

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FRESNO  
Fresno, California 93740

**Campus Planning Committee**

Minutes

April 17, 2012

**Members**

Present: Deborah Adishian-Astone, Amy Armstrong, Robert Boyd, Rick Finden, Paul Halajian, Lisa Kao, Dennis Nef, Cynthia Teniente-Matson, Richard Vaillancour and Gary Wilson

Absent: Charles Boyer, Kiranjit Dhanjan, John Kriebs, Patrick Newell and Bernard Vinovrski

Guests: Erin Boele, Nick Groh, Kathy Johnson, Paul Miller, Lori Pardi, Nancy Petenbrink (representing Jan Parten) and Clint Woesner

Meeting called to order at 3:07 pm

1. Approval of the April 17, 2012, agenda. It was MSC to approve the April 17, 2012, agenda.
2. Approval of the minutes of the February 14, 2012, meeting. It was MSC to approve the minutes of February 14, 2012.
3. Wayfinding Signage (*Informational*) – Cynthia Teniente-Matson

Mr. Boyd briefed the committee on the background for this project, its alignment with the Campus Master Plan, and introduced Clint Woesner and Nick Groh from Impact Design Associates (IDA), the firm selected for this project.

Mr. Woesner recapped some of the work that has taken place over the last couple of months and highlighted the project objectives which are to; establish design guidelines for permanent exterior signage, develop a functional and visually cohesive sign system, deliver an executable sign system, and provide an integrated sign system.

The firm further elaborated on the different types of proposed signage, locations and materials that will be used. Sign types include:

- Vehicular: Signage that guides drivers efficiently to desired university locations and parking facilities.
- Pedestrian: Signage that guides pedestrians to and from their desired locations on campus.
- Gateway: University entrances
- Directional Maps/landmarks: Maps and detailed information at major assembly points or near a destination of significance, such as Maple Mall.
- Building Monument: Signs that identify a building and lists services offered in that building.

Mr. Woesner shared that parking was discussed quite substantially during the meetings and presentations. Key concerns were: 1) How to better identify parking and 2) How to get individuals to the correct/designated parking lot.

IDA recommended a numbering approach that is most common for pairing with the letter “P” to naming the parking lots (e.g. P3 or P3-6). A successive numerical order, beginning at what is currently lot C (at Maple and Matoian), allows for a clearer wayfinding message system. The order will promote circulation through the campus to the east and up Woodrow where the majority of parking is located. Currently, most of our visitors (new students, prospective students, parents and guests) approach the campus at this entry or are directed to park in this lot.

Mr. Woesner guided the committee members through the proposed visitor experience beginning at lot P1, to Maple Mall, along the core of the campus, through the Rose Garden, past the Memorial Fountain, past the University Student Union, with direct view to the Henry Madden Library as they approach the front door of the University Center, which houses the Visitor Center.

The “woven” concept design used in the architectural elements of the plan echo design features found in the library and its surrounding landscape. These were also inspired by the university farm laboratory and its rows and fields. It also gave birth to the corn sprout sculptural monument proposed for a couple of the entrances. Signage for the main entryways and key corners of the campus include:

- The Fresno State word mark in 2 ft. tall three dimensional letters. These will be silver with an integrated halo illumination which will add a red and blue glow around the edge of the letters visible in the evening. The letters will sit on a 3 ft. tall stone wall. The space will incorporate stone planters and a stone seating area similar to what is in place in front of the library.
- A sculptural identity piece resembling a corn sprout. It will be about 25 ft. tall, made of woven metal mesh material, elliptical in shape with the formal university name placed on the 3 ft. tall stone base planter.

The plan also calls for the use of banners and trees that give red foliage to be added at some of the entryways and corners. This will help bring more of the university’s brand presence and key message(s) to the campus perimeter and focal access points. The idea is to create a threshold at these intersections or entry points, a space that queues drivers/visitors that they are entering the campus (a place that has student life, a different speed limit, pedestrians, etc.).

Other material being used for the various signs include wood posts, selected to reflect the arboretum aspect of the campus; metal or a metal mesh to give it a more contemporary feel; and locally quarried granite. The Fresno State brand/logo will be used wherever possible and as appropriate.

The plan also includes signage that will be added to the perimeter of the university farm laboratory. It will not only help identify the farm but also the campus. In addition, it will provide an opportunity to share restrictive or cautionary information regarding animals, fertilizers and pesticides that can be potentially harmful.

IDA will continue to collect feedback and refine the plan. A final wayfinding signage implementation plan is expected by end of June 2012.

Mr. Vaillancour commended IDA on the excellent work that has been completed thus far. In regards to the Maple and Shaw entrance, there may be a need for a backdrop to the Fresno State word mark so that it is more visible/clear. He suggested that IDA study that space in more detail, to reconsider its scale and maybe strengthening the area a little more to create a more pronounced image.

The sculptural identity piece was well received; however, it was suggested that the design firm simplify the space planned for this piece. It seems a little busy in “plan” view and the university has difficulty maintaining busy spaces.

Mr. Woesner clarified that this was a conceptual starting point and that a landscape architect would be coming on board to address some of these issues.

In regards to the landmark directory signs, Mr. Vaillancour suggested expanding those areas to spaces where people can gather and possibly making it more of an assembly point.

