

New Entrance at College Road and University Avenue

To: Chancellor Joan K. Wadlow

From: John D. Craven, Chair
UAF Master Planning Committee

Date: January 15, 1999

Subject: Recommendations Related to UAF's New Entrance at College Road and University Avenue

Construction of the new entrance to UAF at the intersection of College Road and University Avenue (as recommended by the 1991 UAF Master Plan) is scheduled to begin in the spring of '99, with completion expected in the fall of '99 (as per statements by Facilities Services). However, it is the MPC's understanding that the contract provides for a construction period of up to two years. The contract was awarded to H&H Construction before the new Master Planning Committee was formed, so we are unaware of how the '91 Master Plan influenced decisions during the design phase. What is certain is that the existing design for the revised intersection at Taku and University Avenue and the new intersection at College Road and University Avenue will be built. Informative conversations with Steve Titus of Facilities Services about the designs and certain flexibility in the construction program and the MPC's interpretation of the spirit of the '91 Master Plan have led the MPC to formulate four recommendations related to this overall effort.

Recommendation

Certain flexibility exists within the construction program for the College Road entrance to UAF that will allow for the construction of earthen berms along the new entrance to aid in visual isolation of the physical plant areas as one enters the campus. This would focus more attention on the entrance and the approach to the academic areas. Facilities Services should be directed to prepare designs for these berms and for construction to take place as part of work on the intersection. Their designs should include delineation of what is attainable within the present DOT project and long-term plans for additional landscaping. The administration should identify funds to complete the landscaping if it can't be completed as part of the contractor's work.
[MPC recommendation "College 1/15/99/1"]

Recommendation

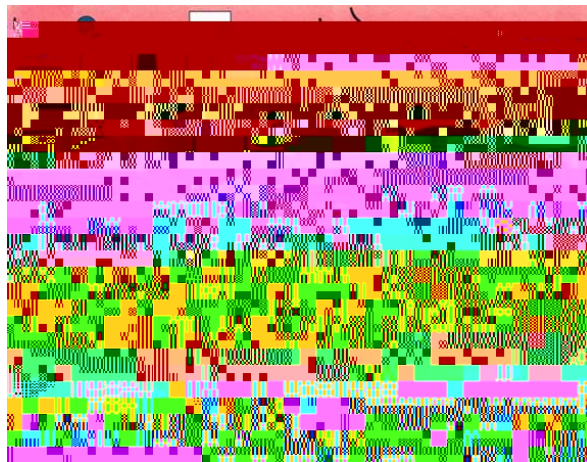
The MPC strongly supports, as part of the College Road entrance construction program, making provisions for the addition of a pull-out area along the north side of the entrance. A concept sketch is attached. This area would include a information center (in the future) and a large map of the campus. The UAF Alumni Association has expressed interest in partially funding this pull-out area and a lighted sign. The sign would include the UAF logo, time and temperature (to recover the community service once provided by the Key Bank), and possibly timely campus information (e.g., registration dates, athletic events). Design of the sign (concept sketch attached) could act as a prototype for all campus entrances. The area could also include provisions to support the campus and city bus systems, including a shelter and community service officer. The approach to the staircase would be improved. The breadth of this project could be enhanced by community involvement. The MPC is investigating the issue of the "arch" previously designed for this entrance. Facilities Services should be directed to prepare designs for the proposed pull-out area and sign and the inclusion of as much work as possible within limits of the existing construction contract, with the intended purpose of decreasing future expenses as the area is fully developed.
[MPC recommendation "College 1/15/99/2"]

Recommendation

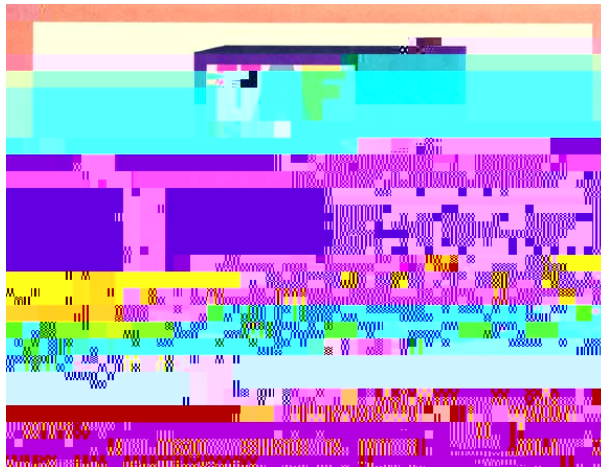
The '91 Master Plan identifies a pedestrian-friendly campus as a central theme of long-term planning. While the '91 plan does not provide specifics regarding many pedestrian-friendly issues, such as sidewalk width, the MPC feels that the current design and construction plan for the College Road entrance does not adequately meet the spirit of the plan. Although it is our understanding that the construction bid for the College Road entrance to UAF has

Attachments:

1. Concept sketch by Facilities Services of an entrance area at College Road and University Avenue as stimulated by the UAF Alumni Association.



2. Concept sketch by Facilities Services of a time and temperature sign for the entrance area at College Road and University Avenue as stimulated by the UAF Alumni Association.



3. Summary background information on ISTEA as provided by MPC member Mike Supkis.

ISTEA

18 January 1999

Information concerning ISTEA provided by Mike Supkis

I found a lot of stuff for ISTEA on the US DOT page, I cut and pasted this summary one of many projects FYI...as you can see MPC can encourage ADOT and UAF to advantage of some of this stuff.

The Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act (ISTEA) of 1991, reauthorized in 1997, makes dramatic changes in the way we view federal transportation funding.

intermodal service that transports freight from railroad cars in New York to a barge traveling to New Jersey. This service removes 54,000 truck trips annually from congested streets in New York City.

