

University of Colorado Design Review Board Meeting Notes

Date: Tuesday, November 16, 2021
Time: 8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Location: Bruce and Marcy Benson Conference Room, 1800 Grant Street, Denver, Colorado

DRB and Campus Members present:

Don Brandes, Sarah Brown, Cheri Gerou, Tom Hootman, Chris Shears, Mike Winters, and Carolyn Fox, campus DRB member for the University of Colorado Colorado Springs campus (“UCCS”).

Others in attendance not otherwise noted:

Kori Donaldson, Senior Director of Capital Assets and ex officio member of the DRB
Linda Money, CU Real Estate Services, CU System employee / DRB note taker

Don Brandes, Chair, determined a quorum and called the meeting of the Design Review Board to order at 8:52 a.m.

8:30 – 9:30 a.m. Work Session – Board Only

The DRB reviewed the items on the agenda and discussed administrative matters prior to convening the public portion of the meeting.

9:30 – 10:15 a.m. CU Anschutz Campus Safety and Emergency Preparedness Facility Solar Canopy – CU Anschutz Design Development (Action Requested)

Architects:

Anderson Mason Dale Architects (AMD), Denver, Colorado

Presenters:

James Taylor, Principal, AMD
Julie Zurakowski, Senior Associate, AMD

CU Anschutz Campus Presenter:

Daniel Miro, Senior Project Manager, Facilities Management, CU Anschutz

Description:

Design development submittal for solar canopy for a new Campus Safety & Emergency Preparedness Facility on the CU Anschutz Medical Campus approved in August 2021.

A/E Presentation

A comprehensive presentation was made of the submittal package, which can be found in the following document on the DRB website, *Meeting Dates, Agendas and Minutes*:

[Attachment 1 – CU Anschutz Solar Panel, Campus Safety Facility - 11-16-2021]

DRB Comments

A. Site & Landscape Architecture

B. Architecture

- The minimal structure with six columns below the roof is a good architectural design.
- Study the slope of the roofs, potential snow melt and water drainage, the use of snow guards, and if the size of drain and scupper are appropriate.
 - Investigate solutions to keep birds off I-beam sections.
 - Consider using heat tape to avoid potential issues from freezing.
 - Determine how snow will slide off panels to eliminate potential damage to vehicles parked below structure.
- Continue to study the configuration of the solar panels. Compare a two-part stacking system to a single-slope, one-panel system. (Refer to the CU Boulder multi-solar submittal approved in July 2020.)
- Regarding materiality:
 - Work with manufacturer to get a control sample because there could be variation in galvanizing process.
 - Consider dulling down the finish.
 - The finish specifications may become the campus precedent.

C. Sustainability and Energy

- Installing PV to achieve net zero is a great idea and sets an example for future projects.
- Ensure the layout of the mechanical systems on the roof is designed for optimal placement and number of PV panels.
 - Consider need for contingency panels. As designed, there is risk of falling short of the kW required for net zero.
- Consider the aesthetic of the selected PV module — more sophisticated panel choices could be more integrated, monolithic, and seamless.
- The color of the roof should be more uniform with the PV panels.

DRB Action

Don Brandes moved to approve the Design Development submittal for the CU Anschutz Medical Campus Safety and Emergency Preparedness Facility Solar Canopy, taking into consideration the comments noted above. Tom Hootman seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

The DRB requested a future update about progress towards achieving net zero and the final:

- material and finish selection;
- PV panel type, number, and layout; and
- snow, storm drainage, and scupper design.

10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. **Anschutz Engineering Center – UCCS Conceptual Design (Action Requested)**

Architects/Engineers:

OZ Architecture, Denver, Colorado
Wenk Associates, Inc., Denver, Colorado

Presenters:

David Schafer, Principal, LEED-AP, NCARB, OZ Architecture
Justin Gerze, Senior Associate, Project Manager, OZ
Architecture
Greg Dorolek, PLA, ASLA, Principal, Co-President,
Wenk Associates, Inc.

UCCS Campus Presenter:

Carolyn Fox, Executive Director, Planning, Design &
Construction, and University Architect, Facilities
Management

Description: Conceptual Design submittal for a new three-story, 24,000-SF annex, the Anschutz Engineering Center, to the existing UCCS Engineering Building, for the purpose of increasing academic programs in astronautical engineering.

A/E Presentation

A comprehensive presentation was made of the submittal package, which can be found in the following document on the DRB website, *Meeting Dates, Agendas and Minutes*:

[Attachment 2 – UCCS Anschutz Engineering Center - 11-16-2021]

DRB Comments

A. Site & Landscape Architecture

- The DRB understands that the area surrounding the Tree of Peace will be understated and natural for a contemplative use and that the primary access will be from Mountain Lion Way. The DRB also supports the continued use of the existing plaque or of a new plaque along the campus spine informing pedestrians of the tree's purpose and location.
 - It is imperative that the contractor understand what is needed to preserve the tree in place during construction.
 - A soil amendment will likely be required. The contractor will need to resolve issues of air entrenchment and soil compaction.
- The site and landscape design shown in Concept A and B were well illustrated, and the DRB appreciates having multiple options to consider.
 - Concept A works really well between the new building and the University Center.
 - The stepped, internal access into the new building makes sense.
 - The concept celebrates the "hallway" between the buildings and provides access to the University Center and the new building.
 - The access (and grading) to Mountain Lion Way and the back of the new building could be improved.
 - Concept B does a better job in terms of the linear connectivity to the campus spine walkway, and also provides a more defined entryway and sense of arrival.
- Think about the existing porch at the Engineering and Applied Science ("EAS") building and how to unify the landscape treatment along the spine.
- Consider locating signage on the building rather than along the campus spine or on the link.

B. Architecture

- From a conceptual standpoint, the team has done a good job integrating the building into the topography and thoughtfully stepping the building in spite of severe site and utility constraints.
- Resolve the fire rating separation strategy between EAS and the new building. The resolution may effect the articulation of the link, windows in the shop section, and the link atrium. Study solutions regarding a code defined atrium in the link.
- Limit the number of exterior materials which may dilute the overall architectural concept.
- The link is a very strong concept. The DRB believes the design team will find a way to use the link that is fun and exciting and not limited to institutional uses.
 - Spaces like this can be dynamic in terms of how daylighting is achieved, how people move through it, and what is displayed.
 - Reconsider the proportions of the link to the adjacent buildings and the campus spine. Can it be stepped back to north?

- Continue to study the relationship of the horizontal and vertical elevations and fenestration of the new building as compared to surrounding buildings.
 - There may be an opportunity to make this building more cohesive with surrounding buildings – keeping in mind that the design of the adjoining buildings isn't very strong.
 - Consider ways to relate to the horizontality of the two adjacent buildings while maintaining the iconic nature and verticality of the new building.
 - Study the solar controls strategy to determine any underlying horizontal patterns.

C. Sustainability and Energy

- The LEED target and strategies to reduce energy use intensity are great.
 - What is special about this project that might be a priority signature move? i.e. natural ventilation and daylighting in link to encourage health and wellness.
 - Add daylighting to the shops section.

DRB Action

Chris Shears moved to approve the Conceptual Design submittal for the Anschutz Engineering Center on the UCCS campus, taking into consideration the comments noted above. Cheri Gerou seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

There being no further business, the public meeting of the Design Review Board was adjourned at 11:53 a.m.

(For assistance with the attachments referenced within this document, please contact Linda Money at (303) 860-6110 or linda.money@cu.edu.)