

IOWA

Campus Planning Committee Meeting Notes

Meeting Date: October 22, 2024

Members Present: Kyle Frank, Bryan Garter, David Hensley, Corey Landstrom, Nina Osborne, Dusty Persinger, Scott Spak, Carissa Vogel, Michelle Voss

Others: Shawn Albaugh Kleppe, Joe Bilotta, Maria Bruno, Catherine Cole, Scott Gritsch, Mike Kearns, Rod Lehnertz

Iowa River Corridor Planning

This draft plan comes after several years of research by the communities of Coralville, Iowa City and University of Iowa. The draft plan for the Iowa River Corridor continues with the Core Values of Community, Creativity, Inclusion Integrity and Excellence then considering the program needs for River Interactions, Edge Conditions and Path Typologies.

The presentation went through three common improvements consistent along the entire river corridor and eight unique settings within the corridor including Hancher Park, Lagoon Shelter Park, Arts River Park, Riverside Gateway Park, Library Plaza, IMU Promenade, Catlett Hall Front Yard, and Hillside Arboretum.

Conceptual plans to these include the following:

Hancher River Park

Additional tree and native plantings, secondary crushed stone paths, multi-use stage and promenade bench seatings.

Lagoon Shelter

Additional tree and native plantings, proposed storage facility for Rec Services, installation of limestone prospects with bouldering capabilities, shallow wading area and living laboratory, boat launch ramp, lagoon shelter patio, wooden deck and an outdoor classroom.

Art River Park

The location would be the river side of what will be the Dance Building and Graduate College Building, currently the old Museum of Art and Art Building.

This space could include a native meadow, a crushed stone secondary path with bench seating and views to the river and relocated art on axis to OMA entrance.

Riverside Drive Riverfront Park

This location is between the former Art Building south to the Iowa Avenue Bridge.

Conceptually, the plan would include more trees and native plantings, a mown clearing for passive and active recreation and programming, bench seating with a view to the clearing, meditative woodland with limestone council ring and healing garden, and sculptures embedded in woodland.

Library Plaza Extension / Museum of Art Mall

Additional tree and native plantings, concrete sidewalk providing north/south movement through the area, limestone artwork depicting the meandering Iowa River creating a seat-wall and views to the river, outdoor classroom, and formal alley entrance from the Art Museum.

IMU Promenade

Additional tree and native plantings, terraced amphitheater, mown lawn for passive recreation, bench seating with views to the river, limestone prospect with stepped access to the river, canoe hookup and seating, formal promenade tree planting with overhead lights and special paving, wooden deck with capacity to hold large and small events, overhead signage and threshold onto deck, and movable seating.

Catlett Hall Front Yard

Additional tree and native plantings, mown lawn for passive recreation, movable seating for flexible programming, moped and bike parking, multimodal road, carpark and driveway, limestone prospects with views of the river, and vegetated buffer.

Hillside Arboretum

Additional tree and native plantings, bench seating with views to the river, secondary paths through the bluff with meeting points, bench seating and educational didactics, limestone council ring, and willow alley.

Discussions included what kind of a timeline for mature growth can be expected and potential for relocating some mature trees from other sites on campus; spots of safety issues along the river and changes in lighting along the river corridor; how do walkways change to accommodate both pedestrian and bike modes of transportation; solar charging stations along the paths in these areas; scale of projects to make these projects implementable; prioritizing with opportunities offered by surrounding capital projects; and flood issues.

The CPC was in favor of the concept plan. Campus Planning will be presenting this to the Campus Development Team and staff leadership of City of Iowa City in November.

The IRC will be uploaded to the campus planning website in the next month or two, following feedback gathered over the next two months.