

Meeting No. 1,047

THE MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS
OF
THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS SYSTEM

Pages 1 - 16

June 18, 2009

Austin, Texas

MEETING NO. 1,047

THURSDAY, JUNE 18, 2009.--The members of the Board of Regents of The University of Texas System convened this special called meeting at 10:40 a.m. on Thursday, June 18, 2009, in the Board Meeting Room, Ninth Floor, Ashbel Smith Hall, 201 West Seventh Street, Austin, Texas, with the following participation:

ATTENDANCE.--

Present

Chairman Huffines, presiding
Vice Chairman McHugh
Vice Chairman Foster
Regent Dannenbaum
Regent Gary
Regent Hicks
Regent Longoria
Regent Powell
Regent Stillwell
Regent Meijer, Student Regent, nonvoting

In accordance with a notice being duly posted with the Secretary of State and there being a quorum present, Chairman Huffines called the meeting to order.

WELCOME TO STUDENT REGENT KARIM A. MEIJER.--Chairman Huffines welcomed Student Regent Karim A. Meijer to his first Board meeting.

[On May 29, 2009, Governor Rick Perry appointed Mr. Karim A. Meijer to the Board of Regents of The University of Texas System to serve for a term from June 1, 2009 to May 31, 2010.]

1. U. T. System Board of Regents: Reappointment of Vice Chairman Foster, Vice Chairman McHugh, and Mr. Charles W. Tate to the Audit and Ethics Committee of The University of Texas Investment Management Company (UTIMCO)

Upon recommendation of The University of Texas Investment Management Company (UTIMCO) Board of Directors, the Board reappointed Vice Chairman Foster, Vice Chairman McHugh, and Mr. Charles W. Tate to the Audit and Ethics Committee of the UTIMCO Board of Directors. Vice Chairman Foster is Chair of the Committee.

It was also reported that the UTIMCO officers are as follows:

Chairman: Mr. Erle Nye

Vice-Chairman: Mr. J. Philip Ferguson

Vice-Chairman for Policy: Chancellor Francisco G. Cigarroa

Section 66.08 of the *Texas Education Code* requires that the U. T. System Board of Regents approve the appointment of members of the Audit and Ethics Committee of the Board of Directors of UTIMCO. On June 8, 2009, the Board of Directors of UTIMCO recommended these appointments, conditioned on the approval of the U. T. System Board of Regents.

Vice Chairman Foster was appointed to the UTIMCO Board of Directors by the Board of Regents on December 6, 2007. He has served on the UTIMCO Audit and Ethics Committee since his appointment by the Board of Regents on February 7, 2008.

Vice Chairman McHugh was first appointed to the UTIMCO Board of Directors by the Board of Regents on November 10, 2005, and was reappointed on April 16, 2007. She was first appointed to serve on the UTIMCO Audit and Ethics Committee by the Board of Regents on August 10, 2006, and was reappointed on May 10, 2007, and on February 7, 2008.

Mr. Tate was first appointed to the UTIMCO Board of Directors by the Board of Regents on September 28, 2004, and was reappointed on March 26, 2008. He was first appointed to serve on the UTIMCO Audit and Ethics Committee by the Board of Regents on May 10, 2007, and was reappointed on February 7, 2008.

2. U. T. Austin: Marine Science Institute-National Estuarine Research Reserve (MSI-NERR) Headquarters and Laboratory Expansion - Report on Minimum Elevation

On May 14, 2009, design development plans for The University of Texas at Austin Marine Science Institute-National Estuarine Research Reserve (MSI-NERR) Headquarters and Laboratory Expansion located in Port Aransas, Texas, were approved by the Board subject to further discussion with Regents Dannenbaum and Powell to resolve concerns about the impact of storm surge on the first occupied level of the building (see Item 11 on Page 50 of the May 2009 Minutes). Staff from the Office of Facilities Planning and Construction (OFPC) since provided information to Regents Dannenbaum and Powell on the project design basis, relevant code and insurance standards, federal storm and flood models, and other issues.

