NOTES FROM OCTOBER 24 COMMUNITY FORUM MEETING

Welcome
Corale Aller, Executive Director, Public Relations

Corale welcomed everyone and thanked them for their participation in the meeting. She encouraged those in attendance to share information discussed at the meeting and invite others to attend future meetings to ensure good neighborhood representation. The agenda items are created during a conference call which includes neighbors and University and Salt Lake City representatives. The goal is to include items of significance to the neighbors. The communication has improved, but more neighbor representation is important. The U is always looking for more names to add to the mailing lists.

A neighbor in attendance recommended an announcement of the meeting be added to each of the community Web sites.

ARUP
David Jackson, ARUP

David provided some information about ARUP, which was founded in 1984 as part of the pathology department at the U. ARUP has grown into a large complex in Research Park. The company is wholly owned by the University of Utah. When the company began, 100% of their workload was for the U. Currently only 11% of the work is for the U: the rest are clients, many of them out-of-state. ARUP serves 25,000 patients a day and they are open every day of the year. ARUP has approximately 1,900 employees. They also have labs at the U Hospital, Huntsman Cancer Institute and Madsen Health Center.

ARUP wants to be a good neighbor and be environmentally sound. They are changing over their landscaping to xeriscaping. Employees receive a pass to ride TRAX for free and there is also a shuttle from TRAX to ARUP. Approximately 60 ARUP employees take TRAX every day. ARUP also encourages bicycle riding.

ARUP has grown every year since their founding and the growth is expected to continue. They are looking at alternatives for expansion, but the offices must be nearby because many of their employees work and teach at the U. The plan is to get the administrative offices into another building and keep testing labs together. Their expected future growth includes 300 new employees, most likely evening and night employees.

Mike Perez added that the Campus Master Plan will include an analysis of Research Park and ARUP.

Neighbors asked if ARUP provides incentives for employees to use TRAX. Although ARUP does not provide incentives they try to provide flexible starting times to accommodate the bus and TRAX schedule. And they are considering buying back employee parking passes. They do provide incentives for night shifts.

Neighbors asked how many of their board of directors are University of Utah employees? The board of directors are advisors for the company. Five of their 9 members are from the U. The CEO of the company reports to President Young and directly to Larry Bels.

Stadium Noise
Norm Chambers, Assistant Vice President, Auxiliary Services
Mark Burk, Director, Stadium and Arena Event Services
Mike Halligan, Associate Director, Environmental Health and Safety
Aaron White, Manager, Facility and Event Services

Norm asked for input from the neighbors about the stadium noise. A neighbor read a letter addressing the stadium noise issue. The letter outlined neighbors’ concerns regarding the noise, especially during soccer games. The neighbors also noted that the noise seems
March 2006, and there have been a total of 4 meetings. At the July meeting, the U announced that plans were in the works to develop a Campus Master Plan in 2007. Some of the neighbors mentioned this would be a great opportunity for the City, UDOT, and UTA to coordinate with the U. They mentioned that they would like to see the East Bench Master Plan updated and a transportation study done on foothill Boulevard. A subgroup, consisting of the U, Salt Lake City, UDOT, UTA and the WFC, met in September and is currently working to launch a foothill Traffic/Transporation Study, in conjunction with the U’s Campus Master Plan.

Field hockey studies/Transportation Study
Tim Harpest, Director, Salt Lake Transportation

Tim built on the information provided by Norman Chambers. To conduct the study and update the city plan, UDOT has agreed to provide $50,000, as long as their concerns about the congestion at the south end of foothill are addressed. The U committed $300,000, UTA committed $50,000 and the city council recently submitted a $10,000 budget request. They will first find out in December if the request is approved. Approximately $20,000 is needed to update the land use element along foothills. The planning division recommended that the area along foothill be updated but noted that the master plan is pretty good. The update will look at potential growth and consideration for zoning changes, etc. And $50,000 would be used for the transit study. If funding is approved, the job will go out to bid in January.

The neighbors asked what they could do to help get the funding approved. Tim said to write letters of support to council members. There would most likely be a city hearing in mid-December.

The neighbors expressed appreciation for how much the city planners do. They recently hired an architect for the project, and if things go well, the project will be open to the public. The area will be free for visitors and Sarah reminded the group that the museum offers free admission the first Monday of every month.

The museum’s visitation is approximately 75,000 a year. She noted that it is currently done with 12 parking spaces. Their outreach number, which includes their traveling exhibits, is 250,000 a year. Approximately 18,000 a year are school groups, but they took a huge hit this year in this area because of the price of gas for the school buses.

The neighborhood expressed appreciation for how much the city planners do. They are in the very early stages of this project and 2013 is the target date for opening.

David Eccles School of Business
Bill Bilbergcky, Campus Design & Construction

The majority of the School of Business buildings were built in the 1950s and 1960s, before there were strict seismic guidelines. In the late 1990s, the CRCG building was built for the School of Business, more specifically for the executive MBA courses which are mainly evening courses. The older buildings have some major issues. The business classroom building only has men and women’s restrooms on every other floor and the only elevator accessible for the buildings is in KQDB which is connected to the business classroom building by a bridge. Unfortunately this bridge would come down in an earthquake. Also, the brick on the building is not reinforced.

The addition to the school will likely be 60,000 square feet but there will not be an increase in student or faculty load. The business school will gain additional space because the economics department will be moving out of the building. They are in the very early stages of this project and there are many options.

The timeline for this project has yet to be determined. Last fall, they announced a major donation, and the total project will cost $42 million. They are currently hiring an architect for the project, and if things go well construction could start next fall.

University of Utah - Campus Master Plan
Mike Perez, Associate Vice President, Administrative Services, Facilities Management

Currently, the U is in the process of interviewing consultants for a comprehensive campus master plan. A consultant should be under contract before the end of the calendar year. The steering committee on this project is the President’s Cabinet.

The master plan, like an umbrella, will consider all campus projects. Academic strategies and visions will be taken into consideration. The plan will include Research Park and will look at the Fort Douglas area. Traffic impact and housing is another component of the plan, it will be a yearlong project. The funding is in place. The stakeholders have been identified and include the school, the community, Salt Lake City, UDOT, and more. In the January meeting the U should announce the firm and the start of the project.

This will be a thorough process and will involve the community. The U would like neighbors to provide input. Work sessions between the U and the community are anticipated. The U will work with the neighbors to determine the best way to collect and manage input.

Discussion of next Agenda

Agenda items to include:
- Stadium Noise
- Campus Master Plan
- Review of Campus Projects

CAMPUS EVENTS

November 10 - Veterans’ Day Commemoration. The public is invited. For more information: http://www.veteransday.utah.edu/

November 16 - 19 - "Untowne" The winner of three Tony Awards, Untowne tells of greed, love, and revolution. Water has become so scarce that a monopolistic corporation controls the town’s public amenities. Destitute citizens are assessed massive taxes and fines for their most private and basic of needs. Finally, a hero rises to lead his fellow citizens against the tyrannical regime. For more information: http://www.theatregroup.utah.edu/calendar_current/calendar.html

December 23- 24 - Thanksgiving Break.

December 25 - University of Utah football game vs. Brigham Young University at Rice Eccles Stadium.

December 8 - University of Utah Gymnastics: Red Rock Preview at Jon M. Huntsman Center.

For more events listings go to: http://www.events.utah.edu/.