He further commented on how the wayfinding project would complete and compliment what is intended with the reconstruction of parking lots A and J. The light pole for that project was recently

selected. They are 16 ft. poles and have a silver gray cover, very similar to the poles that are used along the lighting spine of the Henry Madden Library. The university is trying to harmonize the parking sites and he suggested that IDA consider that as they continue with the plans.

Signage in these lots will remain consistent with what is in place now because a finalized Wayfinding signage plan is not expected until the end of June.

The committee commended IDA on the good work. Mr. Boyd reiterated that this is an informational item. IDA and the Wayfinding committee will take the comments made in this and other forums and return to Campus Planning for action within the next couple of months.

4. Proposed Bike Barn - University Courtyard (*Action*) – Erin Boele/Amy Armstrong

Ms. Boele reviewed the existing bike barns located near Aspen/Ponderosa Hall in the University Courtyard. The existing facilities are not secure and residents have expressed concern over the safety of their bikes. In 2010-11, residents reported 24 bikes were stolen. This figure does not include those reported directly to the University Courtyard without an official police report.

Ms. Boele provided a rendering of the proposed bike barn and a schematic of the plan. The proposed location for the bike barn is north of the Atrium and south of Sycamore Hall. The barn will accommodate 24 bikes, constructed with rod iron fence, hipped roof and secured metal/rod iron gate with safe lock key access so that only residents with a University Courtyard key can get in. The new location is more prominent and in clear view.

The University Courtyard is working with The Vernal Group on this project and costs are estimated at \$26,000-\$29,000. The goal is to complete this project over the summer.

Mr. Boyd asked if cameras are being considered in the plan. Ms. Boele responded that cameras are not being considered. However, additional lighting will be provided in the area. Mr. Boyd suggested they incorporate LED lighting.

Mr. Vaillancour added that this might be an opportunity to consider solar options for these facilities. He also suggested they tighten the space a little and perhaps consider the flat roof design. Ms. Astone agreed that they would complete additional research discuss flat roof vs. the hipped roof options with the vendor to confirm the best alternative and provide a new rendering of the design.

The committee was comfortable with the overall plan with the condition that the University Courtyard will address the comments/concerns made during this meeting.

Ms. Astone moved to approve the bike barn project to be located in the University Courtyard with the committee's recommendations. The final design plan shall be approved by Associate Vice President for Facilities Management Robert Boyd before going to bid. Mr. Finden seconded.

Chair Matson applauded the efforts and agreed that this will be a great prototype for the University's consideration in broader implementation throughout the campus and fits nicely with our WELCOA designation and efforts in wellness.

Having no additional questions or comments, Mr. Boyd called the question. Motion carried without opposition or abstention.

5. Revised Exterior Elev. for Gibson Farm Market (*Update*) – Deborah Adishian-Astone

This project has been before the committee multiple times. The purpose of this update is to inform the committee on some minor changes made to the exterior elevation planned for the new Gibson

Farm Market. Ms. Astone wanted to ensure that the committee had an opportunity to review the changes and provide any comments.

Mark Wilson Construction has been selected as the builder for this donor funded project. During the value engineering process, it was revealed that minor modifications to the steel building exterior elevations would save the project approximately \$185,000. Given the substantial savings and the project being over budget, the proposal was further discussed and considered with Dean Charles Boyer and Director of Development Alcidia Gomes.

The biggest change is on the west elevation, where the pitch of the roof is more rectangular in shape. The new model is more triangular. The changes would not affect or alter the square footage or the interior layout and is still reflective of the architectural and functional goals of the project. The Jordan College of Agricultural Sciences and Technology has reviewed these minor exterior changes and is recommending going forward with the changes.

Given that the changes are not significant and still fit the intended purpose, the committee agreed that there was no need for re-approval. Project completion is expected in January 2013.

6. Agronomy Metal Storage Building/New Hay Barns (*Informational*) – Mike Mosinski

As part of the plan for the Jordan Research Building, Mr. Mosinski brought before the committee recommended changes for the university farm laboratory.

Hay Barns: The existing feed mill is outdated and not fully utilized; however, the farm still stores a lot of hay, feed, minerals and supplements in that building. The challenge with that facility is its location. Students currently need to cross Barstow Avenue on tractors and farm wagons to access the building. Instead of trying to build one large facility, the farm is proposing the addition of four new barns to be located at different sites throughout the farm: 1) the dairy, 2) behind the beef unit/north of the feeding lot, 3) behind the quarter horse unit/north of O'Neill park, and 4) the south side of Barstow behind the sheep unit. Hay would be delivered directly to these four locations and provide better/more efficient access for all the uses.

Motor Truck Scale: There is a motor truck scale out in front of the feed mill that is still being used to check and certify weights for various projects. The plan is to relocate the scale to a wide gravel parking area located between the swine unit and the dairy. This is a better location from an access stand point and would play in really well with the dairy and planned poultry facility.

Agronomy Building: Off to the side of the feed mill is the open agronomy building that is still used for storage by some of the plant science faculty and researchers. In light of the review and realignment of these facilities, Dean Boyer suggested they consider replacing the old mushroom lab building located between Grab building and CATI to make room for a very simple metal building to replace the functions of the open agronomy building.

The farm will work closely with Ms. Astone and Mr. Wilson as the plans develop. Ms. Astone agreed to consult with Mark Wilson Construction given that these are very simple structures and Mark Wilson will be on site for the Gibson Farm Market project.

7. Other Business

Mr. Boyd noted that the Peace Garden item previously listed on the agenda was removed and would be presented at a future meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 4:07