Following introductory remarks by Mr. Michael O'Donnell, Associate Vice Chancellor for Facilities Planning and Construction, Mr. David Dixon, Executive Director of Program Management in OFPC, reported that the design standards and the Sea, Lake and Overland Surges from Hurricanes (SLOSH) model used by the project design firm to determine the various elevations of the floors of the building were appropriate. He added that, in response to a concern raised by Regent Dannenbaum about personnel safety, the campus and the building would be evacuated in the event of a hurricane.

Regent Powell had deferred his concurrence with the design plans to Regent Dannenbaum who commended OFPC staff on the promptness and thoroughness of the response and said he is satisfied with the design plans for the project.

3. U. T. System Board of Regents: Appointment of The Honorable Ricardo H. Hinojosa as Regental Representative to the U. T. Austin Intercollegiate Athletics Council for Men

The Board appointed The Honorable Ricardo H. Hinojosa as a Regental Representative to The University of Texas at Austin Intercollegiate Athletics Council for Men effective immediately for a term to expire on August 31, 2013. Judge Hinojosa will fill the term vacated by Mr. R. Steven Hicks who resigned from this position on April 2, 2009, upon taking the oath of office as a Regent. There was a brief vacancy in the position until Judge Hinojosa was appointed to fill the unexpired term of Regent Hicks.

The U. T. Austin Intercollegiate Athletics Council for Men is a nine member advisory group composed of a student, an ex-student, two Regental appointees, and five members of the University General Faculty. The Regental appointments are for four-year staggered terms. Mr. Hicks was appointed to the Council on September 1, 2005, to serve through August 31, 2009.

A graduate of U. T. Austin, Judge Hinojosa earned his law degree from Harvard Law School. He received the Distinguished Alumnus Award from the Ex-Students' Association of U. T. Austin in 2001. He served as a member (1979-83) and chairman (1981-83) of the Pan American University Board of Regents and in 1986 he received the Distinguished Service Award from the Pan American University Alumni Association. Judge Hinojosa has served on the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Texas since 1983 and he is Acting Chairman of the U.S. Sentencing Commission.

RECESS TO EXECUTIVE SESSION.--At 10:50 a.m., Chairman Huffines announced the Board would recess to convene in Executive Session pursuant to *Texas Government Code* Sections 551.071, 551.072, 551.073, and 551.074 to consider those matters listed on the Executive Session agenda.

RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION.--At 1:00 p.m., the Board reconvened in open session and took the following actions on matters discussed in Executive Session.

1a. U. T. Health Science Center – Houston: Termination of Michael E. Brandt, Ph.D.

Regent Longoria moved that, based upon the record from the hearing of charges regarding the matter of Michael E. Brandt, Ph.D., a tenured faculty member at The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston, and with due regard to written documents recently submitted to the Board by Dr. Brandt and his counsel, including a request for postponement:

- a. the Board accept the finding of the Faculty Hearing Tribunal that Dr. Brandt engaged in retaliation by abruptly and without seeking advice initiating procedures to decrease or eliminate his research assistant's employment after her fiancé, another U. T. Health Science Center – Houston faculty member, rejected Dr. Brandt's research proposal based on his risk assessment;
- b. the Board accept the finding of the Faculty Hearing Tribunal that Dr. Brandt took such action based on the contention "that the research project funding would need to be returned" despite having been informed "that the funding would remain intact."
- c. the Board reject the finding of the Faculty Hearing Tribunal that the University did not establish evidence that Dr. Brandt engaged in research misconduct, and their related findings on this issue and that the Board instead adopt the findings of the investigative panel of the University's Committee for the Protection of Human Subjects and find that U. T. Health Science Center – Houston has a strong interest in assuring compliance with its comprehensive policies on research conduct, and further that Dr. Brandt's actions did violate University policies regarding honesty in research and an adherence to high ethical standards in the conduct of research, which policies not only include plagiarism and falsification of research results but also include dishonesty and misconduct associated with research endeavors, in order to ensure academic integrity and protect the reputation of the University; and
- d. the Board reject the conclusion of the Faculty Hearing Tribunal that the testimony and documents in the record provide no clear evidence that anyone talked to Dr. Brandt about his termination or about possible

