

**Minutes
Council on the Built Environment
Texas A&M University
May 23, 2007**

Voting members attending: John Niedzwecki for Kem Bennett, Terry Pankratz for Bobby Bisor, Dick Chilcoat, Ralph Davila for Russell Cross, Clint Magill, David Parrott, Chuck Sippial, and Max Summers.

Non-voting Members Attending: Jim Calvin, Shelly Janac, James Massey, Chris Meyer, and Nancy Sawtelle.

Guests: Jim Riley, Ben Crouch, and Becky Carr.

Chuck Sippial chaired the meeting in Bill Perry's absence.

PUF Funding for Plant and Infrastructure Expansion

Jim Riley reminded the Council that in 2006, \$20 million in Permanent University Funds were earmarked to support six plant and infrastructure expansion projects. Since that time, the TIGM facility has been added to the project list and an estimate of \$1 million will be needed for distribution lines to the building. To accommodate this increase within the \$20 million, cost estimates for two of original six projects have been revised. The estimate for the Steam Turbine Generator Replacement has increased from \$5 million to \$5.5 million, to provide more contingency funds, and the estimate for the Campus Electrical System Capacity and Reliability Upgrades has decreased from \$6 million to \$4.5 million. Sippial stated that a firm has been selected to determine the scope for the electrical system and reliability upgrades and until their study is complete, the \$4.5 million is Utilities' best estimate.

Magill moved and Summers seconded to approve the changes in the allocation of the \$20 million in PUF funding. All members were in favor of the motion.

Update on ETED Siting

Sippial stated that although the CBE, Design Review Board and District Planners recommended that the two ETED buildings flank Williams, the Chancellor did not approve the location and asked that another site be recommended to him. The location previously discussed with CBE, the area directly across from Wisenbaker and Zachry, was submitted to the Chancellor, through the President, and will be considered for approval by the Board of Regents at their meeting tomorrow. Sippial is waiting to hear from Transportation Services about the number of parking spaces that will be lost due to construction. The new site could allow for an eventual parking garage at the corner of University and Bizzell.

In July, the District Planners will present to the Board an updated map of proposed sites for future buildings.

Update on SBS and SFA Move to GSC

Sippial stated that Student Business Services (SBS) is willing to move a portion of their department to the GSC if 3,900 SF can remain on the first floor of the Pavilion for their use, and

added that Student Financial Aid (SFA) does not want to move to the GSC, which in turn would not allow the potential moves of Vice President for Research units and Architecture as previously discussed. Concern was expressed that previous occupants in the academic corridor were told they had to relocate since faculty reinvestment was considered a higher need. Now the perception is the current occupants of the Pavilion have the option to stay or move and this is creating an inconsistency in how the units are being treated. Also, the length of time it has taken to evaluate these moves has caused VPR units to lose the space in GSC, which was originally allocated to them. Pankratz noted that the business model for SFA is different than SBS since financial aid counseling is done in person. Students may perceive it difficult to get to the GSC for counseling.

Sippial stated that he and others will continue to work with Student Financial Aid, Architecture, Vice President for Research and other units regarding space issues and another update will be given at next week's CBE meeting, if new information is available.

The meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 30.