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Comment Summary

Project: Washington Park Arboretum

Environmental Education Center

Pre-Design Study

Subject: Public Meeting

Project #: 1820700

Date/Time: 12/5/18 6:30-8pm Location: Wisteria Hall

Submitted by: Leah Davis

General Comments		
Washington Park Arboretum is a sanctuary which should be preserved.		
Concern was expressed about the addition of so many parking spots.		
Retaining the natural feel of the Arboretum is an important consideration.		
Minimizing the impact to green space and air quality is a priority.		
The donated plant nursery locations for all options are very good.		
Please honor the fenceline with adjacent Broadmoor.		

Option 1: Duck Bay		
Overall comments	The Duck Bay option is the preferred option.	
	The Duck Bay option is preferred because it has the lowest impact to existing trees.	
	The Duck Bay option not honest about its impact.	
	The Duck Bay option has too large an impact and is too large.	
	The campus-like environment of the Duck Bay option is preferred.	
Building	This option provides a great entry experience.	
	Take care that the café not be too popular.	
	Reducing the overall building impact into the park is preferred.	
	Potential views make this option superior.	
	Tucking the building into the hillside reduces the overall size and impact of the building.	
	Duck Bay building layout is preferred.	
	Consider less angular buildings.	
	The building turns its back to the Arboretum.	



Washington Park Arboretum Predesign Study – Public Meeting Notes

Duck Bay - Continued	
	Solar orientation for this option is preferred.
	The sheltered learning area is a great part of this scheme.
	Clustering the parking and buildings is preferred.
	Clustering of the Graham Visitor Center and new Environmental Education Center is preferred.
	View from Duck Bay scheme would increase safety of parking lots north of site.
Maintenance Relocation	Maintenance building location may be a challenge.
Raingarden and Parking	A raingarden adjacent to parking area creates great educational opportunities for adults and children.
	Consider safety with pedestrian transition between Graham Visitor's Center and new Environmental Education Center.
	Consider connections between the parking lots North of Duck Bay and the new building.
	Parking options for the Duck Bay scheme seem in better scale than the other options.
Buses	Buses on Foster Island Dr. is not preferred.
	Offsite parking of buses is preferred.
	Parking buses on Foster Island Road reduces visual disruptions from the Park and all facilities.

Option 2: Linear		
Overall		
comments	Shared patio with Graham Visitor's Center is preferred.	
Building	Building Siting is not preferred.	
	Building would be surrounded by paving and is not preferred.	
	Building is too large.	
	Café is not sited well for grab and go.	
	Can the building be less prominent?	
	The linear option gets students closer to the environment.	
	Character of building is important.	
	Building to have great connections to trails.	
	Noise from children is difficult to coordinate with mixed programming.	
	Building near Graham Visitor's Center and trails a positive.	
	Building location is more intrusive.	
	Raingarden would be great for education of adults and children.	
Raingarden/		
Parking	Parking layout is bulky.	
	Transportation impact is concerning.	
Buses	Keep buses out of sight lines of park.	



Washington Park Arboretum Predesign Study – Public Meeting Notes

	Option 3: Meadow
Overall Comments	The meadow option is the preferred option.
	The meadow option is of concern because it has the most impact to existing trees.
	Consider putting the Graham Visitor's Center and Environmental Education Center closer together.
	Consider reducing impact to trees and landscape.
	The meadow option has too much paving and hard surfaces.
	The distance between Graham Visitor's Center and new Environmental Education Center will make coordination difficult. Transportation requirements taking more open space is not preferred.
	The meadow option expands development area which is not preferred.
Building	The meadow option building siting fits well into the surrounding landscape.
	The meadow option creates an immersive experience in the Park.
	Nestling the building into the landscape is preferred.
	Educational programming would have direct access to the meadow. Fiddleheads outdoor preschool would have closer access to building.
	Separation of café and Graham Visitor's Center may cause coordination issues.
	The building recedes into the landscape like the Olmsted vision. Separation of Environmental Education Center and Graham Visitor's Center great for kids programming.
	Consider using maintenance building for café instead.
	Pathways and building site less accessible for seniors at night.
	Maximum integration with nature is preferred.
Raingarden/ Parking	Concorn about Arborotum Dr. as turnaround
ruikilig	Concern about Arboretum Dr as turnaround. Concern about safety of seniors and others with bus parking in the parking lot.
	Circulation and signage is important for site orientation.
	Reduce parking and transportation footprint for this option.
Buses	Consider bus circulation changes to have bus door open onto meadow.
	Parking should be below grade. Bus parking too close to Graham Visitor's Center.

The above notes are Mithun's interpretation of the items discussed. If there are corrections, clarifications, or additions to these minutes, please send them to Mithun within seven calendar days, or submit them at the next meeting. Otherwise, these notes will be considered an accurate record of the meetings