human subjects concerns before the termination meeting with Dr. Smith, and all of the other conclusions in the final paragraph of the Tribunal's letter to the Board dated April 14, 2009; that the Board find instead that the record is replete with evidence that Dr. Brandt received adequate due process in accordance with established University procedures, including interviews on several occasions, the opportunity to explain his version of the events in question and to provide a defense to the charges he was facing; and that the Board find that the investigation and the process leading up to the University's decision to recommend termination was appropriate.

Based on the above findings and on the recommendation of the Faculty Hearing Tribunal that Dr. Brandt's appointment as a tenured professor should be terminated, Regent Longoria further moved that the Board determine that good cause exists to terminate Dr. Brandt's employment and that the Board vote to terminate him from the U. T. Health Science Center – Houston faculty effective at 5:00 p.m. Central Standard Time on June 18, 2009.

Additionally, Regent Longoria moved that counsel to the Board prepare findings of fact consistent with this action and the discussion in Executive Session.

Vice Chairman McHugh seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

1b. U. T. Health Science Center – San Antonio: Appointment of William L. Henrich, M.D., as President effective June 19, 2009

Vice Chairman McHugh moved that William L. "Bill" Henrich, M.D., currently Interim President, Dean and Vice President for Medical Affairs at The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio, be selected President of U. T. Health Science Center – San Antonio and become President effective June 19, 2009, at a compensation commensurate with the responsibilities of the office, to be negotiated in accordance with University of Texas System policies by Executive Vice Chancellor Shine and submitted to the Board for approval via the usual budgetary procedures.

Vice Chairman McHugh further moved that the Minutes reflect that, by approval of this motion, the Board has made a finding that, as required by State law, this appointment is in the best interest of U. T. Health Science Center – San Antonio.

The motion was seconded by Regent Powell and carried by acclamation.

- 1c. U. T. System: Discussion and appropriate action regarding individual personnel matters relating to appointment, employment, evaluation, compensation, assignment, and duties of presidents (academic and health institutions), U. T. System Administration officers (Executive Vice Chancellors and Vice Chancellors), other officers reporting directly to the Board (Chancellor, General Counsel to the Board, and Chief Audit Executive), and U. T. System and institutional employees

No action was taken on this item.

- 2a. U. T. Austin: Approval to negotiate gifts with potential naming features

Upon motion by Vice Chairman Foster, seconded by Regent Hicks, the Board of Regents authorized President Powers and Vice Chancellor Safady to conclude negotiations concerning gifts to benefit The University of Texas at Austin with potential naming features consistent with the terms outlined in Executive Session.

The motion carried by acclamation.

- 2b. U. T. M. D. Anderson Cancer Center: Approval of negotiated gifts with potential naming features

Regent Dannenbaum moved that the Board authorize President Mendelsohn and Vice Chancellor Safady to conclude negotiations concerning gifts to benefit The University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center with potential naming features consistent with the terms outlined in Executive Session.

The motion was seconded by Regent Longoria and carried unanimously.

- 3a. U. T. System Board of Regents: Discussion with Counsel on pending legal issues

No action was taken on this item.

- 3b. U. T. Health Science Center – San Antonio: Discussion of legal issues related to expansion of pediatric program

No action was taken on this item.

AGENDA ITEMS, CONTINUED

4. U. T. System Board of Regents: Presentation by Cooper, Robertson & Partners, L. L. P., of two conceptual master plans for the Brackenridge Tract

Chairman Huffines provided the following remarks regarding the presentation by Cooper, Robertson & Partners, L. L. P., of two conceptual master plans for the Brackenridge Tract.

Remarks by Chairman Huffines

We look forward to hearing the presentation from Cooper, Robertson and Partners. Their work began 13 months ago, after the Board adopted the recommendation of the Brackenridge Tract Task Force that a master planner be engaged to prepare a comprehensive analysis of the Brackenridge Tract. The work of the planner would result in conceptual master planning documents that identify the possibilities and constraints of the Tract and that the Board could use to guide its decisions on the near-term and long-term uses of the Tract.

