



Public Information Meeting #1

April 23, 2013

Below is a summary of the comments and feedback that was provided from the nine tables during the breakout session at the first public information meeting. The column on the left lists the comment while the column on the right list indicates the number of tables that repeated that comment or had a comment that was similar.

General Comments:	
Is Fitch Ct park of this project? Would like to see something similar what was done on Hawthorne Court to make the street/alley more utilized and provide more bike parking.	
More Trash/Recycling Receptacles to accommodate the food cart waste.	
Make the entrance to State Street/Library Mall more inviting to signify you are entering a special space. Gateway entrance at book ends/columns. Recognize that this is a major gateway to the university. There is no signage or maps.	3
If there is a new kiosk design, make it so that bikes cannot be chained to them.	
Improve way-finding through perimeter/gateway markers.	2
A lot of gray/concrete drab. Add softer features, more human scale features, and color.	6
Incorporate sustainable elements: storm water retention, permeable pavement. Think about general themes of Madison and incorporate them into the overall design (lakes, sustainability, environmentalism, town and gown.	2
Make the space more useful in the winter. Ice skating rink in the winter? Address how drab the area is in winter.	2
The 700-800 Blocks have no flow, too many food carts, blocked by stage and weird art forms	3
Could we use the Historic Society patio area for tables?	
Is there a schedule for the Humanities building replacement?	
More flexible use spaces.	
More covered space for rainy days.	
More trees with canopy and flowering trees.	3
Provide a better pedestrian crossing to Bascom Hill – More in line with State Street (right now crossings are offset) and ADA Accessible. Create a central staircase that invites you. Address safety concerns for pedestrians at street level coming from Bascom Hill. Consider a ped-activated light	8

STATE STREET 700-800 BLOCK & LIBRARY MALL



Which entrances are the important entrances? Memorial Library opens to State Street, Library Mall access not utilized. Reopen the Memorial Library's main entrance onto the mall – let the original design of the space be used as intended – would be a big improvement.	3
Ok with skate boarders using the space.	
Make this an iconic space.	
More life to the space – little garages for retail near Memorial Library.	
Preserve the Library Mall as a gathering place. Allow for large gatherings/concerts to occur using both Library Mall and Alumni Park.	2
Emphasize that this is a pedestrian space – slow down – make this a quality destination as well as a pleasant place to pass through.	2
Express the strong symbolism – This is where the city, university and state come together.	
The circles in pavement are a design element that could be used effectively if better placed.	
This is a pleasant place to walk through – like when I forget my destination for a moment and enjoy what's around me.	
More kiosks – like the State Street ones. The large ones currently in use are well used – the design could be more significant.	2
The library porch does not work. Creates a formidable barrier. Could the balustrade be opened up into steps across? This stepped approach could be good for perching, watching activities as a low stadium. Reorient the major event stage from the Library steps to the center. Remove the bike racks and put in tables.	
More bubblers, water fountains	
More and better art features.	
Find ways through art and design to express the symbolic significance of this crossroads.	
Facilitate larger public gatherings that move through the space from Library Mall and Bascom Mall toward the Capitol.	
Security cameras should be integrated with design.	
Allow for continued use as large public gathering area. More live music and other events.	3
Memorial Library steps were once the focal point for gatherings and rallies.	
Chain link fence around perimeter of lawn ineffective/unnecessary and an obstruction.	
Choreograph movement through space so as to protect landscape.	
700-800 blocks of State Street are perceived as an extension of Library Mall. Therefore, the two spaces should be constructed at the same time.	

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Both areas feel like leftover design.	
Library Mall is too formal, need to loosen it up a bit.	
Make both spaces open to all members of the community (students, general public, young and old).	
Eliminate Ash trees from the spaces.	
Need to think about other street vendors other than food carts and how they can/should be accommodated.	2
Need to explore parking under Library Mall.	
Consider more active uses on the area of East Campus Mall between State Street and the Chazen Museum.	
Consider raising Library Mall to eliminate grade changes with surrounding buildings.	
Bandstand noise affects library (direction of noise towards library)	
Could the bandstand be oriented more towards library mall – could be more conducive to experience.	
The idea of the speaker’s podium is an important one to the city – confluence of town and gown... but it could be placed better.	
Could the library have banners or an art installation to make the façade better? (like famous Chicago museums and Bascom Hall?)	
More creative and artistic lighting – make it like public art! (Bay bridge lights in San Francisco)	
Plantings should be beautiful in all seasons	
Curate a rotating “installation art” in the space	2
Thinking about expanding the usage by expanding hours of the day and times of the year.	2
Select durable materials so they don’t look shoddy after just a few years	
Add a sidewalk that is aligned with the East Campus Mall (at least to the fountain) towards the Union	
During good weather there is a tremendous amount of foot traffic and activity in the space. A lot of energy. Special events in the space also add energy; Alumni Fair, student organization events, undie run, etc. Ad hoc and spontaneous activities also seen as positive, protest marches, etc.	
Street preachers add to the activity, seen as positive.	
700 Block State Street:	
Dismal and grey when the vendors aren’t there.	
The Memorial Library is a major stakeholder – one million people come through the doors a year. – Emphasized having a stakeholder meeting with them. Library is a population center even now.	2
The entrances to the Bookstore and Library have changed since the original pavement was put in – the design makes no sense.	

