

Community Meeting Minutes

Garfield High School

February 21, 2004 / 9:00 a.m. / Garfield Library

Introductory Remarks

Don Gillmore provided the attendees with the purpose of today's meeting and reviewed the goals for the outcome of the meeting.

Project Questions

Tom Bates provided an overview of the project design. The following is the summary of input received regarding the plan and questions and answers concerning the project.

Q. What is the count of parking around the site?

A. Approximately 210 parking stalls planned.

Q. How many parking stalls currently?

A. Approximately 170 around and on site currently.

Q. Are we maintaining the existing diagonal parking on 25th?

A. Yes, we will be re-stripping it.

Q. Are we planning on diagonal parking on Alder?

A. Yes, we intend to extend it west on the north side of Alder, pending SDOT approval.

Comment: Current design is inconsiderate of those on 25th, as a result of the location of the shop and PE. Have concern regarding noise coming from these spaces to the residence across 25th.

Response: Don Gillmore noted that they were trying to refocus student activities to the plaza which would be on the west side of the addition. Regarding the interior noise from the shop and the PE complex, structures are being made with masonry walls, therefore noise transmissions should not occur from inside the buildings across the street. Additionally there is no parking lot for the shop and the auto shop storage area is walled in.

Q. Why can't the auto shop stay off campus where presently located?

A. Don Gillmore noted that it is desired by the school to put the auto shop on site to incorporate it with the rest of the school program. The auto shop program is a strong educational program.

Q. Parking lot south of Ezell's is it being considered to purchase the property?

A. Part of the area is Park's property and the other part which is private property we're not anticipating to buy as we don't have funds for site acquisition.

Q. Are there restrictions that can be imposed on the angled parking?

A. Don Gillmore noted that through the departures zoning process restrictions can be imposed by the departure committee as recommendations to DPD.

Comment: There are some parking areas east of 25th that are RPZ areas.

Q. How much flexibility in the program as it relates to current design?

A. Don Gillmore noted that the SDT has been working on the program for approximately a year and the school design team has provided significant input. Therefore the program is somewhat fixed regarding the current plan. Modifications to the program will need to be run through the board of directors.

Q. Does the north side of the gym actually have a pathway?

A. Tom Bates noted there would be a new covered and lit walkway to the north of the addition that would link 25th and the pool, and is just north of Jefferson.

Small Group Input

The attendees broke into two teams to provide input and the designers and the school district issues concerning pedestrian circulation on the school park site. The following is a report back of each of the two teams of the input recorded in the break-out sessions.

Team One

- Walk on the track after hours by the community
- Children able to play on the field or other public and community activities
- Improve Visibility
- Access from the south for maintenance in order to stay off of playfields and access to the building
- If lights are installed (not a consensus) limit the hours in use for the field
- All parking lots and pedestrian pathways to be lit at night
- Trash on field and areas spreading into the community can be prevented by placing trash receptacles at exits.

Q. When the facility is being rented, could the District encourage people to clean up or require a deposit to enforce clean up?

A. Don Gillmore noted that it could be possible.

Comment: The access issue for maintenance is really more going behind the portables not so much on the field.

- Provide variety and interest in the walk way areas with year round coloring from plants, artwork integrated into pedestrian walkway.
- Eliminate hidden alcoves.
- Provide exterior signage for pathways.
- Left turn from 23rd going south into Alder is a problem and parent drop-off is a concern.

Q. Is there an opportunity for art in public places?

A. We're considering use of the plaza to provide art and link with community center.

Comment: Playfield in building area needs to be enhanced.

Comment: Neighborhood discussion needed to bring others in for discussing community issues.

Comment: Parents may still do student drop-off based upon existing habits

- Place lockers at strategic points in the building to ease circulation to the outside of the building.
- Extend diagonal parking north on 25th street.
- Consider the curved wall at the track as an opportunity for art.

Q. Who will maintain artwork as artwork will fade over time and maintenance is a difficulty at the schools.

A. Murals would not be the answer for exterior artwork instead will look at a permanent solution such as ceramic tile insets or sculptures in concrete.

