QUESTIONS RAISED AT THE JANUARY 22 COMMUNITY FORUM MEETING

What will the U do in response to the “most important issue today” - global warming? There is nothing mentioned in the master plan about offsetting energy consumption and powering with renewable energy off the carbon-based grid. What consideration has been given to geothermal heating instead of water? How will the U power the campus?

Information regarding current University of Utah (the U) initiatives can be found at the Office of Sustainability’s Web site: http://www.sustainability.utah.edu/initiatives/energy.htm

Preliminary inventory to provide a formal baseline assessment of the U’s Green House Gas (GHG) emissions has led to a better understanding of the accounting methodology. This effort will provide ways to collect the necessary data, and creation of the dataset foundation for the purposes of the American College and University President’s Climate Commitment (ACUPPC).

It is anticipated that the more comprehensive inventory, currently underway, will become the university’s baseline for referencing future changes in GHG emissions.

As a signatory to the ACUPPC, the U will submit an official emissions baseline by May 15, 2009. From that point forward, the U will submit a new inventory at minimum every other year. All official reports will be submitted through the ACUPPC online reporting tool, and will be publicly available for review at that Web site, http://acupcc.aashe.org/

What plans are in place for LEED certification of university buildings?

The U’s goal for all new buildings constructed is LEED Silver. At a minimum, all new buildings at the U subscribe to the high energy building standard set by the state. You may view the state’s energy design standards at http://dfcm.utah.gov/energyEff/energyDesignStand.html

What are the U and Salt Lake City doing to make sure the Universe Project and the “edge plans” of the community are well coordinated? Will the communities’ edge plans be updated as part of the city’s process?

Salt Lake City Director of Community and Economic Development Frank Gray said this most likely will happen, but the city is looking into major cutbacks, so projects may take longer than expected to get underway and/or be completed.

Are construction vehicles included in the impact studies on transportation?

Traffic impact studies focus primarily on how a completed project will affect vehicular movement. Traffic management during construction is typically focused at the construction site. This is a great question as it asks how construction activity will impact the neighborhoods and surrounding roads during construction. As a result of this feedback, university project managers will be instructed to assess and determine mitigation efforts for all projects.
The University of Utah (U) is focusing on quality, not just quantity, of open space. * For more detail about these projects, please see handout at http://www.unews.utah.edu/static/neighbors-pdf/2009_Annual_MeetingIndex.pdf or call Facilities Management at (801) 581-6510.

The Campus Master Plan, a 25-year planning document, does not anticipate building on current parking lots.

Regardless of policy, the U has been and will continue to receive public concerns and questions at any time for any issue (project or non-project). Please feel free to contact the Office of Public Relations at 801-385-9244 for non-project issues and the Office of Facilities Planning at 801-585-6751 for construction projects.

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Is the University of Utah (U) anticipating building on the campus or the parking lots in Research Park?

The Campus Master Plan, a 25-year planning document, does not anticipate building on current parking lots.

OVERVIEW OF PROJECTS (AS DISCUSSED AT ANNUAL MEETING)

The construction projects presented to the state legislature were online at http://www.unews.utah.edu/action-neighbors for about a month and a half prior to the annual meeting. These were put on the Web early to allow the community to voice concerns or ask questions prior to the annual meeting. Facilities Management had not received any comments as of the date of the annual meeting.

The campus master plan presentation at the Web site http://campusmasterplan.utah.edu shows the open space, green space, and recreational space that will be maintained with future development. It is important to remember that the university is focusing on quality, not just quantity, of open space.

- **Ambulatory Care Complex & Women’s Life Center**
  Most of the ambulatory services to be housed in the Ambulatory Care Complex (ACC) are supported in about 66,000 net square feet of assigned space in the School of Medicine Building (Building 521). Some other services could relocate from leased sites in Research Park or space presently assigned in the University Hospital.

- **The Beverly Taylor Sorenson Arts and Education Complex**
  The existing Virginia Tanner Dance / Children’s Dance Theater (VTD/CDT) building of 7,600 NSF, has barriers to accessibility. The costumes are exposed to water, fire, and environmental hazards. The technical system is inadequate. Given limitations on space, VTD/CDT typically has greater demand for classes than availability. Faculty and staff must share workspaces and class preparation areas. Tanner Dance currently has until the summer of 2009 to create new space for their programs pending the demolition of their present structure to accommodate the proposed Student Life Center.

  - **David Eccles School of Business Replacement & Expansion**
    The David Eccles School of Business is undersized in 44,009 net square feet of existing space spread among three older buildings: originally constructed in the 1960s along with the 19,735 NSF C. Roland Christensen Center (CRCC) which was constructed in 2000. The CRCC building provides up-to-date spaces more in line with what the school needs, but is already operating at capacity. When the 1960s buildings were constructed, the school’s enrollment was half the amount of today. This project is needed for the school to function properly, fulfill its mission, and accommodate new centers and programs.

