

**Wentworth Institute of Technology
BPDA Wentworth Task Force meeting
Multipurpose Academic Building**

**Tuesday December 13, 2016
Beatty Multipurpose Room**

Minutes

BPDA: Katelyn Sullivan, Project Manager
Michael Rooney, Project Assistant

Task Force: Robert Badavas, Annunciation Greek Orthodox Cathedral
Susan St. Clair, Mission Hill Resident, Problem Properties Task Force
David Welch, Mission Hill Neighborhood Housing Services
Patricia Flaherty, Mission Hill Neighborhood Housing Services
Sheneal Parker, Fenway CDC
Matilda Drayton, Alice Heyward Taylor Apartments
John Jackson, Tobin Community Center
Matthew Brooks, Fenway Civic Association

Wentworth: David A. Wahlstrom, Vice President, Business
Robert Totino, Vice President, Finance
Sandy Pascal, Associate VP, Community Relations & External Affairs
Johanna Sena, Community Relations Liaison
Lula Drayton, Technical Assistant
Courtney Wright, Asst. Director, Center for Learning & Community Partnerships
Edward King, Project Consultant, Edward M. King & Associates
Judith Kohn, Vice President, Fort Point Associates, Inc.
Jennifer Schultz, Goodwin Procter LLP
Josiah Stevenson, Principal, Leers Weinzapfel Associates Architects
Timothy Singleton, Senior Project Manager, STV|DPM
James. Kolb, Vice President, STV|DPM
Kevin A. Cooke, Senior Project Executive, Gilbane Building Company

Public: Collin Fedor, Representative Sanchez's Office
Nick Carter, Representative Josh Zakim's Office
Yissel Guerrero, Representative Mayor Walsh's Office

PowerPoint presentation available at www.wit.edu/imp

Welcome and Overview

Katelyn Sullivan called the meeting to order, welcomed everyone to the Wentworth Task Force meeting and recognized representatives from elected officials.

Welcome & New Task Force Members

Sandy Pascal welcomed Katelyn back to the Task Force. Thanked the Mayor's office and elected officials for selecting the new Task Force members. Introduced members of the Task Force. Introduced Wentworth staff.

Permitting Process & Schedule / Introduce Project Team

Jenn Schultz introduced herself and the project team.

Introduced permitting process. The addition of an academic building -previously known as the Center for Engineering & Technology- to the campus was previously approved in a smaller form in different campus location under the 2010 IMP

Jenn reviewed the target dates on schedule. WIT will file a PNF and amend IMP to move the building to new location. The proposed building will be a Multipurpose Academic Building. Filing an expanded project notification form and IMP/NF on approximately January 12th, 2017. Will offer another opportunity to have another task force meeting on January 10th (if task force feels that is needed), and having community meeting on January 24th approximately a week after filing. This are aspirational filing dates. Hopefully filing mid-January, would like to conclude the permitting process by May and zoning in June. Would like to start construction in June 2017 and open the building on January 2019.

Need for Academic Space

David Wahlstrom started by pointing out location on the campus map. Identified WIT buildings and streets, abutting institutions, housing, and the LMA. Identified the tennis court site. David reviewed projects approved on January 2011, in the 10 year IMP.

The Center for Engineering Technology will move the building to the tennis court site and add 30,000sf. Originally it was 45,000sf, now 78,000sf and about 60,000sf will be occupied.

The purpose of the new Multipurpose Academic building is to address change in the educational climate at WIT. WIT has gone from engineering technology to engineering programs. We are teaching the future generation of professionals in engineer and design build.

These programs will be accommodated within the new building, laboratories office space, Accelerate program, center for entrepreneurship as well as innovation. Manufacturing center on ground floor to showcase the work in the institute.

Most importantly collaboration spaces for students and faculty. At 5pm there used to be no one on campus, now students stay after classes to collaborate with students, faculty, and other disciplines. We want to facilitate these collaborative efforts in the new building.

Showed photo of Ira Allen space with students collaborating

Showed video of students working on new and activated library rooms. Looked at collaborative spaces and how students use it. Library is filled with nooks so students can work alone or spaces where students can work in groups. There are a number of meeting rooms that students can book to work on projects.

