SEPA Advisory Committee Meeting Summary

Date:       June 21, 2022, 8:30-9:00 am
Location:   Zoom Video Meeting

Committee Members:
- Doug Gallucci – Environmental Health & Safety
- Caryn Walline – Planning Manager in Transportation Services
- Freida Taub – School of Aquatic Fisheries
- Julie Blakeslee – University Environmental & Land Use Planner, Chair
- Kristine Kenney – University Landscape Architect
- Rob Lubin – Housing & Food Services

Health & High Performance Center (H2P) / Basketball Facility

The proposed Basketball Training Facility & Health/High Performance Center Project is intended to provide a “first-class” home for Husky basketball with practice courts, renovate and expand the Health & High Performance Center, consolidate services to better serve the overall performance of student-athletes and the University’s commitment to Title IX, and be cost effective with a look and feel in alignment with recent ICA capital projects.

Consistent with the Design Guidance assumptions for Site E59 in the 2019 Campus Master Plan, the proposed approximately 50,000 square foot building (net of approximately 23,000 square feet considering demolition of 27,045 square feet of existing building space) would be up to 80 feet in height. Several trees adjacent to the building and trees located in the E9 parking lot that are constrained by pavement will be removed. Trees will be replaced in other locations on campus.

A draft SEPA checklist showing consistency with the 2018 Seattle Campus Master Plan EIS was emailed to committee members for their review June 17, 2022, prior to this meeting. Comments were due June 28 and minor edits were proposed to improve clarity; no substantive comments. The committee approved the checklist.

Campus Master Plan Development Site W27 Project

An RFQ/P process was completed to initiate a public/private partnership to development the Campus Master Plan (CMP) Site W27 property. Wexford and they design-build team were selected and approved by the Board of Regents in November 2021.

The W27 proposal is the first project in the West Campus Innovation District. The design team has been following the CMP Design Guidelines and Development Standards which are quite a few for this site such as: 340,000 maximum GSF, 200-foot height limit, upper level setbacks, service and parking access off of University Way, mid-block corridor to the north, and right-of-way improvements along University
Way and Brooklyn Ave (sidewalks, street trees, bike lane, etc.). In addition, they will rebuild the Burke-Gilman Trail from Brooklyn Ave NE to 15th Ave NE, matching the cross-section characteristics of the new trail section from 15th Ave NE to Rainier Vista, and the “Belvedere” section of the CMP-required West Campus Green (the green area between the Site W27 and NE Pacific Street).

The Clean Energy Institute would be the primary UW tenant in the building along with industry partners.

Committee members had questions about the safety on Brooklyn Ave NE where the Burke-Gilman crosses, how a proposed raised “table” of the trail and straightening the crossing, and keeping trees away from the trail on the east to help visibility of cars seeing bikes and bikes seeing cars.

A draft SEPA checklist showing consistency with the 2018 Seattle Campus Master Plan EIS was emailed to committee members for their review June 17, 2022, prior to this meeting. Comments were due June 28 and minor edits were proposed for clarity; no substantive edits. The committee approved the checklist.