Chair of the Architectural Commission, John Schaufelberger, called the meeting to order at 11:00 am. In May of this year, the Board of Regents selected proposed Site B, on 15th Ave NE at the NE 40th St Central Campus gateway, for the Population Health Facility Project, which has resulted in an accelerated project schedule to meet the funding grant-stipulated delivery date of March 2020. A defined massing and site configuration will be reflected in structural plans to be submitted to the City by the end of June, hence this interim review for UWAC and ULAC design guidance on building site configuration and floorplate. The project presentation was broadcast via web conference to those Commissioners and Committee members connected via Internet, with real-time discussion via telephone.
Population Health Facility
Requested Action: Information and input
Steve Tatge, Director, Major Projects, CPO
Jeannie Natta, Project Manager, CPO
Lyndseey Cameron, Principal Architectural Associate, OUA
Ruth Baleiko, Whitney Pearce, Miller Hull
Brian Aske, Lease Crutcher Lewis
Mark Brands, Site Workshop

Overview:
The Population Health Facility will house the Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation, the Department of Global Health, and elements of the School of Public Health, all of which will greatly benefit from close proximity. The facility will serve as a powerful catalyst for the University’s new Population Health Initiative and be an idea laboratory and collaboration incubator and will provide central gathering spaces for faculty, students, staff, partners, and visitors from a wide range of disciplines across campus, the region, the nation, and the world to address important global health concerns.

Project Budget $230,000,000

Schedule
EIS September 2016 – April 2017
Site Selection September 2016 – April 2017
Design February 2017 – June 2018
Construction February 2018 – March 2020
Closeout March 2020 – October 2020

Project Delivery Method Integrated Design-Build

Comments:
• The 15th Avenue façade will be highly visible and have a dominant impact on the pedestrian environment; working to mitigate its extreme length and height is a challenge and a priority. Access through the building can help with this.
• The existing east-west pedestrian access to both site and campus beyond at north and south ends of the site should be maintained and enhanced. The mid-block crossing of 15th (a requirement of the upcoming 2018 Campus Master Plan to provide pedestrian circulation mid-block between 15th and University, University and Roosevelt) seems of secondary importance in terms of locating building entries. However, enabling passage into and through the building between 15th and the courtyard with Architecture Hall will help mitigate the building’s large scale.
• Examine setback conditions along both sides of 15th, between Pacific Ave NE and NE 45th St., to assist in determining desirable setback of this building along 15th. Sections need to be cut from west of 15th through to Architecture Hall and Stevens Way in order to understand the site and precisely establish the setbacks and building floorplates.
• Important to pull back from 40th to allow campus entry to be dominated by landscape.
• Note that Asotin is useful now for student circulation, and will continue to be and could be enhanced.
• The wider the floorplate, the harder it will be to introduce daylight throughout the floor, which can be mitigated by devoting more square footage to such elements as double-height spaces and light wells.
• Carefully consider and maximize functional basement program in order to reduce required above-grade volume and to narrow the floorplate.
• Ground floor glazing is not enough to make the building transparent; explore other means to activate the sidewalk elevations.
• The building can be conceived as 3 zones – 2 working zones and 1 mid-zone for service and circulation, around which two perimeter bars slide, and could slip north and south to avoid the building being a monolith. A central space can serve the through-building-center desire path for pedestrian circulation without the formality of connecting continuously to an exterior mid-block connection.
• Plan ADA access to the building and larger campus.
• It is important to preserve whatever healthy large trees can be retained, for their aesthetic, habitat, cooling and carbon sequestration functions. Protect the Coulter Pines during construction.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:20 pm.