

Land Use and Facilities Planning Committee
March 3rd, 2026, at 2:00 PM
Planning, Design & Construction Division, 245 Gale Lemerand Drive

Members attending:

Angie Price, Marston Science Library
Ann Baird, Librarian, UF AFA Library
Carol Demas, Lecturer, Department of Mathematics
Forrest Eddleton, City of Gainesville
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
Margaret Fields, Associate Dean, Liberal Arts & Sciences
Mark Helms, AVP, Facility Services Division
Mark Rush, Professor, Department of Economics
Matthew Webster, AVP, Planning, Design & Construction
Nancy Chrystal-Green, AVP – Division of Student Life
Nina Stoyan-Rosenzweig, Coordinator, Health Affairs
Pawel Petelewicz, Assistant Professor, Department of Agronomy
Ronnie Cooper, Project Director, IFAS Facilities Planning
Sarah Erikson, Associate University Librarian, University Libraries
Sarah Gamble, Lecturer, School of Architecture
Sheri Kittelson, Clinical Professor & Division Chief, Medicine
Thomas Hawkins, Lecturer
William Smith, Assistant Athletic Director, University Athletic Association

Members not attending:

Brandi Renton, Vice President, Business Affairs
Chris Carlson, Associate Director, Environmental Health and Safety
Colt Little, VP for Construction, Facilities, and Real Estate
Cydney McGlothlin, Architect, Planning, Design & Construction
Gail Hansen De Chapman, Chair, Lakes, Vegetation & Landscaping Committee
Jessica Cooper, Extension Agent, Youth Development
Laura Dedenbach, Instructional Assistant Professor, Urban and Regional Planning
Madeleine Thron, Student
Mark Leeps, Assistant, Journalism
Megan Forbes, Chair, English Language Institute
Nancy Clark, Associate Professor, School of Architecture
Richard Dolson, Student
Robert Dreasher, Student
Yang Lin, Soil and Water Science

Visitors attending:

Cole Menhennett, NV5
Francisco Oquendo, Planning, Design & Construction
Jamie Lindsey, Planning, Design & Construction
Jessica Klutz, Alachua County
Kate Farmer, Planning, Design & Construction
Laura Scott, Planning, Design & Construction
Laurie Hall, NV5
Mike Castine, Alachua County
Rick Falcon, Planning, Design & Construction
Ross McClellan, RAMSA
Tom Feather, Planning, Design & Construction

CHAIR: Jay Watkins

CALL TO ORDER:

Jay Watkins called the meeting to order at 2:01 pm.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES:

Mark Rush moved to approve the February meeting minutes and the agenda with a recommendation to discuss the UF-708 project before the UF-705 project. Margaret Fields seconded.

Motions passed unanimously.

MINOR PROJECTS:

IF-24011 Microbiology and Cell Science Building

PRESENTING: Ronnie Cooper and Laurie Hall

Laurie presented the site plan for this building addition which is in the advanced schematic design phase. Updates are very minor and include plans to protect a Shumard Oak.

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. Mark Rush seconded.

The motion passed unanimously.

MAJOR PROJECTS:

UF-689 Hamilton Center

PRESENTING: Tom Feather and Laurie Hall

Tom and Laurie presented updates for the project which have already been reviewed by the Historic Buildings and Site committee. The project involves converting the infirmary building into the Hamilton Center for Classical and Civic Education. The building interior will be brought up to current standards. Laurie presented the site and landscape plan. There will be a new ground level entrance. The project is in keeping with the historic gothic architecture of this part of campus and is pursuing LEED Gold certification.

MOTION: Margaret Fields made a motion to forward the project to the VP for Construction, Facilities and Real Estate with a recommendation to approve as presented. Jason Kuse seconded.

The motion passed unanimously.

UF-708 Graham Stormwater Improvements

PRESENTING: Kate Farmer

Kate presented a project overview. She discussed the current state of 15 stormwater pipes entering Graham Woods and highlighted the results of a species study conducted in April 2025, which found no listed species in the area. She clarified that the St. Johns Water Management district determined that Graham Pond is not a wetland. There is extensive erosion which is negatively impacting Lake Alice and makes some areas unstable and unsafe. The project aims to address this erosion and improve water quality in Lake Alice. The project saves as many heritage trees as possible, includes a plan to replant 447 trees and will remove exotic invasive species from the area and replant with native Florida vegetation. The project will reduce nitrogen and phosphorus in keeping with Florida's Clean Waterways Act and by reducing erosion it will protect vegetation and improve water quality. Facilities Services will maintain the area and has indicated their approval of the project. The project is modeled after similar projects at Depot Park and Sweetwater.

The committee discussed the housing project water feature which will use water from Graham Woods and the need for conservation areas versus recreational trails. The committee will forward e-mails from the Sierra Club about a tree-first alternative to PD&C and NV5. The committee would like to know of any modifications proposed by the Lakes, Vegetation and Landscaping committee.

MOTION: Margaret Fields made a motion to forward the project to the VP for Construction, Facilities and Real Estate with a recommendation to approve contingent upon approval by the Lakes, Vegetation and Landscaping committee. Jason Kruse seconded.

The motion passed by a majority vote.

UF-705 Student Housing & Disability Resource Center (DRC)

PRESENTING: Kate Farmer

Kate presented the UF-705 Student Housing & Disability Resource Center (DRC) project which includes four buildings and will house 2,200 students. The project is in the design development phase and the schematic design was approved in October. Additional trees will be preserved. The project will be delivered in two phases and is ADA compliant. There are no priority projects adjacent to the site.

The committee discussed student dining services, existing and new pathways, and the capacity of the Disability Resource Center.

MOTION: Mark Rush made a motion to forward the project to the VP for Construction, Facilities and Real Estate with a recommendation to approve as presented. Megan Forbes seconded.

The motion passed unanimously.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Member Comments:

Megan Forbes emphasized the importance of projects going before committees in the recommended order.

Public Comments:

None

Chair's Report: Jay Watkins

None.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 3:36 pm.