The master planning work has been very broad in scope, including traffic studies, environmental studies, surveying, market analyses, and other important data gathering. In addition, the Board directed Cooper Robertson to provide opportunities for public input and public outreach during the 13-month master planning process. In accordance with that direction, the master planners have obtained input and heard comments from a broad group of interested parties; city, county, and State officials; and the public.

I'll call on Executive Director of Real Estate Florence Mayne to introduce the presentation of the conceptual master plan, but before she does so, let me emphasize that we will hear the master planners' presentation today and receive the conceptual plans. The PowerPoint that they show today will be available online to the public next week.

Cooper Robertson will, at a future date, also submit a written report to the Board, but that report is not yet finalized. When that report is finalized, it will also be made available to the public. There has been some confusion about the report, so I want to explain to everyone that the written report will not contain any different plans or recommendations than we will hear and see today. It will be a compendium of all of the research, analyses, and processes that Cooper Robertson has undertaken, all of which are the background materials to the presentation we are hearing today,

and it will include the conceptual plans and recommendations that we will hear today.

Ms. Mayne then provided introductory remarks and introduced Mr. Paul Milana, the Partner-in-Charge, and Dr. David McGregor, Project Director, who presented two conceptual master plans for the Brackenridge Tract, with portions of the presentation by other members of the master planning team assembled by Cooper Robertson. (The PowerPoint [presentation](#) is on file in the Office of the Board of Regents.) Mr. Milana noted that June 17, 2009, was the 99th anniversary of Colonel George W. Brackenridge's gift of the Brackenridge Tract to the Board of Regents.

Dr. McGregor presented the following recommendations for the Brackenridge Tract (Slides 231-232), noting that the first seven recommendations are the same as presented by the Brackenridge Tract Task Force and recommendations 8 - 11 are from Cooper Robertson:

1. Allow the Brackenridge Development Agreement to expire in 2019
2. Do not extend the Lions Municipal Golf Course (MUNY) lease (2019)
3. Sell no land
4. Relocate the Graduate Student Housing to the Gateway site (2012)
5. (Consider) Make land available for The Trail at Lady Bird Lake extension now
6. (Consider) Relocate the Brackenridge Field Laboratory
7. (Consider) Accommodate the West Austin Youth Association (WAYA)
8. Select the Brackenridge Village Concept Plan (Field Lab relocated)
9. To get the maximum return to U. T. Austin, use a Request for Qualifications (RFQ)/Request for Proposals (RFP) developer solicitation process for Phase I with the developer selection based on:
 - Fixed plan
 - Known infrastructure requirements
 - Competition
10. U. T. designs infrastructure/developer builds
11. Begin construction of Brackenridge Village Phase I (2013)

Dr. McGregor then presented an initial implementation schedule for development of the Tract (Slides 234-236).

Regent Dannenbaum asked if discussions have been held with the Lower Colorado River Authority (LCRA) regarding potential increased boat traffic in the region and Mr. Milana said conceptual discussions have been held with LCRA representatives. Regent Dannenbaum highly recommended that

specific discussions be held early with the LCRA regarding the additional boating density. Regent Dannenbaum also asked about the compatibility of the soils in the alternative locations proposed for the field laboratory and Dr. McGregor responded that is being taken into consideration with the field laboratory leadership. Regent Dannenbaum also questioned how the proposed plans conform to the Texas statute regarding restrictions on land designated as a park, and Dr. McGregor responded such designation would occur at the end of the necessary development within the stated premises.

Vice Chairman McHugh and Vice Chairman Foster made the following remarks:

Remarks by Vice Chairman McHugh

I want to compliment the process to date. With Cooper Robertson's work and engagement from the community, we have an opportunity to review this from multiple perspectives.

And, I want to mention again how much we value the work of the Brackenridge Tract Task Force. Under the able leadership of Mr. Larry Temple, this group did an outstanding job and their wise counsel, especially in terms of retaining a nationally recognized planning consultant, has certainly served the Board well.

