Memo to File

Re: Long Range Development Plan Amendment #4 (Minor Amendment), January 2019

Long Range Development Plan (LRDP) Amendment #4 was needed to facilitate the Mobility Hub and Central Linkages Project

Long Range Development Plan Amendment #4

The Mobility Hub and Central Linkages Project site is currently designated as Open Space and Academic land use in the 2005 Long Range Development Plan (LRDP), as amended. The proposed project use is not consistent with the Open Space designation, which is approximately 2.5 acres of the approximately seven-acre project site. Approximately one acre is in the City of Riverside right-of-way and not subject to the campus LRDP. Parking Lot 19 is an existing non-conforming land use on an area designated as Academic. It will be reduced to approximately one acre and screened with a landscaped buffer, but the land use will not be re-designated as it is considered a temporary use. The remaining approximately 2.4-acre portion of the site designated as Open Space would be unchanged, as the proposed project use is consistent with this land use designation (Attachment 1 and 2).

Project Site – Existing and Proposed LRDP Land Use Designations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Existing Land Use Designations</th>
<th>Proposed Land Use Designations</th>
<th>Project Scope</th>
<th>Approximate Area (acres)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Open Space</td>
<td>Campus Support</td>
<td>Mobility Hub</td>
<td>2.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Open Space</td>
<td>Open Space (No Change)</td>
<td>Central Campus Linkages</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academic</td>
<td>Academic (No Change)</td>
<td>Parking Lot 19 (Existing)</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Open Space land use designation is typically used for campus malls, quads, plazas, courtyards, and formal and informal gathering spaces. Examples include naturalistic open spaces, Botanic Gardens, malls, and important campus buffer areas which provide setbacks for adjacent uses, as well as walkways and connections throughout campus. Closely associated with campus open space are the streets that provide circulation to vehicles, bikes, and pedestrians. In the 2005 LRDP, as amended, the University had intended the project site to support the campus’s Open Space Framework as a mall and linear open space.

The University proposes to amend the 2005 LRDP, as amended, to revise the designation of a portion of the Mobility Hub and Central Campus Linkages project site from Open Space to Campus Support. With the proposed change in land use designation, adequate Open Space will remain in the immediate areas surrounding the Campus Support land use. The Mobility Hub supports remaining Open Space by integrating park-like spaces and walkways that create connections to campus. The project also
supports the 2005 LRDP, as amended, by creating an improved gateway arrival point to provide visitors with a sense of arrival and orientation.

The Campus Support land use designation allows uses such as Transportation and Parking Services, Fleet Services, Environmental Health and Safety, and similar or associated uses which support the campus enterprise and campus community. The proposed Campus Support designation at the project site is compatible with the surrounding uses and planned future uses.

This LRDP amendment to allow the Mobility Hub and Central Campus Linkages project on the proposed site will provide the necessary public-oriented use in support of the objectives of the 2005 LRDP, as amended. The integration of essential open space and landscape strategies and multi-modal transportation improvements will create a seamless connection to the campus’s Open Space Framework. The project is consistent with the campus’s overall planning strategy for circulation and parking, which envisions transportation hubs at campus gateways, and is located along an identified campus transit corridor.

**Project Description**

The Mobility Hub and Central Linkages Project (proposed project) will enhance public transportation access to campus, create safe pedestrian and bicycle-friendly environments, and address circulation along key east-west and north-south alignments. The intent is to effectively integrate transit, passenger drop-off/pick-up, emergency and service access, and bicycle and pedestrian connections at a central location on campus. This is achieved by converting a parking lot near a major campus entrance into a bus transportation hub that allows the consolidation of existing bus routes and enables the rollout of RTA’s new high frequency bus routes, while also improving service access to campus. Conversion of the existing parking lot will include establishing six bus bays and passenger loading zones, installing an information kiosk, constructing a signalized intersection to service the area, and establishing a connection for vehicle access from University Avenue.

The proposed project will create a new “front door” to campus at the east terminus of University Avenue at Canyon Crest Drive and will feature custom bus canopies, associated streetscape, and pedestrian paths. Additionally, landscape and site improvements will be made along pedestrian corridors and campus roads, including the conversion of North Campus Drive to a pedestrian mall, and the creation of the new Recreation Mall.

**California Environmental Quality Act Compliance**

An Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) was prepared for the LRDP Amendment #4 and Mobility Hub and Central Campus Linkages project in accordance with CEQA (State Clearinghouse [SCH] No. 2018111013). The IS/MND is tiered from the 2005 LRDP Environmental Impact Report, and evaluated the environmental impacts of the minor LRDP Amendment #4, land use, proposed construction, and operational activities that would take place to complete the entire project. Based on the analysis in the IS/MND, it has been determined that all impacts associated with the Mobility Hub and Campus Linkage project would be reduced to a less than significant level with the incorporation of mitigation measures. The Final IS/MND is available at [http://cpp.ucr.edu/environmental/](http://cpp.ucr.edu/environmental/).