

DOCUMENTATION OF PUBLIC MEETING #2

Pullen Arts Center Improvements Project



INTRODUCTION

The Pullen Arts Center Improvements Project is part of the 2014 Parks and Recreation Bond Referendum, which will fund the improvement and expansion of the arts center and surrounding site. The improvements to the arts center will be designed within the guiding principles established by the Pullen Park Deed and the Pullen Park Master Plan, which was adopted by the City Council on July 4, 2001. The Pullen Park Master Plan called for expansion of the Pullen Arts Center and creation of an outdoor plaza at North Pullen Park.

This project will be implemented in two phases. Phase 1 is the Conceptual Study Phase currently in progress. Phase 2 is the Design and Implementation Phase, which is projected to begin in the summer of 2016 upon the City Council approval of the design concept developed during Phase 1. The Design Team has completed analysis of the existing building conditions, site conditions and programming, which is documented in the Existing Conditions Report and Situation Assessment. The Conceptual Study Phase includes three public meetings to solicit public comment and gather input from citizens. The 1st Public Meeting was held on October 13, 2015 and served as a visioning session to gather input. The 2nd Public Meeting was held on January 12, 2016 to present diagram options for public review and comment. A 3rd Public Meeting will be held to present the preferred concept diagram based on the feedback received from the 2nd Public Meeting. The preferred diagram design will also be presented to the Parks, Recreation and Greenway Advisory Board and the City Council for approval before proceeding to the design and implementation phase.

The 2nd Public Meeting was held at the Pullen Community Center located on South Pullen Park. The public comments and input received during this meeting are recorded in this document as follows:

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Documentation Of CPC Comments	Page 8
Public Meeting #2 Synopsis	Page 17

All of the comments from posted notes and comment boards are recorded in the Documentations of Public Comments and CPC Comments. For the summary of the major issues discussed during the public meeting as well as compilation of the written comments, refer to the Public Meeting #2 Synopsis on page 17.

DOCUMENTATION OF PUBLIC COMMENTS

Pullen Arts Center Improvements Project – 01.12.2016 Public Meeting #2

Conceptual Site Diagram



- Need to address building before plaza.
- Need to address drivers cutting through park from Pullen to Hillsborough St.
- OK for change.
- Outdoor studio space. Public interaction with artists.
- I like the choice of the conceptual diagram. Keep NW of Arts bldg. open.
- Add atrium area with bamboo and rocks like Cedar Creek.
- Windows for art studios are of primary importance!!!
- Pottery studio with operable windows facing SOUTH.
- Drive around Pullen Art Center and have a 2nd entrance, with a veranda and covered drop off where the PAC entrance currently exists – for painters since painting studio should face North! (Very important). Please contact me anytime. I am the Advanced Painting teacher for 20 years and have lots of input.
- Please do research: Get carts with 40+ lbs. of stuff and walk from each proposed parking area to the entrances. Add 30 years to your age. Can you easily get to the center? Need ramps, veranda for coverage from rain, and automatic doors.

DOCUMENTATION OF PUBLIC COMMENTS

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Plaza Concept #1



- Theatre In The Park needs a main entry. This is the closest concept to realizing our needs. Less the gathering space on the left of TIP's entry.
- Need road to access TIP.
- This could be a nice cobblestone path open only as needed – can have a strong entry at Arts Center door.
- I like the idea of a “sometimes” road – drivable plaza.
- Need covered veranda for drop off. Make road PUBLIC! (not just special occasion usage). Why? So we can drop off supplies and artwork. Need CLOSE parking! (Can you provide parking at top left?)
- I've not ever seen drive-thru plazas work well, but hear the concerns for visibility and access from the road.
- Don't break up space with road/drop off.
- Pedestrian walkability without fear of vehicles interaction. Redesign theater entry sequence if unhappy with lack of vehicle access.
- Plaza will be good for kids' summer projects.
- Where is parking close to PULLEN? Covered walkway to protect work.
- Covered drop off. More than minimum parking spaces for disabled. Accessibility with aging population in mind. Parking close by.
- We need truck access for clay drop offs and an enclosed but covered/partially covered area for kilns outside.
- Limit parking access – increase bus access.