I am sure that it will require a great deal of study and reflection for us to absorb all that has been presented today, but I am grateful to have something more solid to consider. And again, I want to thank everyone who has helped us reach this point in our deliberations, including the members of the public who took the time and effort to give us their thinking.

Remarks by Vice Chairman Foster

Mr. Chairman, I certainly agree with Vice Chairman McHugh's observations.

I want to add that, should new development of the Brackenridge Tract move forward, any funds generated would be specifically dedicated to U. T. Austin in accordance with Colonel Brackenridge's wishes as stated in your resolution when this process was begun. Every decision of the Board will be undertaken in close collaboration with the University and always in the interest of enhancing the education and research mission of U. T. Austin. That has been the Board's intent from the first and it will continue to be so.

Chairman Huffines provided the following remarks on Cooper Robertson's presentation.

Remarks by Chairman Huffines

Thank you for your presentation. It shows a depth of understanding about the Brackenridge Tract and about the Austin community and I commend you and your team for its insightful work.

Just as the master planning process involved many months of analyses and study, so, too, will the next step in the Board's review of the Brackenridge Tract. In fact, this is a process that, for us, could involve years of study, discussion, and deliberation.

Let me again note that the Board will take no action on the plans today, but rather will begin a serious study of the plans and recommendations.

We will consult with U. T. Austin on the student housing and field lab elements of the conceptual master plans. We will listen carefully to the needs of the campus and the School of Natural Sciences.

I am heartened by the proposed graduate student housing solution, about which we have already received some positive comments from the graduate student population and from the Mathews Elementary School community. That proposal preserves the graduate student housing as a community and strengthens its important tie to Mathews, while freeing up more than 73 acres along Lady Bird Lake that are eligible for development under the previously approved Brackenridge Development Agreement. It appears that this model of collaboration and communication with the graduate students resulted in a highly satisfactory conclusion for all parties. Nevertheless, it is important to note again that no final decision has been made about this aspect of the master plans presented.

Also, it is essential to note that the Brackenridge Development Agreement, entered into by the Board of Regents and approved by the City Council of Austin in 1989, continues until May of 2019. Under the Brackenridge Development Agreement, only university and public uses may occur on the 82-acre Brackenridge Field Lab

site for the term of the agreement. The lease for the 141-acre Lions Municipal Golf Course and the lease for the 14-acre West Austin Youth Association site also do not expire until May 2019. Thus, there is ample time to study, deliberate, and make decisions about the future of these portions of the Tract.

I will recommend that we schedule another public comment session in the coming academic year, after the Board, U. T. Austin, and all interested parties have had a chance to study the conceptual master plans.

I would like to remind the Regents that since the start of the Brackenridge review three years ago, the Board has committed itself to maintaining an open, collaborative, and transparent process.

Background Information

On June 17, 1910, Colonel George W. Brackenridge, then a member of the U. T. System Board of Regents, gave to the Board for the benefit of U. T. Austin a 500-acre tract in West Austin along both sides of the Colorado River. The deed from Colonel Brackenridge states that the gift is made "for the purpose of advancing and promoting University education." Colonel Brackenridge had hoped that his gift would form the foundation of a new campus for U. T. Austin, but his dream was not realized. During the 99 years since Colonel Brackenridge's deed, some of the property that was geographically isolated from the remainder of the tract was sold and the proceeds were placed in an endowment for U. T. Austin, and some of the property was utilized for road rights-of-way and utilities. There now remain approximately 350 acres in the tract along both sides of Lake Austin Boulevard.

The Board of Regents has periodically examined the use of the Brackenridge Tract. A review in the 1980s led to the Brackenridge Development Agreement between the City of Austin and the Board of Regents. That agreement governs non-university development on the tract. Current uses of the tract are a mixture of university uses, commercial uses, and civic and recreational uses. A map depicting the current uses on the tract appeared in the Agenda Book.

