

University of Colorado Design Review Board Meeting Notes

Date: Friday, September 13, 2019
Time: 8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Location: Executive Conference Room, 224L, Aerospace Engineering Sciences Building, 3775 Discovery Drive, Boulder Campus

DRB members present: Don Brandes, Sarah Brown, Victor Olgyay, Mike Winters, Cheri Gerou (ex officio), Bill Haverly, campus DRB member for the University of Colorado Boulder campus (“CU Boulder”), and André Vite, campus DRB member for the CU Anschutz Medical Campus (“CU Anschutz”). Chris Shears was unable to attend due to a scheduling conflict.

Others in attendance not otherwise noted:

Linda Money, CU Real Estate Services, CU System employee / DRB note taker.

Don Brandes, Chair, determined a quorum and called the meeting of the Design Review Board to order at 9:20 a.m.

8:30 – 10:30 a.m. Board Tour of Engineering Building prior to Agenda items

The Board began their day with a tour of the CU Boulder Engineering Center North Wing and North Tower.

10:30 – 11:30 a.m. Work Session – Board Only

The Board discussed administrative items and reviewed the items on the agenda.

11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Branding and Wayfinding Signage – *CU Anschutz Medical Campus* Schematic Design and Design Development (Action Required)

Architects/Consultants:

ArtHouse Design, Denver, Colorado
Karsh Hagan, Denver, Colorado

Presenters:

Martin Gregg, Principal, ArtHouse Design
Daisy Corso, Designer, ArtHouse Design

CU Anschutz Campus Presenter:

André Vite, AIA, Campus Architect, Office of Institutional Planning, CU Anschutz

Other Campus Representatives Present:

Ben Bowman, Construction Manager, CU Anschutz
Medical Campus

Jennifer Merchant, Creative Brand Manager, Communications,
CU Anschutz Medical Campus

Description:

Combined Schematic Design and Design Development
submittal regarding wayfinding signage for the CU Anschutz
Medical Campus

A/E Presentation:

Representatives from ArtHouse Design presented the submittal, and André Vite responded to specific questions regarding the wayfinding signage.

DRB Comments:

Following a discussion and overview of the package submitted, the DRB stated that the consultants have done a great job.

The DRB noted a few inconsistencies in justification of type, and raised questions regarding the visibility of “emergency” letters adjacent to backlit Plexiglas. The specifications to address this concern is to be resolved in a full scale sign mock up.

The DRB is hopeful the monumental sign package will rely on much of the graphics standards that were developed in the wayfinding package.

DRB Action:

Don Brandes moved to approve the Schematic Design and Design Development for the wayfinding signage at the CU Anschutz Medical Campus. Victor Olgay seconded the motion, which unanimously passed.

1:30 – 3:30 p.m.

**Engineering Center – ECAE ECNT Renovations – *CU Boulder*
Conceptual Design (Action Required)**

Architects:

Anderson Mason Dale Architects, Denver, Colorado
Dig Studio, Inc., Denver, Colorado

Presenter(s):

John Everin, AIA, AndersonMasonDale
Andrew Nielsen, FAIA- Principal, AndersonMasonDale
Chris Brueckner, ASLA PLA, Dig Studio

CU Boulder Campus Presenter(s):
Jan Becker, Facilities Planner, Facilities Planning

Others Present:
Stephen Showalter, Architect, AndersonMasonDale
Jennifer Lozano, Intern, AndersonMasonDale

Other CU Boulder Campus Representatives Present:
Tom Goodhew, Assistant Director and Planning Manager,
Facilities Planning
Bill Haverly, Campus Architect and Director of Planning,
Design and Construction
Richelle Reilly, Facilities Planner/Landscape Architect,
Facilities Planning
Chris Sachs, Project Manager Capital, Facilities Design and
Construction
Lindsay Schumacher, Planner, Facilities Planning
Cherie Summers, Assistant Dean of Administration, College
of Engineering and Applied Science

Description: Conceptual Design submittal for a renovation of the former aerospace (ECAE) and north tower (ECNT) wings of the Engineering Center for the College of Engineering and Applied Science for research labs, offices, and student service spaces.