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Pullen Arts Center Improvements Project – 01.12.2016 Public Meeting #2

Plaza Concept #2



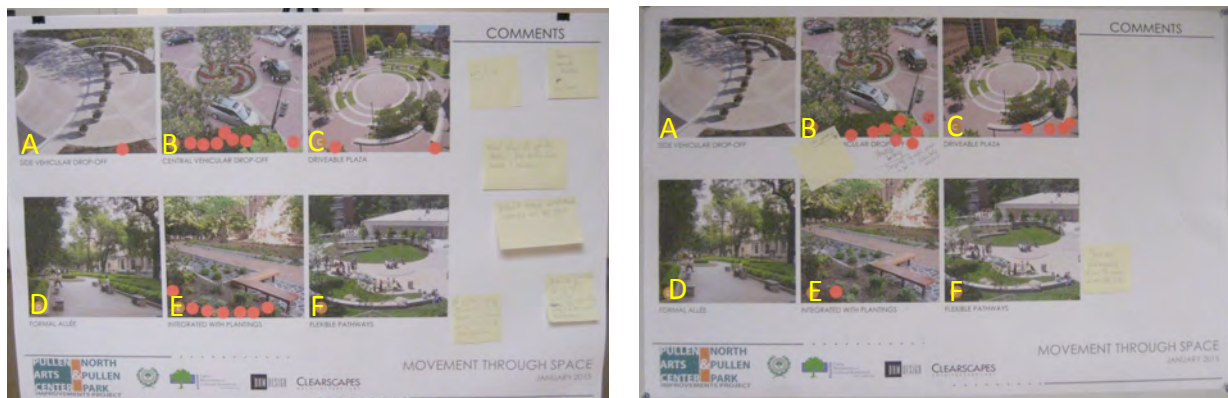
- The entire area is a park already. Theater, gallery, craft are not exclusive. All can use.
- Everyone can use the exterior space even if not going inside a building. Should be a priority equal to the building itself.
- Keep the green gathering space – it's a necessary resting space – spiritually and visually.
- I like preserving a large car free gathering space.
- I think the drop off circle is best for the theater and doesn't require the through road.
- A larger drop-off circle (probably w/landscaping in the middle) would be beneficial so drop-off could be closer to doors.
- I think the circular drop off works better to get carts close to the door.
- I like plaza concept #2, with hardscape above and entry to both upper buildings.
Consider amphitheater – like transition down to lower elevations. Please build in strong pedestrian connection to the Gregg.
- Keep vehicles to perimeter as much as possible.
- Please honor the lobby entry to TIP.
- To meet TIP needs but keep mainly pedestrian, can't there be a small one way road right in front of TIP?
- Seems like adding a gathering space does honor and enhance the entry to the theatre?
- If you have to keep that "Cedar Circle" use it for "gathering space".
- Have the "gathering space" in the front yard of Pullen Arts.
- Maybe smaller gathering space since more people talked about facility and parking use.
- Safety in and out. My main concern is ventilation, access – handicap.
- Add courtyard with bamboo, like Cedar Creek Center.
- Fountain. Water option.
- Picnic tables, comfortable seating, water feature – fountain, raised beds with flowers.
- Put the money in the Arts Center, not a fountain.
- No fountain in the middle - generic.
- Fountain = mosquitoes? No standing water.

DOCUMENTATION OF PUBLIC COMMENTS

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- Windows in pottery studio. Yes, yes, yes!!!
- Incorporate an outside brick kiln for pottery studio.
- “Clay” - load it onto a cart with wheels.
- Truck has to be able to drop off clay on loading dock.
- Where is the “clay” unloading area – trucks have to come unload somewhere?
- If there’s a “front drop off” at the present “camp office” door, it’s flat - go in and up the elevator. Have an entrance there and one at the back if you’re only carrying yourself in.
- Prefer #2 with access to building with covered space for artist. Senior access to building needs to be closer to building.
- Neither of these plans has enough parking for the arts center that is close enough for unloading and parking for older adults. Prefer #2 if must.
- Need covered veranda. Need to drive up to drop off artwork and supplies.