With the initial term of the Brackenridge Development Agreement expiring in 2019 and with the ever-pressing financial needs of U. T. Austin, Chairman James R. Huffines commenced the most recent review in July 2006 by appointing the Brackenridge Tract Task Force to study the tract and make recommendations to the Board. After more than a year of study, the Brackenridge Tract Task Force issued its written report in October 2007.

The Brackenridge Tract Task Force report contained numerous findings and recommendations, including a recommendation that a master planner be engaged to prepare a comprehensive analysis of the Brackenridge Tract resulting in conceptual master planning documents that identify the possibilities and constraints of the tract and that serve as a guide for the near-term and long-term uses of the tract. Other recommendations of the Task Force were:

1. The Brackenridge Development Agreement should be allowed to expire in May 2019 when its initial term ends.
2. The Board should include the Brackenridge Field Laboratory, which occupies 82 acres adjoining Lady Bird Lake, in the master planning process to determine whether the field lab should be restructured in its current location or relocated.
3. The 74 acres along Lady Bird Lake now occupied by the Colorado and Brackenridge Apartments for graduate student housing should be more beneficially utilized as part of a new master plan to produce significant revenue for U. T. Austin.
4. The Lions Municipal Golf Course lease, occupying 141 acres, should be allowed to expire when its initial term ends in 2019 and the tract should be included in the master planning process.
5. The 14 acres leased to the West Austin Youth Association should be included in the master planning process.
6. The master planning process should include a determination as to whether the extension of the hike and bike trail along Lady Bird Lake would be beneficial to and enhance the value of the entire tract.

On March 26, 2008, following an open selection process, the U. T. System Board of Regents selected Cooper, Robertson & Partners, L. L. P. (Cooper Robertson) as the firm to develop a minimum of two conceptual master plans for the development of the Brackenridge Tract. In seeking a master planner, the Board had three specific objectives:

1. To meet its fiduciary and legal obligations under the terms of the gift deed from Colonel Brackenridge. The Board's obligation is to use the tract in the best interests and for the maximum benefit of U. T. Austin. The Task Force observed on Page 26 of its report that "the pressing financial needs of [U. T. Austin] . . . , the increases in population and changes in land use in the City, and the tremendous increase in the value of the land compel a new vision for the tract that will provide greater financial benefits to [U. T. Austin] in support of its educational mission."

2. To achieve redevelopment of the tract in a manner that will not require the Board of Regents to sell portions of the tract, absent a compelling reason to do so. On Page 27 of its report, the Task Force stated that, "[b]ecause [U. T. Austin] is perpetual in nature and thus all future needs for the use of its lands cannot be determined, any future discussion of the use of the remaining lands within the Brackenridge Tract should begin with the presumption that the land should not be sold without a compelling reason."
3. To provide opportunities through the master planning process for members of the U. T. Austin community, members of the Austin community, neighborhood, civic and governmental leaders, other interested parties, and the general public to give input with respect to development options and strategies for the tract.

A contract with the master planning firm was entered into on April 21, 2008. The scope of work required under the contract was extensive and stipulated that the conceptual master plans for development of the Brackenridge Tract must be integrated planning documents that consider building sites, streets, parking and land uses; utility infrastructure and capacity; transportation within the tract and between the tract, the surrounding neighborhood, and arterials; recreational and open space, community services, and landscaping; way-finding/graphics; design guidelines, including building heights; compatibility with surrounding neighborhoods; sustainability and stewardship of resources; environmental and endangered species issues; and other relevant components. The focus of the conceptual plans is to be the strategic use of the Brackenridge Tract to support the educational mission of U. T. Austin.

