

Land Use and Facilities Planning Committee
January 6th, 2026, at 2:00 PM
Planning, Design & Construction Division, 245 Gale Lemerand Drive

Members attending:

Angie Price, Marston Science Library
Carol Demas, Lecturer, Department of Mathematics
Cydney McGlothlin, Architect, Planning, Design & Construction
Jason Kruse, Associate Professor, Environmental Horticulture
Jay Watkins, Chair, School of Music
Joe Aufmuth, Associate University Librarian, LB-Government Documents
Lauren Grant, Lecturer, School of Business
Madeleine Thron, Student
Mark Leeps, Assistant, Journalism
Mark Rush, Professor, Department of Economics
Megan Forbes, Chair, English Language Institute
Nancy Chrystal-Green, AVP – Division of Student Life
Nina Stoyan-Rosenzweig, Coordinator, Health Affairs
Ronnie Cooper, Project Director, IFAS Facilities Planning
Sarah Erekson, Associate University Librarian, University Libraries
Sheri Kittelson, Clinical Professor & Division Chief, Medicine
Thomas Hawkins, Lecturer
William Smith, Assistant Athletic Director, University Athletic Association
Yang Lin, Soil and Water Science

Members not attending:

Ann Baird, Librarian, UF AFA Library
Brandi Renton, Vice President, Business Affairs
Chris Carlson, Associate Director, Environmental Health and Safety
Colt Little, VP for Construction, Facilities, and Real Estate
Forrest Eddleton, City of Gainesville
Gail Hansen De Chapman, Chair, Lakes, Vegetation & Landscaping Committee
Jessica Cooper, Extension Agent, Youth Development
Laura Dedenbach, Instructional Assistant Professor, Urban and Regional Planning
Margaret Fields, Associate Dean, Liberal Arts & Sciences
Mark Helms, AVP, Facility Services Division
Matthew Webster, AVP, Planning, Design & Construction
Nancy Clark, Associate Professor, School of Architecture
Pawel Petelewicz, Assistant Professor, Department of Agronomy
Richard Dolson, Student
Robert Dreasher, Student
Sarah Gamble, Lecturer, School of Architecture

Visitors attending:

Andrew Meeker, Planning, Design & Construction
Christina Perez, College of Dentistry
Jamie Lindsey, Planning, Design & Construction
Jessica Klutz, Alachua County
Jim Vignola, Planning, Design & Construction
Josh Vacca, Smith Group
Laura Scott, Planning, Design & Construction
Laurie Hall, NV5
Mike Castine, Alachua County BOCC
Rick Falcon, Planning, Design & Construction
Ronnie Cooper, IFAS Facilities
Tom Wannan, Hunt-Brady

CHAIR: Jay Watkins

CALL TO ORDER:

Jay Watkins called the meeting to order at 2:02 pm.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES:

Joe Aufmuth moved to approve the agenda and December minutes, Megan Forbes seconded.

Motions passed unanimously.

MINOR PROJECTS:

MP09584 Flavet Area Trails

PRESENTING: Andrew Meeker

Andrew Meeker presented the Flavet Area Trails project. Andrew reviewed plans for the trail to connect to the recently completed UF-681 Flavet Outdoor Recreation Complex project “Flavet Park”, and the forthcoming UF-705 Student Housing Development and the UF-708 Graham Woods Stormwater Improvements projects, and to surrounding areas of campus. The project will include a 12’ wide multi-use asphalt path encircling Flavet Field and feature a blue light phone, bicycle parking, stormwater infrastructure, lighting, and the current plan includes zero tree removal. The project is scheduled to be completed before the 2026 football season, with ongoing coordination for future trail phases.

The committee discussed fencing, erosion, location of the blue light phone and lighting for darker areas of the trail.

MAJOR PROJECTS:

UF-318 Dental Science Building

PRESENTING: Jim Vignola and Laurie Hall

Jim Vignola presented the UF-318 Dental Science Building project which is at the Design Development phase. This project has been on the UF Campus Master Plan for 10 years and is considered a gateway to the University due to its location. The building will be three stories and will support teaching, research and patient care. The project is pursuing Green Globes, 3 Globes Certification which is equivalent to LEED Gold.

Laurie Hall discussed the site plan, highlighting changes to pedestrian crossing, patient drop-off, and proposed improvements to pedestrian safety. She also presented the tree impact summary and parking mitigation plan. 132 bike parking spaces will be added.

A traffic study yielded recommendations for making pedestrian areas safer. Due to the grade change between Archer Road and the building entrance, retaining walls and terraced landscaping will be used for aesthetics and to mitigate safety. There will also be fencing between Archer Road and pedestrian walkways.

Jim noted that the parking garage elevator will be upgraded and the new entry sidewalk will be flattened to better accommodate patients and staff with disabilities. The new drop-off area will have an ADA-compliant parking space and queuing space for patients to be dropped off. There will also be more shuttles between the parking garage and the dental school. The traffic study analyzed the length of time between dropping a patient off and being able to park and return to the hospital and it was found to be good. There will be covered areas outside as well as an air-conditioned area in the lobby for patients to wait for transportation.

The committee discussed accessibility for both the dental school and the parking garage, pedestrian safety and traffic management during peak hours. The committee strongly supports moving the entrance to the loading dock to be further away from the patient drop-off to have a clearer separation between the two areas and to improve traffic flow. This is outside the scope of the existing project but is being investigated.

MOTION:

Joe Aufmuth made a motion to forward the project to the VP for Construction, Facilities and Real Estate with a recommendation to approve as presented.

Sarah Erekson seconded.

The motion passed unanimously.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Member Comments:

Sarah Erekson provided an update on the PK Yonge drop-off rerouting, which addressed and alleviated concerns about traffic buildup due to the PK Yonge gym project.

Public Comments:

None

Chair's Report: Jay Watkins

None

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 3:07 pm.