  - **Kennecott Building Renovation Phase 1**
    A preliminary study prepared in May 2007 concluded that the Kennecott Building did not have the structural capacity to withstand a seismic event of the magnitude anticipated by current building code. It was also recognized that existing life safety systems, windows, the elevator, mechanical and electrical systems—although in some instances recently upgraded—were, in many cases, in need of significant modernization or replacement. A 2008 feasibility report analyzed whether the cost of upgrading the multiple systems within the building as part of a major remodel could be justified when compared to the cost of new construction. A significant factor affecting feasibility is the quality of space obtainable by remodeling. It was determined that quality office and lab space relatively comparable to that achievable with a new building can be realized with the renovation of the existing structure. It was also determined that the renovated building will have a projected useful life equal to that of a new building.

  - **L.S. Skaggs Pharmacy Research Building**
    College of Pharmacy faculty and research programs are currently housed in six buildings, four of which are in Research Park (RP), totaling 110,161 assignable square feet. The RP buildings are separated from the two Health Sciences Center buildings by nearly a mile, making communication and collaboration among faculty, students and staff extremely difficult. Funding will enable consolidation of research programs, thereby enhancing interactions that will lead to the development of collaborative projects, expanded grant and contract support, and the creation of new spin-off companies. The existing L. S. Skaggs Building is obsolete in terms of its ability to adequately support the vast lab research efforts of the College of Pharmacy faculty. The building will be renovated into an office and computational research facility, along with additional education support space.

  - **Meldrum Civil Engineering Building**
    The project will be an addition of 10,000 square feet to the EMRL building. The new space will consist of new student activity space, faculty offices, state-of-the-art design/build studio and department administrative and advising offices. The addition will be added to the north and west faces of the EMRL building. The south entrance of the building (500-square-foot foyer) will be remodeled as an additional student organization and study area. There is no demolition of major elements for this project. The new project will also be used to seismically strengthen the existing EMRL building. This will require special knowledge by the design team and the constructors of the existing lateral load carrying capacity of the building and balancing of the shear center of the new construction. Since the existing EMRL building has exterior hallways, nearly all the construction will be usable office, studio or study space.

  - **South Campus Housing Phase I**
    Over the past three years, occupancy rates for the undergraduate halls have continued to increase until 2008 when there was a waiting list after opening. In 2006 and 2007 wait lists were also developed over the summer, but those remaining on the list were able to be accommodated shortly after the residence halls opened. In 2008, waiting lists were developed earlier in the summer and continued after opening. Students were placed in temporary housing until permanent assignments could be identified through attrition. This project will consist of two apartment buildings built contiguous to each other for a total of approximately 88,600 net square feet. One of the facilities will provide space for administrative offices as well as multi-purpose space for special activities and meetings, a central desk and mailing center, convenience store/cafes, estimated at 26,000 square feet.

  - **Universe Project**
    The concept for the Universe Project (UP) is to create a vibrant campus entry containing commercial, retail, and housing opportunities that promote a high energy Transit Oriented Development while contributing positively to the University of Utah and surrounding neighborhood communities. Developer-owned improvements will be part of the high quality, mixed use, development along with university-owned improvements.

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What about the anti-idling campaign? Is this enforced on campus?

The U hasn’t officially adopted an anti-idling program. Commuter Services has posted “no idling” signs where the UTA buses lay over in the business loop and has tried—with limited success—to reduce it’s shuttle bus idle times. In the winter, however, it is difficult to re-start the shuttles and in the summer people complain when the A/C is turned off. There are policies on campus that require vehicle motors be turned off at loading docks and locations near buildings.

An anti-idling program for the U is a good suggestion and will be considered.

Sunnyside and 23rd East is a choke point. What is the U doing to help ease this traffic congested area?

Please refer to the Foothill Corridor Corridor Study at this site: http://www.wfcc.org/cms/foothill/.

What will happen to the Huntsman Center when the annex is demolished and new housing is developed?

The Jon M. Huntsman Center will continue to operate as it does today. The U is looking into the opportunity for structured parking underneath a new student housing complex that would be built at the annex site, funding permitting. Also available is the LDS Institute parking structure south of the Huntsman Sports Arena.

Why does the public only have 20 days to send in their issues/concerns about a project, especially if the impacts of the project have not been made public yet?

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Will the Technical Committee meetings that the U and Salt Lake City are setting up be noticed to the community so the public can attend?

Frank Gray said that these are government-to-government meetings and are not public, but agendas will most likely be posted on the city’s Web site so people can contact city representatives in advance of the meetings.

What about traffic issues during the construction of the new Utah Museum of Natural History?

Traffic to date does not appear to have been a problem at the UMNH construction site. The museum Web site (http://www.umnh.utah.edu/trails) provides construction updates, including impacts to the trail system. General and specific questions about this project can be directed to the project manager by clicking on the “Email Your Question or Comment” link on this Web page.

Is the University of Utah (U) anticipating building on the parking lots in Research Park?

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