Specific work areas within the scope of work were:

- Site analyses that result in a report of the most pressing issues and constraints that may affect redevelopment;
- Collaborative planning with U. T. Austin with respect to the existing uses of the graduate student housing on approximately 74 acres and the Brackenridge Field Laboratory on approximately 82 acres;
- Regulatory analyses that examine land use, planning, development, environmental laws, and other laws and regulations that may affect how the tract can be developed, including an analysis of the current Brackenridge Development Agreement between the Board of Regents and the City of Austin, which the Task Force recommended be allowed to terminate in 2019 when its initial term expires;

- Financial and market analyses to include an analysis of future development options for the Brackenridge Tract that will maximize income from the redevelopment of the Brackenridge Tract, using sound planning principles, to support the educational mission of U. T. Austin while contributing positively to the community;
- Opportunities for members of the U. T. Austin community, members of the Austin community, neighborhood, civic and governmental leaders, other interested groups and individuals, and the general public to give input with respect to development options and strategies for the tract;
- The development of a minimum of two conceptual plans for redevelopment of the Brackenridge Tract that comprehensively address the issues described above; and
- The development of an evaluation process that enables the Board of Regents to formally assess the strengths and weaknesses of the conceptual plans and a schedule of the steps required to implement the selected conceptual master plan(s).

In the analyses and information gathering phase, Cooper Robertson and its team engaged in numerous interviews and discussions with interested parties and groups. Also during that phase, surveyors, traffic planners, and other subcontractors of Cooper Robertson gathered data about the tract and the surrounding neighborhood.

To obtain public input and provide information, the master planning team held a public listening session on June 25, 2008, an information session on August 12, 2008, a weeklong series of workshops and public meetings November 3 through 7, 2008, and two public update sessions on May 20, 2009. These public sessions were held in the Lower Colorado River Authority complex on the Brackenridge Tract. Cooper Robertson held numerous meetings with representatives selected by U. T. Austin regarding the student housing on the Brackenridge Tract and regarding the Brackenridge Field Laboratory.

Drawing from the analyses, data gathering, and public input, the master planners developed the Design Principles set forth on the following page. Then, using the Design Principles as guidance, the master planning team undertook a series of design studies and analyzed and tested numerous plan options.

DESIGN PRINCIPLES

PREPARED BY COOPER, ROBERTSON & PARTNERS, L. L. P.

Legacy

Honor the intent of Colonel Brackenridge's gift that the land be used "in trust for the University of Texas" at Austin for the "purpose of advancing and promoting University education" and preserve opportunities for future University uses on the Tract.

Context and Compatibility

Recognize and respond to the Tract's context within the City of Austin as a part of the City's waterfront and to the context of the West Austin neighborhood by respecting the character of its edges with appropriate land uses, building scale, landscape, and traffic mitigation.

Place Making and Public Realm

Conceive the Tract as a distinct and integrated whole, greater than the sum of its parts, organized as a collection of walkable neighborhoods with an integrated system of streets, trails, and freely accessible, usable open space, collectively known as the public realm.

Compact Development

Employ compact development strategies that maximize open space, embody a hierarchy of experiences, and encourage mixed-use, pedestrian friendly and vibrant areas that will characterize the Tract within the region, the city, and the vicinity.

Ecology and Environment

Celebrate the lakefront and other significant natural features of the Tract, such as its creek and mature trees, by organizing a larger open space system about these elements, while embracing the best methods and practices to ensure their preservation and to support the regional ecology.

Mobility and Connectivity

Recognize that transportation solutions are achieved at a city-wide scale, but design to minimize neighborhood traffic impacts by providing additional connections that reduce the dependence upon Enfield Road and Exposition, by mixing uses to capture otherwise off-site trips, and by planning for future transit options. Incorporate a hike and bike system that is interconnected to upland pathways.

Sustainability

Plan the future of the Tract based on a holistic approach to sustainability which considers social and economic, as well as natural, systems and resources, building upon the strengths of the past and what exists today while preserving options for future generations.

Feasibility, Flexibility, and Economic Viability

Develop an economically feasible plan that can be phased over time, be flexible to changing markets and conditions, and generate income from the Tract, using sound planning principles, to support the educational mission of the University while contributing positively to the community.

SCHEDULED MEETING.--The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on July 8-9, 2009, in Austin, Texas.

ADJOURNMENT.--There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:10 p.m.

/s/Carol A. Felkel
Assistant Secretary to the Board of Regents

July 8, 2009