

Meeting Notes



Architecture Planning Interiors

DLR Group Architecture & Planning
421 SW Sixth Avenue
Suite 1212
Portland, OR 97204

o: 503/274-2675
f: 503/274-0313

Date Feb. 23, 2017
Project Corvallis LRFP
Project No. 74-16106-00
Subject Facilities Committee Workshop 2

ATTENDEES

Kevin Balzer, Ana Bechtel, Darren Bland, Katy Blye, Avery Briggs, Jared Callis, Andrew Foster, Paul Jennison, Laura King, Adam Kirsch, Catherine Law, Carlos Lopez, Stephanie Mehlenbacher, James Mellein, Melissa Miller, Rocio Muñoz, Jennifer Richmond, Kevin Russell, Shahnaz Sahnaw, Adam Steele, KC Stewart, Michael Unsworth, Eric Wright, Gordon Zimmerman, Ryan Noss, Kevin Bogatin, Olivia Meyers Buch, Kim Patten, Brenda Downum, Alexis McQuillan, Scott Newsham, Tom Sauret

DLR Group - Karen Montovino, Kathy Milano

Absent: Byron Bethards, Ashley Cross, Rynda Gregory, Amy Lesan, Rynda Gregory, Asha Pantula, Feliciano Torres, Elizabeth Wyatt

OBJECTIVES

Demographic/capacity analysis & data distribution, educational adequacy overview and review of site-specific issues, educational trends, facility tour of Hoover ES

SUMMARY

Following the previous session, Workshop 2 is a continued exploration of the data collected over the past months. Where Workshop 1 focused primarily on capital needs from a facilities/infrastructure perspective, Workshop 2 is a dive into the educational adequacy of each site. This is a two-fold examination, first looking at each site through a capacity and programmatic space lens, then through qualitative review of those spaces, meaning, how the configuration and existing spaces are serving the educational needs.

To illustrate the review process, the workshop began with a tour of Hoover Elementary School, the site where the meeting was being held. The "Question of the Day" lead-in to the workshop addressed this tour - "What are your impressions of Hoover Elementary?" Each successive workshop will begin with a similar tour as the location will shift throughout the process. Sites not viewed during scheduled workshops will be arranged by the district at future dates. The tour and following discussion highlighted the point, that while the school staff are adept at creatively utilizing the facilities and adapting to their unique challenges, aging facilities and inadequate support spaces are not conforming to the needs at the site and are flexed to capacity as seen through the use of portables and obsolete spaces used in an ad-hoc manner. First impressions included:

"Creative with spaces"

"Good job with what they have, but don't have much"

"Government facilities, aging school district in dire need"

Weekly Spotlight from the District & Active Learning Design Trends

This week's "Spotlight" was presented by Kevin Bogatin and covered teaching and learning within the District and followed with a short discussion asking to the group, "What is learning?" - much of which continued to echo the District's core values. Discussion highlights included:

- "When kids are involved and active."
- "Students feeling connected-to, [both] socially and professionally."
- "Nimble and adaptable spaces that shift and change - have flexibility."
- "Blurring the lines between environment and school."

Tying into the Spotlight, DLR Group shared with the group a short presentation on 21st-Century learning design trends. This presentation showed how both new facilities can be designed and how existing or traditional models can be adapted and/or modernized to accommodate active learning environments.

Educational Adequacy & Enrollment Data

Following the facility tour and introductory presentation, DLR Group presented the results of the Educational Adequacy Assessment and a comparison study between the enrollment report produced by the Davis Demographics and initial capacity analysis.

The qualitative rubric for the Educational Adequacy study was created in collaboration with the Innovation Team during the during the Educational Programming phase of LRFMP the previous Fall (2016) and with the Core Values guiding its development. As a result, while all schools throughout the district showed significant need in terms of improved 21-st Century teaching spaces, specialist and small group instructional spaces, day-lighting, visible learning, and student gathering spaces, Garfield, Hoover, Lincoln, and Franklin Elementary School scored lowest on the scale. Newer facilities, such as Linus Pauling MS and Corvallis HS, though scored higher, still present areas where improvement is needed under these categories.

Both current enrollment (provided by the district) and projected population data (provided by the Davis Demographic Report Feb. 2016) was compared against an initial capacity study that looked at district target classroom size within the current program-use framework. This comparison shows an immediate need for additional permanent classroom space. At the elementary level, lack of dedicated art and music spaces as well as displacement of grade level classrooms into temporary classroom buildings highlights this need. At the secondary level, initial comparisons show available capacity. However, further discussion of space-use at each school is needed. This data spurred a discussion that brought up several new questions needing further investigation, primarily:

- What is the data for the local private schools?
- What is the forecast for Special Education students?
- What does the expected Pre-school population look like?
- What contributes to out-of-neighborhood school selection (open enrollment)?
- What types of infrastructure is present at each school?

In large part, the members of the Facilities Planning committee differ from those of the Innovation Team, thus questions regarding process and grading lead the discussion. In order to highlight where deficiencies, overruns, and capacity issues lay, identifying an "ideal" elementary and secondary program and charting comparatively against existing side-by-side site conditions will be developed and presented at a future workshop.