Comment: Would like to have community participate in the art and public places.

Comment: Need to ask the community to look at the corner of James and Boren brick mural at the Medical Center which is quite attractive and very permanent.

- Drop the height of the northeast corner of the addition at the auto shop or remove to make the façade lower possibly making symmetrical with Teen Life Center.

Comment: A lot of structure right up to the edge of the road creating a monolithic presence of the street, prefer keeping the auto shop at its current location or dropping down the height of the addition.

Comment: As a staff person, students need to be on campus as there is significant loss of time going to Washington Middle School for shop program. Look at Washington Middle School see how they maintain the appearance of their shop.

Comment: There is probably a cost issue for GHS to continue with the shop at Washington Middle School as an operational expense.

Comment: Request working on softening the east façade of the addition.

Comment: Don Gillmore noted that the auto shop integrates other disciplines and consequently needs to be close to the academic portion of the building.

Comment: As a member of SDT it was the only logical place to locate the auto shop in order for the whole project to work properly.

- Retain flag pole
- Provide outdoor volleyball for community
- Drop roof line at the auto shop
- Keep wall balanced and as low as possible

Q. Where will the reader board and marquee go for the auditorium?

A. This item needs community input.

Q. Where will the Teen Life reader board go?

A. Not sure needs to be studied further.

Q. What is the relationship of materials of existing building in the addition?

A. Landmarks requirement need to be sympathetic but not mimic the existing historic materials will be masonry.

Team Two

- Doors at south end at Alder should be for exit only and not an entrance after start of school time.
- Relocate the metro bus stop south of Alder on 23rd instead of having it in front of the high school.
- Extend or add the walkways along the south end of the pool all the way to 23rd from the north side of the new gym walkway.
- Add a walkway to the south from the entry walkway at 23rd.

Q. Is there access for disability at exit only doors?

A. Staff has concerns about security during the day and it's common practice to lock doors so it forces only one entry point into the school.

Comment: Remember the high school campus and need for security during the day to be balanced with community and walkways.

- Provide safe connections from 23rd to 25th that are observable by the police when driving by.

Comment: When Jefferson was vacated it was to be made for pedestrian access.

Comment: Need walkway because of night time concerns.

Comment: Like walkways away from auto traffic.

Comment: Key issue was heavy traffic thru south of pool and need to accommodate movement.

- Provide lighting on pathways and on buildings at every walkway area. Keep lighting on and make vandal resistant. Lighting was great when old lighting was installed; however, it did not last long.

Comment: Crime prevention input is needed on the design.

- Provide pathways that can be seen; install visual site lines.
- Concern over off-hours pedestrian activities providing security.
- Add more parking at 23rd and Jefferson.
- Maintain landscaping properly for good security and visibility.
- Keep track access similar to current situation.
- Look at possible parking under bleachers or put athletic equipment under bleachers, use the space under bleachers.
- Bike access is not a real high priority in design.

Q. If equipment house on the field is a donation can we re-use it?

A. Architect to review ability for re-use.

Robert Stevens provided a presentation regarding the central area plan. Ted Divina, City Of Seattle, noted that the central area plan is in process and gave an update. Mr. Stevens noted that there are openings available on the Central Area Stewardship Team which meets 2nd Thursday of the month at: 500 33rd Avenue, Central Area Senior Citizen Center. Mr. Stevens handed out a draft of Central Area Utilization Plan which was developed by himself for community review and input. Any comments forward to rrohwer@heery.com. Meeting concluded at approximately noon.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at approximately 12:00 p.m.

The preceding Minutes are the Construction Manager's interpretation of the items discussed and decisions reached at the above referenced meeting. Any persons desiring to add to or otherwise change the Minutes are asked to put their comments in writing to the Construction Manager not later than **March 05, 2004**; otherwise, the Minutes will stand as written.

The preceding Minutes were prepared by Ralph Rohwer, Project Manager.