



OPEN SESSION

FOR INFORMATION

PUBLIC

TO: Planning & Budget Committee

SPONSOR: Scott Mabury, Vice President, University Operations

CONTACT INFO: 416-978-0231, scott.mabury@utoronto.ca

PRESENTER: Same as above

CONTACT INFO:

DATE: April 30, 2020 for May 7, 2020

AGENDA ITEM: 6

ITEM IDENTIFICATION:

Design Review Committee: Annual Report, 2019

JURISDICTIONAL INFORMATION:

Planning and Budget Committee receives reports for information.

GOVERNANCE PATH:

1. Planning and Budget [for information] (May 7, 2020)

HIGHLIGHTS:

During 2019, the Design Review Committee (DRC) reviewed several major projects that individually and collectively improve the physical beauty of the campus while providing for much needed new space and functional improvements. The projects represent new construction, as well as renovation and landscape projects demonstrating that a campus is comprised of quality buildings and open space that together contribute to the student experience.

Between January and December of 2019, the committee met sixteen times to review twenty-five projects. Last year, the committee reviewed the following major projects across the three campuses:

St. George Campus

- Wallberg Sustainability Lab
- Centre for Civilizations, Cultures & Cities
- TTC Accessible Exit (at Museum Station)
- Landmark Project

- Schwartz Reisman Innovation Centre (formerly PIE Complex)
- OISE Lobby Renovation
- McMurrich Recycling Depot
- Harbord Residence
- New Academic Building Woodsworth College
- Victoria University Northop Frye Academic Building
- Innis College Addition and Renovation
- University College Quad
- Robert Street Playing Field
- 730 Yonge St.
- University of St. Michael's College Wayfinding
- Trinity College New Student Residence & Academic Building
- Spadina Sussex Residence
- Indigenous Landscape
- University of Toronto Schools: Signage
- 1 Spadina Belvedere
- Exterior Signage for the Rotman School of Management

Mississauga Campus

- UTM New Science Building

Scarborough Campus

- UTSC Student Residence
- UTSC Instruction Centre 2 (IC2)

Other

- Gull Lake Bunkhouse

Membership of the Design Review Committee as of December 2017:

Scott Mabury, Vice President, Operations and Real Estate Partnerships (Co-chair post October 2019)

Bruce Kuwabara (Co-Chair), KPMB Architects, Partner

Gilbert Delgado (Co-Chair), Chief, University Planning Design & Construction (until October 2019)

Paul Bedford, Paul Bedford & Associates, Principal

Carl Blanchaer, WZMH Architects, Principal

Don Schmitt, Diamond Schmitt Architects, Principal

Jane Pepino, QC, Aird & Berlis LLP, Governing Council member

Richard Sommer, Dean Daniels Faculty of Architecture, Landscape and Design (or delegate)

Christine Burke, (Executive Secretary) Director, University Planning

Costas Catsaros, Director of Project Development, University Planning Design & Construction

Adrienne De Francesco, Executive Director, Capital Projects Group, University Planning Design & Construction

Robert Wright, Professor, Faculty of Architecture, Landscape and Design

Saher Fazilat, Chief Administrative Officer, University of Toronto Mississauga

Andrew Arifuzzaman, Chief Strategy Officer, University of Toronto Scarborough

At DRC meetings, projects are presented by the design team for each project to the DRC. Teams present the projects at least twice and on an as need basis, additional presentations are reviewed. The first review occurs at an early schematic design stage. This is intended to establish that the proposed building and landscape concept is contextually appropriate to the site and campus and addresses urban design criteria and massing as delineated by the University's master plans as well as campus wide issues of parking, loading, traffic impact, accessibility and servicing. At this meeting, the DRC reviews building design requirements such as: internal functionality, opportunities to elevate student experience, flexibility/adaptability options and interconnectivity with other buildings.

A second review and follow-up discussions between consultants and the DRC occur when the project is in the design development phase where details of the building have been determined and are better refined.

The landscape plan is reviewed for the articulation of open space within the site, opportunities for synthesis with adjacent areas and interconnectivity to the wider campus. Finally, the palette of materials and signage is considered. Throughout the process, the DRC review is considered within the budgetary framework of the project.

The DRC conducts reviews of the strength of ideas proposed and provides guidance to explore options that otherwise might not have developed. In its deliberations, the DRC is mindful of the difficult trade-off between expectations, budgetary reality and long-term faculty goals, seeking a balanced approach to the resolution of design concerns. The DRC is not tasked with the design of the project, but to work with design teams to set high expectations for design, in all aspects.

Projects are also reviewed with respect to sustainability and environmental concerns as these continue to be more important in our built environment and impact the ongoing operating costs of our buildings.

The complete mandate of the Design Review Committee is defined in Design Review Committee Terms of Reference found on the University Planning Design and Construction website. This mandate was approved by Governing Council in June, 2014.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

None

RECOMMENDATION:

For Information

DOCUMENTATION PROVIDED:

None