

## **Public Comment: 01/19/15 – 09/16/15**

33% of project completion: Project start-up up to public open house #2

Mysidewalk Comments:

### **What specific barriers have you experienced walking and biking around campus?**

**Susan Forrester:** Walking on the right edge of Lakeshore Path -. As a cyclist, pedestrians walking five abreast with their backs toward me is dangerous. As a pedestrian, cyclists approaching from behind don't always announce their presence. Change it so pedestrians walk along the left edge (opposite direction as bikes) so both groups can see each other coming!

### **What specific barriers have you experienced with transit on the UW campus?**

### **What do you think of a Memorial Union to Union South circulator?**

**Joel Cryer:** I personally would not make regular use of this -- I don't have to cross the full length of campus very often, and when I do I'm usually hoping for a western endpoint that's nearer to Lake Mendota.

### **How do you perceive the water quality of Lake Mendota?**

### **UW Faculty & Staff, this "Walking Meeting" question's for you!**

**Pamela Showman:** we all sit to much at our desks. This could be a new way of conducting business

### **In what ways do you engage with Lake Mendota?**

### **How important is it that UW-Madison be a leader in environmental sustainability?**

**UW-Madison 2015 Campus Master Plan Update:** Thanks Joel! Your student perspective and insights are important to the process. Do you have any suggestions for engaging the student population further? Understanding we are on summer break, but upon their return?

**Joel Cryer:** I have a couple suggestions:

1. For the in-person meetings: Have them on a range of nights, and publicize them widely well in advance. This combination is needed because even if a given student is normally free Thursdays, say, he or she may plan group work or the like for that night. If they make plans before hearing about a meeting the same night, they're apt to keep the preexisting commitment instead of rescheduling around the Plan meeting, even if the Master Plan meeting is important to them. As for the content of meetings, I went to one before the break and found it enjoyable and easy to contribute to, so no structural changes leap to mind.
2. For online contributions: This site works well. My one complaint thus far is that I can't find a way to submit a new idea of my own to this discussion specifically. I can reply to questions the UW's asked, and under my "profile" section I could submit something to the entire Madison area. But I haven't yet found a function to propose an idea to just the Master Plan discussion. Does that exist? Or would I email the Master Plan address instead?

**UW-Madison 2015 Campus Master Plan Update:** Joel, We agree with your comments on having a couple, well publicized meetings at key points in the process and will take that recommendation back to the consultant team. Your question about submitting new ideas has been passed along to 'mySidewalk'. In the interim you can utilize the master plan email address.

## **If you work in or visit the west campus (hospital area), where do you eat? Work out? Recreate? Hang out?**

**UW-Madison 2015 Campus Master Plan Update:** Thank you for your comment Dave! Out of curiosity, do you utilize the fields actively (sporting) or passively (sunning/picnicking)? Or strictly from an aesthetic point of view...an unobstructed-enjoyable view?

**Dave Benforado:** Both actually. My family likes to walk or cross country ski the green space, and bike around the perimeter either along the bikepath on the south edge or around University Bay Drive. Every now and then, we enjoy viewing a soccer or lacrosse game there. In all cases, it's the enjoyment of the natural aesthetic -- the vistas, real grass (sometimes damp after a rain), the quiet, the dark sky -- that collectively is a gem we should work hard to maintain for future generations, once it's gone, it's gone. Thank you. Dave Benforado, Shorewood Hills Village Trustee

**UW-Madison 2015 Campus Master Plan Update:** Well stated and used by the Benforado's...we appreciate the input.

## **What are the most distinctive physical characteristics of the UW-Madison campus?**

**Janet Mitchell:** I would love to see a map of these architectural "neighborhoods". I tend to agree with Jason. Maybe if I knew what the groupings were it would make more sense?

**UW-Madison 2015 Campus Master Plan Update:** UW-Madison campus design neighborhoods (page 36+) [http://www.cpd.fpm.wisc.edu/documents/Campus\\_Design\\_Guidelines.pdf](http://www.cpd.fpm.wisc.edu/documents/Campus_Design_Guidelines.pdf)

**Joel Cryer:** Having read in part the document with the campus neighborhoods, I read the common threads as appearing in use rather than architecture. But I don't see that as a problem at all; on the contrary, I love the architectural diversity of campus. I also like the fact that adjacent buildings mostly don't look the same. To me, it means the full range of campus architectural history is visible across all of campus, not segregated into different areas by stylistic era. (If this is repetitive of previous comments, I apologize; my computer isn't letting me expand some of the previous comments.)

## **Which UW-Madison traditions are your favorite?**

**Charlie Healy:** The Fifth Quarter. No better way to celebrate a Badger win and celebrate your UW pride!

## **If you live off-campus, how do you get to campus?**

## **Where are your favorite outdoor places on campus?**

**UW-Madison 2015 Campus Master Plan Update:** Good observation, we'll keep our ears open for other distinguishing campus sounds!

