

**Grand Traverse Commons South Campus Entrance
and
Master Plan Meeting**

**Thursday - February 26, 2009
6:00 - 8:00 p.m. West Middle School**

Meeting Notes

Broad General Questions

- Do we have the legal description of the Arnell Engstrom property right - is it the north-east or southeast corner of the property?
- Will there be any restrictions for the south campus entrance in relation to the entire campus design?
- Do we have – can we get actual traffic counts within the campus?
- How committed in the 66-foot easement?
- Is this about getting around for TBA or an integrated road system?
- Does the easement just mean for the road?
- Will we lose the property if the road doesn't go in?
- Can the 66-foot easement be different – Does the road have to stay within the 66-foot easement?
- Why consider Elmwood if its unstable?
- Could we place new parking decks outside, but adjacent to the campus?
- Should we think about possible links with light rail?
- How do we get people through the inner campus vs. the outer campus
- How are we going to pay for improvements to Division and a south campus entrance?
- Are we going to have uniform roads?

Broad General Comments

- There will continue to be congestion at 11th and Division & at a South Campus Entrance
- Traffic congestion is not isolated to the medical campus
- It appears we are asking how to get people through the inner campus vs. the outer campus
- Please consider the “stupidity principle” - design the circulation system to be easier for pedestrians - make it so it would be nuts not to walk, rather than drive
- 11th and Division intersection will be more dangerous if we create a southern campus entrance
- We should address improvements to Division before addressing a south campus entrance
- We should fix the problems with 11th and Division before we build a south campus entrance
- We should build a southern campus entrance first - to mitigate problems at 11th and Division
- If we expect an increase of pedestrians, we need to plan for it.

Comments on Proposed South Campus Entrance and Silver Road

- Preserve the Champion Black Willow Trees
- I am concerned about the deer herd - there is going to be an accident
- I am concerned about speed and traffic volume
- Please consider the use of “best practices around areas with water
- Please make bike pathways an integral component of the design – accommodate pedestrians
- Create a defined entryway
- Kids should be protected on pathways - especially crossing over Silver Lake Drive
- The entrance should denote that you are entering a special place
- Include pedestrian control buttons at the crosswalks

- Make it ADA accessible
- I really like looking at the night sky - please be sure to minimize lighting
- Incorporate a toll-booth
- Utilize a lot of trees and design the road to be curvy, like Medical Campus Drive
- The road should be welcoming and “park-like”
- There should be no parking near the community garden
- The road should be “parkway like, with slower speeds
- Please keep the arboretum setting, trees - especially the black willows
- Do not create a two-way intersection - make traffic go up and around via Brown Drive

Comments on Silver Road Heading West to Red Drive and Red Drive

- Please do not allow motor vehicle - maybe allow for emergency vehicle - block off the straight-way of Red Drive
- I am concerned about safety around the Montessori School and the TBAISD Building
- I am concerned about how delivery trucks would access the Barns area, for large events
- Please keep Red Drive gated - limit access to the Barns area
- The front door of TBA is on Red Drive, so many people drive around through Brown Drive, where there may be housing at some time in the future - maybe we should look at providing an alternative access (other than Brown Drive) between silver road and Red Drive
- Please be aware, there is a trail-head at the corner
- I am concerned about potential hazards with dogs
- Maybe we should restrict Brown Drive to a one-way, to block access to the barns and TBA

Comments on Silver Drive - Going East Around the Power-plant

- Please make it an event to get through the street - make it an experience
- I am concerned about the adjacent wetlands
- Please utilize a minimum road width, narrowing (or one-lane) at the Willows
- I am concerned about how road salt would affect the surrounding wetlands
- Please utilize non-petroleum based materials for the roadway
- Please make the road narrow
- Continue to maintain the road as a “gravel road” - utilize its “wash-board” texture
- Alter Silver Drive to go around the south portion of the power point to connect with Elmwood
- I am concerned about the surrounding wetlands, especially around Elmwood.
- Allow for parking around Building 50, but make pedestrian access safe and clear
- Please account for potential crosswalks for the women’s and men’s walks
- We want *people*, not cars to have access to Building 50
- I believe it is tough to get across Silver Drive (walking) from the power-plant to cottage view
- We should develop an intersection that makes drivers pause at the corner of Silver Road and Cottage View
- Could we consider a pedestrian mall - close the road off to cars

Comments on 11th Street and Division

- This intersection is a very bad access point
- I believe we need to have a traffic light at the intersection
- I believe the intersection is poorly light
- I am wondering if we need more lanes on Division?
- Egress onto Division should be a right-turn only
- What about the placement of the Veterans Memorial on 11th Street

- The Central Neighborhood has distributed a survey and it will be discussed at the City Commission on Monday
- I believe it is good to recognize the intersection is a problem
- I believe there should be no left turns at the intersection
- There is no way for pedestrians to safely get across the intersection
- We should consider safety first - there is no safe accessibility
- I believe we should paint cross-walk strips around the street
- Could be consider building a foot-bridge?
- I believe we need to enforce speeds along the stretch of roadway

Comments on Elmwood

- I have concerns about cars parking on Elmwood - especially if we increase traffic