

University of Washington Campus Master Plan October 25, 2016 Online Open House – Summary

Background

The 2018 Seattle Campus Master Plan (CMP) provides the framework for the University of Washington's future campus development. Progressive and sustainable, it balances the preservation of the core campus with the need to accommodate increasing density. The plan integrates the University's academic, research, and service missions with its capital plan objectives.

The University of Washington is offering multiple opportunities to learn about and comment on the Master Plan and its associated **Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)**, including in-person open houses, informal drop-in sessions and online open houses. The October 25 online open house included a review of the Draft CMP, an in-depth presentation on the Draft EIS, and provided opportunities for attendees to make comments and ask questions. Participants were connected by phone and Internet to view and hear the presentation, ask questions, and make comments. A recording of the session was posted to UW's YouTube Channel at https://youtu.be/BZQB5UfNNu8

Event Information

Host: University of Washington

Date & Time: Wednesday, October 25, 2016, 12 – 1 p.m.

Location: S&A Communications

Project Representatives

Theresa Doherty, University of Washington Julie Blakeslee, University of Washington Rich Schipanski, EA Engineering, Science, and Technology

Project Support

Chris Hoffman, Stepherson & Associates Communications Kate Reizner, Stepherson & Associates Communications

Event Overview

Twelve people tuned into the online open house, which lasted just under an hour. Participants listened to the project team through their phones and viewed the presentation on their computer screens. Theresa kicked off the presentation with an overview of the long-term master plan. Julie provided an explanation of the EIS, sharing information about campus sectors, and primary and secondary impact zones. Rich described the EIS alternatives, which are located in



Chapter 2 of the actual document. He described how there is 1 "no action alternative," and 5 other alternatives. He then went on to describe each alternative in detail. Theresa concluded the presentation with an explanation of how the public can comment and how comments are considered. Finally, the presenters took questions from participants.

Notification

The project team sent postcards to all 24,000+ addresses within roughly a one-mile radius of the central campus. Additionally, two email blasts were sent to a listserv of over 164,180 people. Finally, the team promoted the open house on social media via Facebook, Twitter and Nextdoor posts, print advertising in the Back to School and Game Daily issues of *The Daily*, articles in the *Seattle Daily Journal of Commerce* and *UW Today*, a press release that was distributed to more than 59 local and regional newsrooms, and interviews broadcast on KOMO Radio and KUOW. In addition, the open house was posted on the UW Seattle Campus Online Calendar, and more than 75 flyers were distributed around campus.

Additional opportunities to participate in the master planning and EIS process included:

Open House

Tuesday, October 18 Noon – 2 p.m. **Haggett Hall** Cascade Room University of Washington Campus

Open House

Thursday, October 20 7 – 9 p.m. **UW Tower** Mezzanine Auditorium 4333 Brooklyn Ave NE

Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) Online Open House

Tuesday, October 25 Noon – 1 p.m.

Sign up at: <u>tinyurl.com/UWSeattleCampus-</u>2018MasterPlanEIS

SEPA Public Hearing

Wednesday, October 26 6:30 – 9 p.m. **UW Tower** Mezzanine Auditorium 4333 Brooklyn Ave NE

Drop-in Office Hours Suzzallo Library Café

Wednesday, October 19, 1 - 3 p.m. University of Washington Campus

Café Allegro

Monday, October 24, 3 – 5 p.m. 4214 University Way NE Enter from the alley behind Magus Books

Post Alley Café

Wednesday, November 2, 2:30 – 4:30 p.m. 4507 Brooklyn Ave NE In the Hotel Deca



Questions and comments from the online open house:

- I see that there is a lot of development in the East Campus. But I am a birder and am concerned about any development that could occur in the wetlands of the Union Bay Natural Area. What development are you doing there and what are the impacts?
- There are a number of views from the campus like the one of Rainier Mountain. What impact will the development have on these views and are they being protected? Is there a list of view corridors that have to be studied?
- It looks like there is a significant amount of height increases in this plan. What impact does the height have on light, airs and views? Where is this analyzed?
- Does the UW have a "preferred plan" that is being studied in the EIS?
- Why did you pick the five alternatives that you did?
- What consultants did the UW hire for the EIS? Is there more than one and what are their qualifications?
- You mentioned "vacations" being part of this plan. What is a vacation and why are you suggesting that any of these taken place on the campus?
- I am concerned that it looks like all of the small businesses on the West Campus along Boat Street on Portage bay are gone with this plan. Is that the case?
- All of the development is going to happen on campus, but I have to believe there is going to be a lot of impact to the broader community. So why are you not studying the impact on the area outside of the campus boundaries?
- I am mostly concerned about transportation. Where can I find more information about what was analyzed on transportation for this plan?
- You listed all of the elements of the environment that you studied in the EIS but what about birds and the impact on them? Where would I find information on that issue?
- What does it mean to the "lead agency"?
- After watching this presentation and the earlier one about the plan, I know the comments need to be in by November 21st, but I want more time.



- You said in the presentation that there is another meeting tomorrow about the EIS. What happens there and should I go to the meeting to get my comments included?
- With regard to improved connections between U District Station and the Health Sciences Complex.