winter 2026 |
| - Completion Ph I | Fall 2028 |

DRB comments:

Czynszak-Lyne

- Expressed support for the removal of the southeast cheek wall and praised the revised design.
- Asked about lighting at the primary entrance and potential safety and security enhancements.
 - Design team response: Confirmed that plaza light poles, canopy lighting, and building illumination will provide visibility, wayfinding, and a greater sense of security.
- Asked whether plaza bench materials could be softened through the use of wood or other warmer materials.
 - Design team response: Explained that limestone was selected to complement the historic building façade, provide durability, and create a comfortable seating experience through detailed stone treatments.
- Asked whether Music Hall could be referenced within the building signage.
 - Design team response: Noted that the primary building name is governed by donor agreements; however, opportunities exist to interpret and celebrate Music Hall's history through environmental graphics and signage elements.
 - Design team response: Confirmed that the clock tower transom will include a reference to Music Hall.
- Praised the landscape design and supported the overall planting approach.

Oberlander

- Praised the direction of the southeast porch design and noted that revisions have strengthened the composition.
- Supported the revised Bascom Hill entry design and noted that the canopy tree placement preserves desired views of the entrance.
- Asked how stormwater drainage would function within the permeable paving seating area.
 - Design team response: Explained that the permeable paving system operates as part of a broader site drainage strategy, with both infiltration and overflow systems designed to manage stormwater and provide redundancy.

Natura

- Expressed support for the incorporation of the permeable paver system.
- Praised the revised entry design and noted that previous concerns had been addressed.
- Encouraged the design team to explore more comfortable seating options, including potential combinations of stone and wood materials, to create a more welcoming and cohesive family of site furnishings.
- Suggested integrating the freestanding building sign with adjacent site elements, such as the wing wall, and encouraged exploration of a more contemporary expression.
 - Response (Schlecht): Noted that campus sign standards require consistency across university buildings and that deviations would require additional approvals.
- Requested clarification regarding proposed tree selections and locations, particularly within the Bascom Hill double allée framework.
- Questioned whether the proposed tree species would effectively support the long-term character and growth goals of the allée.
 - Design team response: Explained that tree selections remain under review and that black tupelos were proposed to provide increased canopy coverage, while additional feedback on species selection is welcomed.
- Supported the overall shrub palette and landscape composition.
- Encouraged the addition of more native species where appropriate and recommended

continued evaluation of seasonal diversity and resilience within the planting plan.

- Praised the placement of sensitive understory species near the building where they will be protected from winter salt exposure.
- Noted that additional summer-season interest could strengthen the planting palette but expressed overall support for the proposed landscape design.

Closing Schlecht

- Acknowledged the Committee's feedback and indicated that planting selections, site furnishings, and landscape details will continue to be refined through the design development process.
- Confirmed that Facilities Planning & Management Campus Planning & Landscape Architecture staff will continue coordinating with the project team as the design evolves.

Agenda Item #2: Pre-Design Review – Introductory Presentation

Project Name: 333 East Campus Mall Renovation Pre-Design - #0467-2509

Attendees:

- Argyle Wade, UW Student Affairs
- Matt Garret, Flad Architects
- Kelly Petty, UW FP&M
- Gabe Mendez, UW FP&M Transportation
- Aaron Williams, UW FP&M CPLA
- Jonathan Bronk, UW FP&M CPLA
- Lynn Dahlgren, UW FP&M CPLA
- Rhonda James, UW FP&M CPLA
- Sadie Derouin, UW FP&M CPLA – Sustainability
- Ginny Routhe, AVC FP&M
- Ben Schmidt, UW FP&M Reda
- Van VanWyk, UW PM
- Molly Lenz, UW FP&M
- Troy Green, UW FP&M Manager
- Alder Ellen Zhang, City of Madison Alder
- Brenda Gonzalez, UW Community Relations

Project Description: The 2024 Student Affairs Facility Framework Plan (0679-2221) identified 333 ECM as a critical opportunity to create a unified hub for student involvement, engagement, and well-being. The current 333 ECM pre-design report analyzed project options that would renovate the level one entryway and levels three, four, and nine-through-11 to enhance the facility's identity along a primary campus thoroughfare, and to increase space utilization. The project proposes an interior renovation, entrance storefront upgrades, and outdoor hardscape improvements at-grade.

