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University of Colorado Design Review Board

Minutes

September 20, 2012

UCCS Lane Center for Academic Sciences - Anderson Mason Dale; David Pfeiffer, Principal

The consultant team presented the design development drawings for the Lane Center for Academic Health Sciences and the proposed material samples. They explained that the material pallet will match the Osborne Center on the main campus.

Comments from the Design Review Board:

Members generally felt like the entrances were too understated and that the rooftop penthouse was too prominent. The berm along Nevada Avenue should be undulating rather than one height along the entire frontage. The parking lot should permit circulation for pick up and drop off.

John Prosser – The entrance vestibule does not work for handicap access because the interior doors open into the vestibule. The vestibule inside doors cannot pivot inward, but to provide adequate passage space they need to be recessed into the lobby the dimension of the door width outward swing so that the entry space itself is free of any door operations. That recess itself needs to only be the width of the double doors, plus minimum-sized jams. The entryway staircase should be celebrated by accommodating flags to activate and celebrate the area.

Jerry Seracuse - The west side elevation of the penthouse looks disproportionate to the building elevation; recommend that the penthouse materials be changed to visually reduce the size of the penthouse. Asked the campus to look at reducing the footprint and providing relief in the elevation by breaking up the surface.

Victor Olgyay – Sun shading needs to be carefully designed to make sure the louvers are providing the right amount of shading, not just during the day, but during the season changes. Be careful with the depth and angles.

Window frit is not an optimal solution. Use clearer glass on windows, particularly since there will be operable windows to compare daylight against.

On the fourth floor, maximize the ceiling height to allow for interior day lighting.

Candy Roberts – The west elevation is very plain compared with the other elevations. The ribbon glass effect should be studied, particularly with the use of spandrel and alternating columns throughout the upper floors of the building.

Action: Unanimous approval with conditions:

- 1. Adjust parking lot to allow circular traffic for drop off and pick up and pedestrian access.
- 2. Landscape berm along Nevada Avenue should vary in height.
- 3. The mechanical penthouse design needs revisions to reduce mass and scale visually.
- 4. Sun shading and window design need to be designed for maximum energy efficiency.
- 5. Ribbon windows and use of spandrel on west elevation should be redesigned to provide more visual interest.

Friday, September 21, 2012

Memorial Garden – StudioINSITE Jim Leggitt

Jim Leggitt presented the new design for the Memorial Garden. The new design consists of a circular area surrounding the existing 'heritage tree' with a concrete entryway leading into the circle. A donor memorial recognition panel will be placed at the entryway into the garden. The entry walkway widens to meet two double convex planting beds interior to the circle filled with ornamental trees. There is a seating wall at the back side of the circle adjacent to Building 500. There is additional seating surrounding the 'heritage tree.' There will be class recognition engraved pavers leading into the garden. The landscape materials will provide seasonal color variations. Sidewalks adjacent to the garden area will be reconfigured.

DRB comments

Victor Olgyay – there are too many sidewalks surrounding the garden entryway. The circular concrete seating should face outward not towards Building 500.

Candy Roberts – Agreed that the circular concrete seating should face outward not towards Building 500. The plan needs more organic material and less paving material

Jerry Seracuse – Place pavers in the grass. The two arched sidewalks adjacent to the garden are redundant. The design is good for a single person retreat as well as a group.

John Prosser – Get rid of extra sidewalks. Recommend that the pavers are placed inside the circle in the grass area adjacent to the seat walls. The entryway into the garden could align with the winter solstice.

Action: The board unanimously approved the project with the following conditions:

- Remove redundant sidewalks
- Reduce hardscape
- Place seating facing outward from Building 500
- Place pavers in grass area
- Bring back final design for review

Anschutz Medical Campus Monument Entry Signs – Stanley Consultants, Inc.

Based upon the materials that were submitted the Board unanimously denied the project and recommended that a new design be submitted. Further guidance from university administration was recommended.

Anschutz Medical Campus Master Plan/Colorado Life Sciences District Site-wide Master Plan

Michael Del Giudice, Director, Office of Institutional Planning and Andre Vite, campus architect, gave an in-process update of the 2012 master plan for the Anschutz Medical Campus and the Colorado Life Sciences District Master Plan. As the master plan continues, the Board will be updated on the master plan outcome.

DRB Comments

Jerry Seracuse – The interior circulation system for patients needs critical thinking, particularly for people with limited mobility.

John Prosser – The original plans for the I-225 interchange improvements called for a double exit from southbound I-225 similar to the Denver Tech Center. This will allow for easy access into the Fitzsimons Redevelopment Authority site as well as 17th Ave and Fitzsimons Parkway. The new light rail stations on Montview Avenue and Colfax Avenue create new front doors to the campus. The interior circulation system must respond to the new traffic patterns.