

Skyline College Open Forum: Update on Site Improvements April 23, 2009

Overview of the site plan and Open Forum agenda: Vicki Morrow

Vicki Morrow gave an overview of the site plan and the Open Forum agenda. Site work projects will begin in summer 2009.

1. Central campus areas: quads between Buildings 1 and 2, 2 and 3, 3 and 4N, and 7 and 8, and the walkway between Buildings 2 and 5
2. Gateways at College Drive and Sharp Park
3. Parking and bus access
4. Wayfinding signage

Landscaping Plan: David Gates, David Gates & Associates

1. Existing trees
2. Guiding principles used in selecting the new trees, shrubs and ground covers
3. Overview of the landscaping plan

Discussion:

- Donna Bestock asked about ADA access to Building 8 from the quad during landscaping project. David said access to Building 8 will be through Building 7 elevator.
- Jose Nuñez asked if the bamboo used as a screen between Buildings 4 and 5 will handle the marine temperatures. David said bamboo is a hardy and sustainable plant, although it is aggressive and will need to be contained.
- Mike Williamson was concerned that trees will block the corridor between Buildings 6 and 7, but David said there will be circulation in this area.
- Barbara Daley asked if the bamboo will grow to the levels of the second floor windows in the library and block the extensive views from the library. David said the bamboo will level out at 12-15 feet and will block the views of the parking lot but not the vistas.
- Carolyn Livengood, who resides in the area, has not had problems with horticulture here. David wants top performing shrubs and they are picking the top 10% of those that will grow well in this area. They did driving tours of the neighborhood to see what is growing well. Shrubs will be colorful and drought tolerant.
- Joe Morello expressed a concern about the maintenance level of the shrubs and trees. David said the shrubs/trees should not be shaped and will need normal maintenance. The shape of the plant will be as it is when placed.
- Barbara noted that there is a butterfly that has its habitat near the college. David said the ground plants selected will be attractive to them.

Parking Plan: Glenn Claycomb

1. Overall increase in spaces, short term and long term
2. Renaming lots with letters, sequentially around the campus
3. Student parking
4. Staff parking
5. Disabled access parking and Redi-Wheels
6. Visitor parking

Discussion:

- Parking lots will no longer have numerical designations, but alphabetical. Kathy Fitzpatrick suggested renaming Lot I East and Lot I North to Lots J and K respectively. It will cut down on the confusion and reduce the need for larger signage. The architects liked the suggestion.
- Carolyn asked if the current signage that Skyline just got will remain and Glenn Claycomb said a lot of it will be retained and the color scheme will stay the same. The signs will change according to new information and wayfinding.
- Carolyn asked if handicapped parking will be reduced and Glenn said there will be more than is required by the ADA and it will be as close-in to the campus as possible.
- Jose said Lot 8 has no ADA requirement so they will look into it.
- Vicki Morrow would like more parking for staff in Building 1.
- Mike asked if it is possible to plan ahead and install electrical charging stations and carpool parking. Glenn liked the idea and Tina said Building 4 is a lead project so some parking near the building will be designated as carpool and alternative fuel parking. The rest will be based on what the district wants to do in the future.
- Julene Rhoan suggested that those drivers using the electrical terminals could buy the power from the college instead of paying for a parking permit.

Construction Logistics Plan: Ed Westland and Owen Olson

1. Review of the timeline for the work described above
2. Impact on college events and activities and the mitigating measures required to minimize the impact:
 - a. Rerouting of traffic and parking
 - b. Children's Center access
 - c. Bus Routes
 - d. Night time lighting, control of dust and debris

Discussion:

Construction noise

- Regina Stanback-Stroud is concerned about noise in the quad construction area, so they have talked about moving classes over to Pac Heights. There will now be construction of a parking lot and an accessible path around Lot I near Pac Heights and Regina is concerned about noise there. Contractor parking will be in the overflow lot behind Lot I North and they have to keep some parking open for Pac

Heights. Ed said the majority of construction in Lot I will be done during the first week of June and Lot I East will be done during the first week of July. Owen said it is machinery noise. Donna asked if they can reduce noise during finals week and Ed said they can back off work during that time. Cabinet will work with Swinerton on the problem.

Parking

- Julene asked if parking construction will be done in phases and Ed said it will and they will work with Glenn on doing staff parking in phases. Glenn said there will be an increase of about 250 parking spaces, including those in the new Lot 10 by the time construction is finished.

Accessibility

- Rakefet Avramovitz asked that access to Building 2 be made obvious for students who are entering campus.
- Joe is concerned about accessibility to Buildings 1 and 2 from the quad during construction. Ed said they are developing interim paths for people in other buildings. They will work with staff, Cabinet and DSPS on the routes.
- Joe said there will be children on campus over the summer for some of the P.E. programs and he will work with Ed on that routing situation.
- Joe would like to have a T-crossing between Buildings 2 and 3 so people do not have to go out to the parking lot just to walk around construction between the buildings. Jose said the flow of pedestrian traffic has to be maintained and they will look at it.
- Kevin Chak asked if there will still be access to the loading docks for Buildings 5 and 6 when construction on Lot I takes place. Ed said it will be similar to the current access.

Loop Road safety

- Rakefet asked if sidewalk access around the campus will be improved since currently there are parts of the Loop Road which do not have sidewalks. Jose said it will be discussed.
- Judy Heldberg asked if speed bumps can be installed around the Child Care Center. Ed said the road will curve in that area and will prevent some of the speeding. Jose said special consideration is being taken in that area. Tina said there are 10 bollards at the curve of the Loop Road nearest the Child Care Center which will help.

Signage and Communication

- Jude Navari asked how signage will aid those coming to Skyline's Main Theatre for cultural events, particularly at night. Vicki said Lot 1 does not provide easy access to the theatre and Lot 3 is the straightest shot. Signage will be worked on and they will need to have theatre routing signage throughout the campus.
- Carolyn said campus signage is not very visible for drivers. Too much is written on the signs and drivers cannot read the information. Her concern will be brought up to the Signage Committee.

- Carolyn offered to communicate information on construction in her column and Ed will work directly with her on it.

Designated smoking areas, enforcement, communication and signage

- Jude is concerned about smoking in the loading docks and asked how the new smoking policy will be enforced in alcove areas close to the buildings. Lori talked about the policy, which will go into effect in fall 2009. Smoking will be in designated areas in the parking lots. Richard Inokuchi and Mike Celeste have walked the campus and made smoking area recommendations within the lots. Vicki said the policy pushes smoking out to the lots, but not everywhere in the lots because other things take place too. The loading docks are not to be designated smoking areas.
- Enforcement during the first year will be non-aggressive and focus on policy awareness, educational awareness and communication and signage. Enforcement will be sterner during the second year.
- Communication and signage will be addressed immediately and temporary A-frame signs will be posted by May. Permanent signage will be done after the site work is completed.
- Ashtrays: There will be spots in the lots where the ashtrays will go. Lori said the ashtrays which are in the wrong places will be moved. Jose does not think ashtrays should be removed all over campus and does not want to isolate smokers without providing comfort. Mike suggests building it into Lot I to see what it will look like in terms of ashtrays and signage.

Construction-general

- Carolyn asked if the construction will provide jobs for those in need and Jose said it is under a project labor agreement.