Project Schedule:

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|----------------------|-------------|
| - Pre-Design | Spring 2026 |
| - Design Report | Spring 2030 |
| - Construction Start | Summer 2031 |

DRB comments:

Asad

- Praised the overall direction of the project and supported the proposed improvements to the building entrance.
- Noted that the building currently lacks a strong University identity and agreed that enhancements to the entry sequence are needed.
- Supported the use of accent colors, including the proposed red column, to strengthen visibility and wayfinding.
- Commented that the revised paving pattern is moving in a positive direction and helps establish a stronger sense of place.

Oberlander

- Encouraged the design team to explore additional opportunities to create a more engaging and memorable campus destination.
- Expressed concern that the current tree density may limit visibility and sunlight within the plaza and suggested introducing more openings to improve the pedestrian experience.
- Noted that the terrace lighting strategy successfully communicates activity and occupancy within the building.
- Questioned whether the proposed roof structure at the west edge may diminish the visual impact of the prominent glass form and red column feature.
- Praised the creation of outdoor rooms through landscaping and screen walls and encouraged continued refinement to support student activities and gathering spaces.
- Supported the inclusion of flexible and movable furniture to encourage social interaction and adaptable use.

Czynszak-Lyne

- Expressed appreciation for the project vision and acknowledged the challenges and opportunities associated with the site.
- Asked whether solar energy opportunities could be incorporated into the roof deck or rooftop design.
- Encouraged exploration of student-focused art and activation opportunities within the lobby, including potential partnerships with campus programs.

Firchow

- Expressed enthusiasm for the project concepts and the potential transformation of the facility.
- Advised the team to consider future City entitlement requirements, noting that the property's Planned Development zoning designation may require a robust review and approval process, including UDC.
- Encouraged early consideration of entitlement timing as the project advances toward implementation.

Natura

- Requested additional site analysis information illustrating the broader context and limits of work.
- Encouraged the team to consider how future site improvements could strengthen the building's identity as a University destination rather than a conventional commercial property.
- Suggested that broader plaza improvements could have a greater impact than isolated site

interventions if project scope allows.

- Praised the roof deck concept and supported the proposed programming.
- Questioned whether the amount of vegetation proposed on the terrace may limit flexibility and occupancy capacity.
- Encouraged consideration of vertical landscaping elements and solar infrastructure as the design evolves.
- Noted that future expansion of the project scope could significantly improve visibility, identity, and user experience.

Schlecht

- Clarified that the project team was intentionally directed to maintain a focused scope during the pre-design phase due to the complexity of the site and ownership conditions within the East Campus Mall corridor.
- Acknowledged the potential for broader site improvements while emphasizing the importance of remaining within the current project framework.
- Noted that future design phases will provide additional opportunities to refine the scope and gather stakeholder feedback.

Public Comments

Alder Zhang

- Expressed concern regarding the impact of the proposed renovations on registered student organizations currently occupying the building.
- Asked how organizations will be accommodated during construction and whether temporary relocation strategies are being developed.
- Noted that extended disruptions could affect organizational continuity and long-term success.
- Asked about anticipated construction duration and project phasing.

Argyle Wade – Student Affairs

- Confirmed that accommodating student organizations during construction is a priority and that temporary space options are being explored.
- Noted that the project schedule remains several years away and that coordination with the Office of Space Management will continue to identify appropriate interim locations.
- Explained that a phased renovation approach is currently anticipated to minimize disruption where possible.

Czynszak-Lyne (Follow-up)

- Expressed appreciation for the student organization concerns raised during public comment.
- Asked specifically about the future location and accommodations for Open Seat.
 - Argyle Wade: Confirmed that Open Seat is currently located on the third floor and stated that project staff are coordinating with stakeholders to identify both permanent and temporary accommodation strategies. Noted that extensive focus groups and surveys were conducted during pre-design and emphasized that continued student engagement will remain central to project development.

Brenda Gonzalez – Community Relations

- Encouraged the project team to engage Divine Nine organizations early in the planning process and ensure they are included in future outreach and engagement efforts.

Schlecht (Closing Comments)

- Emphasized that the current effort is a pre-design study intended to establish project direction and scope.
 - Noted that future design phases will include additional stakeholder engagement, detailed project development, and further discussion regarding plaza improvements and limits of work.
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DISCUSSION

Schlecht noted the October DRB currently has a potentially light agenda.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 10:30 am.

October 20, 2026, is the next regularly scheduled DRB meeting.

These notes are what the writer understands of the proceedings. Please contact or email any changes to the writer within 5 working days if not in concurrence. End of meeting notes.