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Need color, plantings to soften this area. Could we get more trees?	
Pay attention to where the smokers congregate – usually under the overhang. Smokers are inevitable but where should they be encouraged to be?	
Lighting is ineffective. Could lighting on the Library be an asset?	
700 Block cluttered and inhibits fire truck access.	
800 Block State Street:	
Is the porch/veranda on the 800 Block part of the Historic Society or State Street?	
Wonderful trees but mainly just a walk through. Feel this is a good area for seating. Do something interesting with it under the trees.	2
What are those 3 forms? Get rid of them!	
A place for art features.	
Too narrow for much in the way of vendors unless they are quite small.	
The entrance to the pedestrian bridge through going up the steps to Humanities is confusing/barrier. This entrance is lacking in general.	2
Another smokers gathering spot is the Historical Society porch.	
800 Block needs more seating opportunities.	2
800 Block is underutilized (attributed to lack of seating and weak connection to Bascom Mall).	3
800 block can be congested when students empty out of the Humanities Building	
Food Vender Comments:	
Spread out the food vendors to alleviate the congestion from the 700 block. Move a portion of the food vendors to the 800 Block?	5
Could the food vendors go on East Campus Mall?	
Could the food vendors be forced to use biodegradable containers to cut down on waste.	
More defined space for food carts.	
The electrical hookups are really ugly when the carts are not present. Is there a way to bury them? Very emphatic about this eyesore.	2
Their presence is highly valued, but necessitate more places to sit, more tables.	
Consider night time location for food vendors.	3
Food carts add a lot to the activity level	
Spacing of food carts locations seems to be about right. Closer spacing would be difficult for set up.	
Circulation for food cart pick up and drop off can be challenging, last minute arrivals (just before 11:00 am) are actually dangerous	



How will food cart vending be accommodated during construction??	
Amenities:	
Maintain seating space, place to hang out, sit down. The steps are always crowded with people eating. Steps as a place to perch are fun. Add more seating.	7
Like's water features, whether it's maintaining the existing fountain or something new. Really likes the at-grade spray fountains that are elsewhere in the country.	2
The podium's time has come and gone. Could be removed. Have never seen anyone use the speaker's podium. Was a nice idea that didn't work. As a lookout towards the capital there are better vantage points such as Bascom Hill.	4
Keep the green space in some capacity. Could be a different arrangement.	6
Could we raise the green space 18" to prevent the space from being trampled but still be able to be utilized?	
Softer stones, round wood, chairs and tables have to blend in.	
Clock – Maybe could be a digital sculpture. The clock as an idea is a nice reference point for people – but it needs to actually be the right time... however it could be moved to a different location	2
The Stage - an important element to have a stage in the new design put the current placement is problematic.- suggest putting a stage where the clock currently is would open sightlines in four directions.	2
The Stage - Have seen many productions and impromptu activities there.	
Like the idea of a central lookout where the clock is. They have observed many people stopping in the Chazen glass bridge to look at the lake. Perhaps a sightline though Alumni Park could be beautiful.	
Clock is obsolete	
Fountain:	
The fountain is a landmark, Love it.	2
The fountain is beautiful and must be preserved as historically significant.	2
Like seeing children dangle their feet in it – referring to the fountain	
The fountain looks like a slimy bath tub.	
The fountain has become a public play place.	
The mushroom shape element in the center of the fountain is boring.	
This should be a beautiful center piece – artistic.	
There should be a fountain in the middle of Library Mall – perfect placement.	
The size is good. For walking around and for seeing over during big gatherings.	

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The circular shape is simple and functions well to allow people to interpret where it is and it has never	
It should be lit at night.	2
Don't replace it with water park like spouts – prefer something for the contemplation.	
Appreciate simplicity and ease of maintenance.	
Expand the fountain, make it bigger and better	
The fountain is nice when it isn't covered up by an ugly dome in the winter.	
Transportation/Circulation (Cars, Bikes, Pedestrians)	
One way on Langdon or are cars needed?	2
Switch the priority on Langdon to pedestrians over vehicles. Consider a crosswalk like where the East Campus Mall crosses University and Johnson. Safety concerns on Langdon Street with pedestrian's crossing to Memorial Union.	5
This is a pedestrian area overall. Enhancing walking and gathering could have the qualities of European public spaces	
The cross walks and open spaces in Library Mall work – Don't change them, especially not to increase the speed of passing through.	
There are many fond memories of choosing which path to take.	
Need to accommodate East Campus Mall pedestrian/bike movement through Library Mall.	
Consider how pedestrian movements will change with the completion of Alumni Park.	3
The busses are awful on Langdon	
Bicycle Comments:	
Bicycle Racks are not easily accessible. Bike racks are located near Memorial Library on the Library Mall side, forcing people to use their bikes on State Street to get to the racks. Could have better placement of the bike racks.	2
Provide better connectivity for bicycles from Park Street to Lake Street.	
Hopefully this area will become another place where B-Cycle can be incorporated.	
Bicycles and skate boarders do not belong on Library Mall or the 700-800 blocks of State Street which	
Langdon Street could be developed as a more effective bicycle corridor. – designate a good, clear route, somewhere else for them to safely go.	
No bicycle signs are ignored.	
On the east Campus corridor it should be clearer where they should ride.	
Concerned about bicycle/pedestrian conflict at East Campus Mall intersection.	2

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Bikes are an issue, but should probably keep current requirements due to pedestrian conflicts and safety concerns	
Lighting:	
Likes the lighting on the other blocks of State Street. Could continue that through to the 700 and 800	2
Poor lighting current on State Street.	3
Other:	
Is there a place to provide moped parking?	