

**University of New Mexico Draft Master Plan Update:**

**North Campus Neighborhood Association Meeting**

January 22, 2009 5:30-7:45 pm.

UNM Law School Room 2402

Approximately 90 people in attendance at various times.

Meeting called to order.

**Dr. Sara Koplík** indicated that the information on questions may be posted on the Association web site: [www.neighborsforgreenspace.com](http://www.neighborsforgreenspace.com)

**Mary Kenney**, UNM Planning Officer provided an introduction of the Draft Update to the UNM Master Plan and the north campus Health Sciences Center Facility Development Update section to be discussed in detail tonight.

**Tobias Flatow**, Project Manager for the North Campus Update: The MP is a Framework for the development of future projects. This presentation addresses the Framework and is not about the actual design or layout of these future projects. Ample time will be given for all questions.

THE ONLY DEVELOPMENT ON THE GOLF COURSE WILL BE THE REPLACEMENT OF THE EXISTING RESERVOIR WITH A NEW POTABLE WATER RESERVIOR OR TANK WITH A NEW WELL. The clubhouse will not move. The jogging course will not change along the green fairways.

We need a new well to provide for the north campus. The Hospital is on municipal water. Substantial savings with a new well will occur.

Hospital will be located in Lands West. Data was analyzed for need. Currently the metro area is short about 900 beds. Lands Wes will only provide 423 beds.

There will be a new entry green space concept developed along Lomas/Yale entry connecting Main and North campus.

There will be a new multi-modal transportation hub and parking structure located at the current observatory site. A people mover is proposed to transport folks from north/south and east west linking the hospitals and transportation center along the extension of Moutain and the realignment of Tucker.

The AMAFCA channel is proposed to be boxed up to Camino de Salud.

The aging Mental Health Center will be moved to the west of Domenici Hall in the barren fairways. The mental health Center now is immediately adjacent to the neighbors. It causes

Traffic congestion and is an old building that has served its useful purpose. Moving it to a location more accessible for patients and remote from neighbors will reduce overall congestion and conflicts.

**Question:** Why does the hospital need to expand? Wellness should be the focus... Why does the hospital need more buildings; shouldn't that money be spent on patient care?

**A:** This discussion is focused on land use, not on defending the need to expand. However, the hospital has studied this question extensively over the last year. Mary will share this question with Steve McKernan, CEO of the hospital.

**Danny Hernandez:** Concerned about bicycles coming from off street origins merging into on street facilities. Why can't the proposed Mental Health facilities along the west side of the barren fairways be moved to Lands West? 2000 daily runners and joggers use the outside of the golf course daily according to one survey. The concern is about the conflict with high traffic.

**Tobias:** Wrapper building around proposed parking structure will provide necessary retail and restaurants for numerous staff and nurses. Mixed uses along CdeS, Lomas and University. There will be public/private developments of medical offices, hotel, and commercial uses.

**Question:** Why can't there be a land swap proposal for Sandia land and Lands West to preserve the barren fairways?

**A:** We have looked at various options and will continue to do so.

**Q:** Why are barren fairways desirable for development? The Elks Club is an eyesore. We need Childcare and the Graduate students are organizing to get more. The Mental Health Center conflicts with pedestrian, bicycles, and other north golf course uses. Children's Psych has a wall so there isn't any co-mingling. Wouldn't it be better closer to the emergency room?

**A:** We hired a company to assess the Elks Club for best use. The Mental Health facilities would be further from the neighborhood if moved to the west of Ronald McDonald.

The new Child Care will expand by 250 kids and still maintain an excellent status rating. A new facility is also planned elsewhere on campus.

**Q:** The perception of the golf course has included the barren fairways by many folks and prior planning efforts.

**A:** The golf course includes the green fairways, reservoir, parking and clubhouse.

**Q:** Why is there no connection east to west indicated for bicycles near lands west?

**A:** **Michael Polikoff**, University Planner, indicated that we are waiting a bit for the north campus HSC Master Plan to firm up before evaluating that connection. There will be an east west connection likely shown along Mountain Road to the new Tucker Road.

**Q:** Can the hospital be located along Lomas mixed use areas? This may be better for the long term sustainability of the area and proximity to easy access. Our new national health director is advocating more preventative care programs. Why does UNMH have few programs?

**A:** Tobias indicated that UNM does not own the property on the north side of Lomas. As regarding wellness, Mary indicated that there are a number of approaches to increase wellness and address sustainability at UNM. All new buildings will be LEED silver and energy efficient; the campus is moving to be smoke free; UNM has developed a comprehensive 40 year water plan for conservation; and the President has signed on to reduce carbon emissions by 2030. Mary will pass along and provide information on the neighbors' concern of the bigger picture of sustainability for the greater area.

**Q:** What are the plans for the old John Gaw Meem structure?

**A:** No plans to move or remodel it.

**Court of Appeal Building:** Building will be occupied in October, 2009. It will have a green roof. The building is an ideal use relationship with the Law School with academic study and real law court use.

**Animal Crematorium:** **Vernon Hershberger** of Environmental Health indicated there are 10 burns a year lasting a day long with one more day to cool. There is no chance for odors as there is an afterburner which burns up all the smoke.

**Final Questions:** Why is there an odor which wakes people up at night?

**A:** It could be a sewer line. The neighborhood will keep vigil to find out.

**Q:** What is the language of preservation for the golf course? When can we see that? Cherishing the land should be important. We could have a health promoting venue at the barren fairways which ties into the green space along the jogging trails.

**A:** Mary indicated there are many program needs driving these developments.

Sara Koplík stated that the proposed plan took into consideration many of the concerns expressed by the neighbors. She indicated that the proposed plan was a good compromise but further discussion is needed about the bike traffic issues and the barren fairways.

**Tim Davis** will be the main point of contact for organizing the follow up for any outstanding issues.

**Meeting Adjourned**