

UK Master Plan Update

Shadeland Neighborhood Meeting Minutes

Location: Crestwood Christian Church

Date: October 30, 2012

I. Master Plan Overview

Members of the team working on the Master Plan update attended the regular meeting of the Shadeland Neighborhood Association in order to explain the planning process for this update and to gain feedback from this group on issues that they would like the Master Plan to focus on in regards to neighborhoods adjacent to campus. Martha Tarrant of RossTarrant Architects provided an overview of the master plan process including project goals, timeline and work completed to this point. Bob Wiseman provided an overview of the status of the new housing plan. Councilmembers Linda Gorton and Julian Beard were in attendance.

II. Discussion of Neighborhood Related Issues

Tom Harris led a discussion on issues the residents would like to see addressed in the Master Plan. The following questions and concerns were highlighted. Responses by the project team are in parentheses:

Parking

- How will the University address parking with the increase in housing as well as the loss of current parking?
- Parking on game days is a continued problem. Even though this neighborhood seems far from the stadium, the streets are flooded with cars on game day. Some fans tailgate and the residents have trouble with their yards and landscaping being torn up from drunken fans as they return from the game.
- What about event parking? It was always hard to find parking for events at the Singletary Center. Now that parking in that area will be lost, how will event parking be addressed?

Arboretum

- Is the arboretum being addressed in the Master Plan? Are there any plans for changes there? Who owns the land? (No major changes in this area are planned at this time. UK owns the land and takes care of all of the maintenance. The University and LFUCG have a good partnership in regards to the arboretum.)

Traffic/ Circulation

- Are there plans to widen Alumni Drive? Does UK want to see it widened? (The number of cars on Alumni Drive is well over the capacity of its design. UK would like to see it widened and improved. It is being discussed with LFUCG, but no plans are in place.)
- When improvements are made to Alumni, the neighborhood association may be willing to assist in providing trees or plantings as a buffer between the road or bike path and the neighborhood.
- Is there a concerted effort to include the diverse populations of users such as walkers, the disabled, the elderly and cyclists when planning the transportation corridors? The safety of everyone should be taken into account.

- Are the effects of the new development on the current traffic patterns being considered as plans are created? There are already safety issues along Rose and Limestone/Nicholasville because of the high volume of students and pedestrians crossing these roads. When the new housing is added on the north side of campus, there will be similar problems with students crossing Avenue of Champions.

Sports/Rec Area at the eastern edge of campus north of Alumni Drive

- Are there any major construction plans for this area? Is a new baseball stadium being planned? Are there plans that we can review? (A preliminary baseball study is underway with a potential location under discussion north of Alumni Drive near the stadium. Nothing final has been determined at this point in study.)
- Since this area is close to Shadeland, residents are wondering what the plans are for the future. There are already problems with the noise levels coming from the sports fields in that area. The University made some changes in the speaker system after complaints from the neighborhood last year, but it is still a problem. Hearing rap music blaring on a Sunday morning is not pleasant. (UK Athletics were contacted the day following the meeting. Athletics promised to review the matter.)

Other

- Are there plans to continue to increase the student body over time?
- Are there plans to upgrade the teaching facilities on campus? The presentation only includes housing improvements. (Yes, and because of the public/private partnership with EDR for the new housing the University can allocate more money toward improving academics buildings.)

III. What do you like about living near UK?

- The Arboretum!
- The activity/youthfulness.
- The vitality.
- Seeing things like professors biking to class.
- The arts and culture that is offered to the public.

IV. Positive Feedback

- The University is to be commended on the public private housing partnership. This was a great move on the University's part.
- I like the fact that this Master Plan process is being shared with the public and that you are asking for our comments. I don't remember anything like this happening in the past.

Minutes prepared by Judy Needham.

These are intended to be a record of the general issues discussed and are not meant to be a quotation of any individual(s) attending the meeting.

cc: Website