Movement Through Space Images Board



- Image A: I like using planters as borders to block daily access to through-road.
- Image B: too generic.
- Image B: horrible looking. Drop off doesn’t need to be so vehicularly massive.
- Please stop landscaping and put the money in our Arts Center.
- None of these work.
- Filtering from all directions. Less linear.
- Vehicle (covered) drop-off circle center with TIP and Art Center entrance.
- Without shade, all of these spaces will be HOT.
- Need drop off at the doors for both arts center and theater.

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Terraces and Steps Images Board



- Image L is too generic looking.
- Put money into water option (i.e., fountain)
- Focus should be on cost effective options vs. visual impact. Visual impact should come from art installations instead of building materials and landscape.
- No linear terraces – meandering paths will be necessary for usable space for elderly and others with mobility! Think rolling walkers.
- I like the amphitheater-like transitions for the lower area of Plaza Concept #2.
- More sleek and modern. Clean lines as not to compete with surrounding art installations.
- Design with eco-education & inspiration in mind. Water feature can offer soothing sounds as well as cooling space.
- Save the big trees!
- Please no more cut trees. Honor the Pullens.
- Provide shaded seating spaces so it can be used all times of the day – in sun or showers.
- Creative and diverse seating/benches under trees. Make benches a public art feature.
- Seating nooks to read and eat and take a break. Art displays, of course. Gardens.
- Utilize some of area in front for seating/eating spots.

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Paths and Pavement Images Board



- Image O: These surfaces are hell on wheels.
- Image Q: Awful!
- Image R: The paths can be art!
- Image R: As eco-friendly as possible!
- Image R: Like the use of material in an artistic fashion – unique looking.
- No grass, gravel, stone, or bricks. There are many accessible surfaces. Bricks are lifted up by tree roots and others are difficult for rolling on.

General Comments

- Priority should go to the building with the largest visitation numbers, operating hours, citizen served in terms of comments.
- Please keep big windows with view to outside from pottery studio.
- For either concept: Need covered area to drop off /unload that will not block traffic during loading/unloading.
- Vehicular circulation and parking should take precedence over all other areas.
- What happens to windows on south side of building?
- Change appearance of building so no longer a 50's style with a flat roof.
- The Art Center should be the main focus of all this planning. Then the plaza should be planned in relation to the building instead of the opposite as was presenting tonight.
- The building for the Art Center should have a vertical expansion at least bigger than the horizontal one. More stories on the building
- Public art centerpiece. Space for pop up public art.
- Concepts for gather space – N, O, R, L, B, C.
- Parking for Pullen Arts Center – neither plan takes into consideration the constant coming and going 7 days a week!

Conceptual Site Diagram

- Patrick Begg:
Please consider what to do if non-park users begin cutting through the park to avoid the traffic circle on Hillsborough. It can back up pretty bad between 5-6:30 and I think people will use any 'shortcut' available. I hope it isn't a problem, but if it is, please have a plan. Maybe 1 or 2 gatearms, which raise automatically, but are very slow to raise are enough to keep people from cutting through the park.
- Malinda Bird Wilson:
Cedar Circle – Can we educate people on historical significance of cedar circle trees through a plaque or some other means? Can go either way on whether to cut some of the trees or not. I like the potential of the new plaza to bring in new visitors to use the Arts Center. I would like more picnic tables, benches, etc. so that families can enjoy the outside space. I am excited about the project, and like the site plan overall.
- Gary Gardenhire:
Vehicular circulation between Arts Center and TIP is necessary for Theatre In The Park to have a front door visibility, presence, "red carpet" type entrance, etc. So...if any concept provided vehicular traffic by the front door of TIP, it might work. It seems obvious that a roundabout is more effective than a winding drive between the buildings that would require traffic dropping off between the building to either go to Gregg lot and turn around and comes back south and west. (i.e., a Western Blvd. bound vehicle may be required to go out to Hillsborough St. and then back down Pullen Rd. to Western after dropping off or picking up at TIP) A cul-de-sac/circle concept avoids all of that, allowing access quickly back out to Pullen.
- Alvin Headen:
Change OK.
- Clodagh Lyons-Bastian:
I like that the site has a view oriented to Pullen Road that is not completely obscured by parked cars, would like to see more parking convenient to the arts center for elderly patrons or those carrying items. Is there a possibility to have a parking arrangement similar to that of the theatre, where it wraps around the building and is possibly shielded by shrubs/greenery/structure to maintain a carless view? It would be nice to preserve the cedar circle as much as possible and note its historical significance. My preference would be to not have the 12 parking spaces on the inside of the circle. Maybe the number could be made up by including more spaces behind the arts center and/or in the upper central area of the diagram (to the left of the upper storm pond)? Both museum and theatre have a representative garden directly outside. Is there a distinctive landscape feature planned for the arts center?
- Roger Manley:
Realizing everything is a compromise, I do worry about the proximity of the road between the Gregg for Theatre In The Park to the Gregg formal garden, which we have hoped would serve as a venue for outdoor concerts, weddings, poetry readings, study,