Multipurpose Academic Building

Josiah Stevenson from Leers Weinzapfel Associates Architects reviewed the slides about the new Multipurpose Academic Building. This modern four story building will showcase what is happening inside. This project very exciting as it completes a missing piece on the quad. It will also complete The Pike as the building will act as a gateway on Parker Street.

Right now tennis courts are open, but fenced in. Josiah pointed out in the map the area in relation to where the Task Force meetings was located. The first floor will be glassy so that it showcases high tech manufacturing studios. Hope to be campus node where things happen spontaneously.

Sandy asked to point out open gathering spaces for students as presented on images on the presentation. Josiah identified the students gathering areas. Upper floors have smaller areas of student collaboration. Labs offices and small communal spaces throughout the building.

Questions & Answers

- Susan St. Claim - asked if original building was 45,000 sq feet?

Jenn confirmed.

- David Welch – asked if technician programs go away or upscale for engineering? He remembers when WIT had big demand for this program.

David Wahlstrom – David reviewed the programs since the 1960's and spoke about the evolution of an associates degree to a four-year degree in technology, and now a four-year degree in engineering.

- Pat Flaherty – what is the additional space for?

Dave Wahlstrom- Mechanical on the roof and basement, as well as shelf space on the fourth floor for future academic use.

- Dave Welch – what happens to the tennis courts?

Dave Wahlstrom- Renting space from Eastern Nazarene. We have a tennis program but our tennis courts do not provide for colligate tournament program, we need 6 to compete for NCAA.

- Pat Flaherty - since Sweeney Field was going to bring financial and space to WIT, are you fully bonded to do this project, is financing in place?

Dave Wahlstrom – We are working on that.

- Sheneal – asked about the schedule?

Katelyn – will be online.

Dave Wahlstrom – WIT IMP website has everything we have done since 2008.

- Matilda - will this new building add to the foot traffic along that area because there is a lot of foot traffic presently.

Dave Wahlstrom – will ask VHB our traffic consultant.

Josiah – speculates that less traffic because kids live on other side.

- Bob Badavas – during construction, where is construction site? Seems will need access from Parker Street? How will it get scheduled?

Dave Wahlstrom – will defer to construction manager but envision parking on Parker Street will come offline and put a fence to enclose site, will try to stay within the parameters of site as possible. When we built 525 we were limited to the site and that's what we expect here.

Construction schedule is 7am-3pm unless have we special permits.

Sandy – we had a community meeting prior to construction at library and Ira Allen, will do the same here. Lula Drayton is the contact person during construction, she has good experience with the Ira Allen construction which is next to Church and Alice Taylor.

- Pat – You said lab space and office space; is this more parking and additional of office space?

Dave Wahlstrom – bioengineering program is new; about 6 new faculty and with labs another 2 lab techs.

- Pat – only 8 new staff?

Dave Wahlstrom – correct.

Sandy – WIT employees take full advantage of our generous public transit discount. In addition to the rideshare program with MASCO.

- David Welch – what is the status of 500 Huntington?

Dave Wahlstrom – this is still on the back burner.

Dave Wahlstrom- during the Huntington/Avenue of the Arts Study, the then BRA identified the Wilson site at a potential high rise location. This gave us pause to think of other possibilities for the site.

- Matthew Brooks – Is WIT looking to file an amendment or wait until next IMP to look at potential uses for this site Wilson?

Jenn- Next IMP for Wilson site.

- Dave Welch – is this IMP Amendment for the relocation of building plus additional square feet?

Jenn – Correct. Technically adding 23,000sf in change because the zoning code does not count square footage. Jenn went back to the slide with square footage breakdown.

- Katelyn – asked if there are thoughts on having extra Task Force meeting January 10th?

David Welch – Does not see a need for this additional meeting.

Other Task Force members agreed.

- Katelyn – next step will be filing of the Expanded PNF and IMPNF. Copies will be mailed and available on BPDA and WIT website. The Community Task Force meeting will be held on January 24, 2017.
- Pat – asked about the end of comment period.

Jenn - February 13th.

Dave Wahlstrom – will mail hard copies of presentation for those who would like one.

Closing

Katelyn closed the meeting and thanked all for attending.