**Linda Zwicker:** Why, Nancy Nicholas Hall of course, especially the third floor roof terrace!

**Susan Hansen:** Allen Centennial Gardens--a quick and complete respite from campus life

## **When your friends or family visit campus, where do you take them?**

**Anonymous User:** Lakeshore Path, the WID, the Terrace, Bascom Hill.

Jake Haefner

**Jason Foster:** Memorial Union (primarily the Terrace), Bascom Hill, Library Mall, State Street, Union South, as a matter of course (and Camp Randall if that's why we're there). Then anywhere that's new/particularly interesting.

**Nancy McClements:** Terrace, State Street Mall, Library Mall, Allen Gardens, Babcock Hall, Memorial Library, Observatory Drive

## Where on campus could it be easier to walk?

**UW-Madison 2015 Campus Master Plan Update:** Thank you for your comments, we'll be looking specifically at the University Ave corridor and how to improve access and circulation, including the area around Mechanical Engineering and Material Science. Stay tuned for that information. We will not be addressing the Regent Street corridor, as that is outside the UW campus boundary and the 2015 Campus Master Plan Update process, but the recently completed 'Regent Street-South Campus Neighborhood Plan' offers some insight into how circulation is planned for this area (figure 5-14 specifically).

**Kat J:** Definitely crossing University from Biochemistry to get to Engineering Drive . It's very hard to see oncoming traffic on University Ave heading eastbound because the building on the corner (not sure what it's called. Google Maps marks it as US Naval ROTC) blocks the traffic and cars often run the light there. I've seen a lot of pedestrians almost get hit by cars. The lights are also poorly timed so you have to wait at each section to cross (about three different parts). Additionally, in the winter, the middle section is rarely plowed so it makes it more difficult to cross.

**Susan Hansen:** Agree--crossing University at Engineering is the most challenging for pedestrians as far as crossing traffic from multiple directions, bikes, and winter conditions multiply exponentially.

---

Other Comments:

**From:** Joel Cryer

**Sent:** Monday, July 13, 2015 6:26 PM

**To:** [masterplan@fpm.wisc.edu](mailto:masterplan@fpm.wisc.edu)

**Subject:** Some input on the Campus Master Plan

Hello!

I am an undergraduate student at UW-Madison. I've been actively involved in the Campus Master Plan process -- I attended the info session in the spring semester, and have occasionally offered comments on the "mySidewalk" site.

A while back on the mySidewalk Web page, I asked about submitting ideas that weren't in response to a question already on the site. The moderators of the page said I should just email the idea to this address.

I have a couple suggestions to offer:

1. I believe that student engagement in campus land use should be a priority in the Master Plan. By this I mean that there should be ways for student orgs and Residential Learning Communities to propose and undertake hands-on work in public areas of campus. It is true that there are spaces like Eagle Heights where student groups do such work already, but these tend to be out of the way -- the campus community at large will not see them unless they go looking for them.

I was interested in this possibility and the obstacles to it, so last fall I conducted an independent study through the GreenHouse RLC. I interviewed a range of people from FPM employees to longstanding student orgs such as the F.H. King Students for Sustainable Agriculture. From this, I determined that there is indeed student interest in hands-on work using campus land, and learned what some of the obstacles to that work

are. I made up a summary document describing the findings and suggesting a policy mechanism for expanded student involvement.

At the spring info session on the Campus Master Plan, I mentioned the independent study to one of the landscape architects present, Mary Jukuri of Smithgroup JJR. At her request, I emailed her the summary document with my findings. I did not hear back from her, so I have also attached that document to this email. I hope it is useful in the plan-writing process.

Since writing the recommendations in the summary document, I have thought of one more I would add -- namely, that some patches of land could be set aside in the Campus Master Plan for use in hands-on student activities. That would potentially simplify the administration of the system I propose. If this option is exercised, I would suggest scattering those patches of land throughout campus, as one of the key concerns of the student groups I talked to was making student land use projects very visible in daily life.

2. During the spring semester, I ran across an intriguing photo archive of past UW buildings (which is here: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/uwmadarchives/sets/72157642858156443>). It gave me an idea about how to carry this architectural history forward: Draw on campus buildings that no longer exist for inspiration when designing new ones. Along with maintaining the historic buildings that still stand, this would be a unique way for the campus to develop while recalling its past.

I don't know to what extent architectural specifics are decided in the Master Plan, so perhaps this isn't presently relevant. Still, I personally think it would be very cool if a new chem building, say, had a roofline inspired by the old University President's House, or the Old Boat House.

Thank you for your time, and for your willingness to consider student input throughout this process.

Sincerely,

Joel Cryer

P.S.: If you have any questions about the independent study, want contact info for the student groups I talked to, et cetera, don't hesitate to email me.