

<u>East Carolina University</u>	<u>26472.J00</u>	<u>04.06.2009</u>	<u>04.24.2009</u>
PROJECT	PROJECT NO.	MEETING DATE	ISSUE DATE
<u>Willis Building</u>		<u>Open House- East Campus Location</u>	
MEETING LOCATION		MEETING PURPOSE	
<u>Ryan Podvin</u>			
ISSUED BY		SIGNATURE	
PARTICIPANT		COMPANY/TITLE	
<u>Mark Potter</u>		<u>SmithGroup- Project Manager</u>	
<u>Neal Kessler</u>		<u>JJR- Principal, Campus Planner</u>	
<u>Mary Jukuri</u>		<u>JJR- Principal, Campus Planner</u>	
<u>Clare Jagenow</u>		<u>JJR- Site Designer, Project Manager</u>	
<u>Ryan Podvin</u>		<u>JJR- Site Designer</u>	
<u>Sub-consultant Team</u>		<u>Multiple Disciplines</u>	

PURPOSE

The Open House held April 6, 2009 at Willis Hall was held to gather input in an open forum to identify concerns and relevant issues relating to the ECU campus master plan. An invitation went out campus-wide to invite students and faculty of ECU. Invitations were also extended to adjacent community groups.

The SmithGroup/JJR team solicited information through two exercises. The first attendees are asked to identify their favorite places on campus and least favorite places on campus. This exercise requires participants to vote using red (least favorite) and green (most favorite) dots on campus maps. The SmithGroup/JJR team guides this exercise and gains an understanding of why these places are generally good or generally bad. The second exercise allows people to respond to with questions and concerns relating to 9 topics. The topics include:

- Parking, Transit & Vehicular Circulation
- Surrounding Community
- Safety & Security
- Buildings & Facilities
- Open Space & Landscape
- Pedestrian Circulation
- Recreation
- Housing & Student Life
- Additional Issues

From these topic headings participants are invited to “post” their thoughts by jotting their questions/concerns on “post-it notes” and sticking them under the appropriate topic heading. This exercise allows people to voice what they value in a campus context from physical features and amenities, to topics such as safety and security.

### MEETING NOTES

#### Dot-voting and “Post-It” Exercises-



“Post-It” Exercise

Dot-Voting Exercise

The following responses were gathered from the “post-it” exercise:

#### **Parking, Transit & Vehicular Circulation**

- IT building access for service buildings
- Provide parking at University vs. in surrounding neighborhoods
- Build parking garage (2 Comments)
- Safe bike paths
- Bicycle sheds at park-and-bike lots
- Please develop parking decks to reduce surface parking that drains into wetlands & creeks
- Bus/Bicycle fatality
- While the university has grown, parking has been largely ignored. A realistic, user-friendly, and affordable (for employees and students) parking plan is desperately needed.
- Bus system is problematic. Huge busses on narrow streets, often only 1 or 2 passengers, could be re-thought
- Support bikes
- “Pay-parking” on main campus for people who only drive occasionally and don’t require/desire permits
- Accessibility of Art Gallery
- More cooperation with local businesses for bike racks
- Develop business model for parking violations that eliminate immediate towing
- Bike routes needed between all ECU buildings (main campus, Belk, Greenville Center, Health Sciences) and bicycle commuting incentives. (3 Comments on Improved Routes)
- ECU should work toward getting Amtrak to come through Greenville
- Expand bus service to run more often (at least every 15 minutes), later in the evening, and to shopping destinations
- Improve bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure

- Harry Hamilton and Merrill flood at city

### **Safety & Security**

- Improve campus safety
- Improve campus police facilities
- Lighting campus wide is inconsistent and inadequate causing safety concerns for students and faculty that work in the evening/night (3 Comments)
- Camera system and Campus alerts
- Information security considered in infrastructure design
- Eliminate off-campus towing

### **Buildings & Facilities**

- Future of Library and Book store space?
- Condition of Bate Building poor, replace and add windows
- Library concerns, adapt changing technology, e-books? (2 Comments)
- Green-buildings, less energy consumption, use of solar panels
- Continue good trend of buildings that reflect original architecture
- Keep classrooms a walkable distance or accessible by bus stop
- More large classroom spaces
- Joyner Library needs funds for expansion/renovation to accommodate collections and user services.
- IT Infrastructure space (Network, Phone closets, Smart Classrooms, Desktop Support)

### **Landscape & Open Space**

- Green, Green, Green! (2 Comments)
- Preserve green space along 5<sup>th</sup> Street, plant more trees as they are lost in age
- Please do not develop wetlands
- Improve signage to reflect ECU colors (ie. Street signs)
- Integrate sculpture/art throughout campus
- The campus architecture has changed over the years but the campus doesn't seem to have anything unifying the physical appearance. The grounds are kept beautifully but something more is needed to make the University campus more cohesive.
- Work with city to develop "green-way" system
- Demonstration gardens
- Leave the last crabapple trees
- Solve flooding sidewalks
- Preserve Joyner circle

### **Pedestrian Circulation**

- Create sidewalks along street, in tandem with city efforts
- Benches and low walls for both campuses to encourage users and conversation
- Improve pedestrian environment

### **Recreation**

- No way to get to the NRC Fields other than car or bus (no bikes)
- Family friendly recreation center
- Reduce/Eliminate cost of student recreation center for faculty and staff

### Housing & Student Life

- Provide housing for students so the University neighborhood can become single-family again, for faculty and staff
- Student services building on W. Campus
- Provide faculty housing near or on campus (2 Comments)
- Locate dense student housing close to university to eliminate sprawl, busses, environmental impacts
- Only 30% of students live on-campus
- North campus crossing, no access in flood conditions
- Student housing needs to return to the campus, farming students to the outskirts of Greenville is not a good idea
- Student Union Gen. 7
- Don't ignore the student impact on neighborhoods.
- Enrollment has increased but student housing has not, large student apartment complexes in floodplain may help housing needs and be good for developers but not good for the city. The city and ECU must work together to provide the best solution to housing problems.

### Surrounding Community

- 1970's- 60% owner occupied housing/ 40% rental, today it is reversed
- TRUNA report & plan from city
- Cheap original construction for students move out, rent to lower income
- Concern about quality of life in neighborhood (2 Comments)
- Acknowledge ECU properties north of 5<sup>th</sup> street in the Collgeview Neighborhood (2 Comments)
- Change in neighborhood demographics and schools (2 Comments)
- The university must be open, honest and operate in good faith with the City and surrounding neighborhoods. Previous history of lack of respect and honesty has made many neighbors be cautious towards planning efforts.
- ECU should promote dense, pedestrian friendly neighborhoods, new campus
- ECU should do all it can to foster a safe, single-family neighborhoods around the campus. This promotes safety for students and provides housing for faculty.
- Student housing too far removed and sprawl encourages cars (2 Comments)
- Peaceful community living

### Additional Issues

- Money?
- Faculty Dining was in Mendenhall
- Model-learning Lab School
- With this planning effort long over-due, how does the University balance possible loss of 150 jobs against the cost of this planning?

#### NEXT STEPS

The SmithGroup/JJR team will review the issues identified and identify key concerns and reoccurring themes in the responses. These topics will be addressed as key stakeholder concerns in the Master Planning process. The team will also identify if there is greater research or interaction with interested stakeholders needed to more precisely identify key issues.

### GRAPHICS



*If this report does not agree with your records or understanding of this meeting, or if there are any questions, please advise the writer immediately in writing; otherwise, we will assume the comments to be correct.*

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