A/E Presentation:

Goals of Project:

- Repurpose space to best meet the needs of the College of Engineering and Applied Science (CEAS)
- Connect to and enhance the rest of the Engineering Center complex
- Bring the quality of both buildings up to meet campus goals for operational and energy efficiency
- Provide a building environment that supports occupant health and well-being
- Provide a welcoming atmosphere
- Improve building systems
- Invite daylight inside
- Foster collaboration
- Create flexible spaces for research
- Letting the purpose of the interiors of the project inform the exterior façade
- Due to the renovation's proximity to Colorado Avenue, it is no longer a strict back door – it has more of a presence on the campus
- Respect the boldness and the integrity of the original architecture

Schedule:

- Project to be completed for Owner Move-in by August 2021
 - Construction to start when school ends in Spring 2020

A comprehensive presentation was made of the submittal package which referred back to the DRB tour of the project. Discussions included:

- Exterior pedestrian flow through the campus
- Safety concerns between auto/bicycles/skateboarders and pedestrians
- Interior use functions, by floor, in the renovation
- Daylighting of interior corridors – beneficial to wayfinding
- An analysis of the tower-scape
- Historic window placement patterning
- Historic asymmetrical composition of building massing
- Discussion of collaboration within the departments of the Engineering building
- Discussion of designing a larger expanse of windows on the exterior of the building when all current large expanses of windows exist in interior facing courtyards
- Repurposing of sunscreen at east-facing building entry
- C-1 integration of a tower terminating corridor
- Mechanical distribution is dependent upon rooftop because of extremely low floor-to-floor height – north tower will look out onto the roofscape creating a concern and challenge for the design team
- Emphasis will be made to eliminate exterior doors into building that currently enter into individual lab spaces – occupants of the building do not want individual access

Four primary areas of focus on landscape concept plan:

- Colorado Avenue Frontage – allee of trees to enhance pedestrian experience
- East Entry – create an accessible secondary entry with buffering from loading
- Parking area – re-align bike and pedestrian circulation to reduce vehicle conflicts
- Onizuka Garden – trim existing trees to promote safety and access to daylight

Sustainability:

- Targeting project from LEEDv4 Gold
- Main focus will be on energy
- Project includes replacement of windows
- Meet and indoor waters use reduction of 40% or greater from the LEED baseline through the use of efficient flow and flush fixtures
- Demonstrate an outdoor water use reduction of 50% or greater from the LEED baseline and utilize ditch water for irrigation demands to minimize or eliminate the need for potable water use
- Determine if thermal mass of building be used to optimize thermal heating or cooling

DRB Comments:

A. Site & Landscape Architecture:

- Study access, circulation and parking in terms of location of the building, its relationship to the Discovery Learning Center, to Colorado Blvd., to the line of sights, to the maintenance points of access, to the curb cuts, to the intersection of Regent and what are your best thoughts if real estate was not an issue (We may have to lose one or two or three parking spaces, or we may

have to extend the maintenance and alley way service and drop off by 20 feet.). Explore a few different circulation concepts that create a better sense of entry, visual interest, maintenance access and improved pedestrian (bicycle and foot traffic).

- Explore and expand entry area with relocation of drive to the east to reduce tension between ADA and the steps to create a more designed area that incorporates bicycle traffic.
- Examine a stronger connection between the north wing and the Discovery Learning building – in terms of that corridor on a visual format. Study how to better connect that corridor to the building to improve the pedestrian and bicycle experience.
- Working closely with AMD, explore how the proposed architectural concepts complement and reinforce the landscape concepts.
- Explore emphasizing access from the north in the pedestrian walkway on Colorado Avenue at the front entry while downplaying the access from the east.
- Consider moving the entrance drive into the parking/loading area to the east to ease the congestion of proximity of the drive. Relocate the motorcycle parking to the east.
- Study the landscape zone against the building to investigate a deeper landscape (including spots for seating) and its impact on the pedestrian zone and quality of the sidewalk experience. This may resolve the disassociation between the landscape and the openings in the building.
- Analyze how the landscape can become an enhancement to the lower level spaces with windows to emphasize the place-making aspect on the interior of the lower level.

