City of Seattle - University of Washington
Community Advisory Committee

DRAFT Meeting Notes
Meeting # 127
September 10, 2013
UW Tower
4333 Brooklyn Avenue
Seattle, WA 98105
22nd Floor

Members and Alternates Present
Matt Fox  Kirsten Curry  Eric Larson
Daniel Kraus  Betty Swift  Heather Newman
Elaine King  Chris MacKenzie  Ashley Emery
Zac Eskenazi  Daniel Nguyen  Barbara Quinn
Jean Amick  Brett Froarker  Cory Crocker

Staff and Others Present
Steve Sheppard  Theresa Doherty
Brian Scott

(See sign-in sheet)

I. Welcome and Introductions
The meeting was opened by Steve Sheppard. The chair and co-chair indicated that they will not be present at the start of this meeting. Zack Eskenazi, our newly elected co-chair will be arriving later.

II. Approval of Agenda/Housekeeping
Mr. Sheppard informed the committee that since there was no quorum, the adoption of the agenda and the past minutes will be Postponed. Mr. Sheppard noted that there had been a request to add consideration of CUCAC comments to the EIS scoping period for the livability study, in order to allow for the committee to comment. There were no objections and the agenda was amended to include this issue.

III. Introduction to the Landscape and West Campus Design Framework
Theresa Doherty informed the Committee that Rebecca Barnes and Kristine Kenney were not available and that instead she would provide a brief introduction as well as an update on these two projects. Ms. Kenny will be available in November to provide a
Ms. Doherty stated that a Visioning Process preceded the development of Campus Master Plan that was passed in 2003. The Master Plan has no expiration date and will continue in force until the 3 million square feet of authorized development is exhausted. The two projects involved are being done under the adopted plan.

Michael Van Valkenburgh was hired as a consultant to do the Landscape Design Framework. The Landscape Design initiative is intended to articulate the clear vision for the University of Washington’s Seattle Landscape it will do so by reviewing existing policies, tools, current campus master plan as well as developing additional policies, practices and tools that will reflect the design landscape on campus, collect data on current uses, identify best practices, that demonstrates the values of the institution and the landscape to the institution.

Ms. Doherty informed the committee that Michael Van Valkenburgh or his associates will do a presentation to this committee in November to ask for input based on the information and data they have gathered through interviews with folks around campus and current document reviews related to the design framework.

The West Design Campus Design framework is a visioning project that will be looking at how the West Campus fits in the overall development of the University District. Currently, there is an RFQ to hire a consultant that will look at all the planning that is going on the University District, and they will also review the Campus Master Plan. This framework will create a strategic, flexible, and imaginable vision for the West Campus that reflects best available knowledge, addresses topics essential to the University academic planning and communicates appropriate expectations to the University, the community and interested public.

Ms. Doherty mentioned that Rebecca Barnes will come back to this committee to give an update and presentation early next year. She noted that no handouts are available at this time, but will be prior to the formal presentation.

Steve Sheppard provided the following summary questions on behalf of the committee to be provided to Rebecca Barnes and Kristine Kenney:

1. How will the past agreements with CUCAC to be informed of the pending removal of trees be recognized in the Landscape Design Framework.

2. What is the proposed role, if any, for CUCAC related to improving general actions under the framework.

3. What are the coverage goals and general policies for tree replacement.

4. Will the general canopy percentage coverage goals identified by the City be addressed in the plan.

IV. Update on the UDLP (University District Livability Partnership)

Mr. Brian Scott, planning and urban design consultant with the University District Livability Partnership provided an update on this effort to the committee. He noted that UDLP is a four-year initiative covers the area between Interstate 5 and 15th, and from Portage Bay to Ravenna that is a partnership including: 1) University District’s Chamber of Commerce, 2)
the University of Washington, 3) various City of Seattle departments, and 3) University District residences, businesses, social services and faith communities.

It has four key elements: a) Strategic Plan; b) Urban Design Framework; c) U District next; and d) Long-term partnership. The first three are complete, and we are now working on the development of the long-term partnership. This is the process of building working relationships. The current focus of the program is the development of an organization with sufficient staff work for the betterment of the U district in the coming years. The organization and its staff be primarily funded by the property assessments on the businesses in the area as well as the University.

Mr. Scott discussed to the committee the priorities for 2014 includes: funding, staffing, and launching the organizational structure; getting the business and retail strategies in place and begin actual recruitment of businesses and retail for the district; launching recommendations and construction mitigation due to Sound Transit construction; continue with youth employment and crime hotspots; and environmental impact studies. Mr. Scott informed the committee that all of the information and updates regarding this project is available on the website (http://udistrictlivabilitypartnership.org/)

Mr. Scott noted that the UDLP is launching its retail study to be conducted by Downtown Works. That study will focus on ways to attract businesses that provide more living-wage jobs. He also noted that they commencing the detailed planning for a Business Improvement Area (BIA) which will be the mechanism through which the property assessments will be levied. The current vision is to assess properties rather than businesses. He noted that in order to form a BIA a proactive support from two-thirds of those who would be assessed would be required.

V. Discussion of CUAC Comments to the UDLP Eis Scoping

Mr. Bader made a proposal to the committee to ask for an extension of the comment period concerning the possible scoping comment period for the EIS Scoping process for the propose U-District Urban Design Framework so that CUCAC can comment on the scoping for the EIS. Mr. Bader suggested on drafting a letter on behalf of this committee on a proposed EIS to be discussed at the next CUCAC meeting. After

Brief discussion the Committee directed its Chair to request such an extension and asked that Mr. Bader and the co-chairs draft a possible comment letter and requesting an extension of the comment period.

VI. Adjournment

No further business being before the Committee; the meeting was adjourned.