B. Architecture:

- Highlight which spaces of the renovated interior are being daylit and how that daylighting impacts the exterior fenestrations.
- DRB appreciates the expression of the corridors with the tower on the exterior but encourages the design team to consider breaking the glass at the datum line above the base of the building to create a greater sense of solidarity of the tower itself. Assuming the tower is not an entrance point, it should be distinguished as such so as not to be confused with the building's other tower entry points.
- Investigate adding another tower (perhaps a different size) along the north exterior of the wall that may reinforce the asymmetry of the façade.
- Study the window compositions and their articulation. There is concern with the windows being articulated as “proud” of the façade plane.
- Reconsider use of horizontal shade on the east façade.

At conceptual design:

- Review the planter on east entrance of building – it seems off-center to the overhang.

- Explore the addition of a screen wall or a stem wall at south edge of east entry to terminate the south facing view into the loading dock.

C. Sustainability and Energy:

- DRB encourages a further exploration of capturing material and resources in LEED goals for emphasis on lower embodied energy. In conceptual design, the major materials required should be identified, and an approach to addressing them suggested.
- Provide a conceptual design approach to addressing sustainability issues. For example, a plan showing the interior spaces to be daylit should inform the design of the façade fenestration. Similarly, a conceptual approach to the mechanical systems / air distribution in this challenging structure will inform ceiling heights / interior spatial arrangements. A strong concept will optimize both systems.

DRB Action/Comments in Lieu of Action:

Don Brandes moved to table the Conceptual Design submittal for the Engineering Center ECAE ECNT Renovations until October 2, 2019, 1:00 – 3:00 p.m., by a GoToMeeting session, to discuss the outcome of DRB input. Mike Winters seconded the motion, which unanimously passed.

3:30 – 4:15 p.m.

1135 Broadway Renovation – *CU Boulder* Pre-Design (Information/Direction Only)

Architects:

OZ Architecture, Denver, Colorado
DLAND Studio, Brooklyn, New York

CU Boulder Campus Presenter(s):

Jan Becker, Facilities Planner, Facilities Planning

Other CU Boulder Campus Representatives Present:

Tom Goodhew, Assistant Director and Planning Manager,
Facilities Planning
Bill Haverly, Campus Architect and Director of Planning,
Design and Construction
Richelle Reilly, Facilities Planner/Landscape Architect,
Facilities Planning

(Consulting architects were not expected for this presentation.)

Description: Pre-Design submittal for a building and site improvements at 1135 Broadway, a recently acquired commercial building across the street from campus. The renovations will provide space for the Renee Crown Wellness Institute, an interdisciplinary research institute focused on promoting the mental health and wellness of children and the adults that support them.

A/E Presentation:

Renee Crown Wellness Institute Program

Public Users:

Faculty
Graduate Students

Members of School Communities
Individuals and their Parents

Uses:

Research
Community Outreach

49 Workstations for staff and researchers

Consultants:

OZ Architecture – David Schafer
DLAND Studio – Susannah Drake

Budget:

Less than \$6M – closer to \$4M

Project Goals:

Wellness Institute:

Accessible: space for all regardless of language or physical limitations

Flexible: space to adapt to changing programs

Welcoming: community oriented

Magnetic: attracts collaborators from across campus

Wellness: promotes and supports

Differentiated: own distinct identity from campus

Calming: supports quiet reflective work

Collaborative: productive and creative unlike any other space on campus

Campus:

Accessible: address accessible access and parking

Safety: pedestrian and vehicular conflict

Welcoming: access from Broadway, from adjacent parking lot and to campus

Future: consider future development of site and City of Boulder alley improvements

The Hill: the Hill businesses and their use of parking

Wellness: connection to nature/outdoors for occupants

Acoustics: mitigate vehicular noise along Broadway

University:

Wellness: exemplify wellness in the workplace

Quality: bring building, site, systems up to industry standards (not campus facility standard) with code compliance

Optimization: optimize use of space per campus guidelines

Budget: not to exceed project budget

Sustainability: use LEED gold as a guideline for all new renovation strategies

DRB Action/Comments in Lieu of Action:

DRB requested that the design team work on a couple of concepts for the next DRB meeting.

Campus staff anticipates that the project will be coming back to the DRB for Conceptual Design approval in November 2019.

There being no further business, the public meeting of the Design Review Board was adjourned at 4:20 p.m.