etc. Some kind of landscaping may be required to muffle the sound of vehicles driving below the fountain in the formal garden and block headlights at night. Not unsolvable, but will need some attention.

- David Millsaps:

I appreciate the balance of cost and existing infrastructure makes sense. I really like your choice. It is the right compromise.

- Amy Veatch:

Parking for Arts Center is very far away from building – for all except one parking plan. Gathering “shared” space – classes (Art Center), camps, painting, natural arts, sculpture, craft shows; theater presentations (TIP); fundraising (Gregg Museum); music. Need some sort of management of shared time-sharing. #2 – my pick or hybrid surfaces that benefit wheels - no bump, bump, bump.

- Vincent Whitehurst:

No more parking! I like the additional parking around cedar circle and around the back – good use of existing areas and expanding on them. I can see driving between the facilities on rare occasions, but would prefer no circulation between buildings – i.e., thru the plaza. In general I like it...NO MORE CONVENIENCE PARKING!! It is convenient enough!! Code min ADA please!! No extra. Also: please try to keep the gardens in front of the theater!!

Plaza Concept #1

- Patrick Begg:

I'd much prefer a pedestrian plaza with no vehicular traffic at all. Can there be a drop off on the east or west side of the theater which allows people to walk the same distance as if they were being dropped off in front of the theater, outside of the garden? My guess is the theater is not willing to give up their garden which is their own pedestrian space so they should not expect park users to give up the space outside the garden to cars. The theater representatives have stated they don't care about the pedestrian arts plaza. Additionally, can the art center drop off be on the east or west side? I understand the need for a drop off for some people, but it should not diminish the park for everyone else. There should be no road whether a “real” road or a bollarded access road that goes through the plaza area. It seems there is space to expand the circle with a drop off space at each building. Better yet, have the arts center drop off on the West and the Theater drop off on the East. In fact, a covered access to the art center, if large enough, would allow for space for outdoor covered seating, during rain or summer heat. Please don't put a road, of any kind, real or not real, bollarded or not, through the pedestrian arts plaza.

- Malinda Bird Wilson:

I am concerned about safety of children using the plaza if there are vehicles driving through.

- Laurent de Comarond:
I think the concept of a drivable plaza is a bit odd, and from the first meeting I had never pictured that space to be open to cars. The three images they showed to illustrate the concept are not appealing to me. It feels corporate and cold. I wouldn't hang out in a space where cars can drive. It really limits the options in terms of landscape design.
- Gary Gardenhire:
See conceptual site diagram comments.
- Alvin Headen:
Drop off doesn't work well. Relatively small.
- Roger Manley:
There are pros and cons regarding both of the proposed plaza concepts. Personally, I am much more in favor of #2 because it would keep a lot of door slamming and unloading noises further away, but if the decision ends up in favor of #1, I would strongly urge that cross-thru traffic be oriented to keep the headlights and car sounds as far away from Gregg's formal garden area as possible.
- David Millsaps:
I would like to see "the road" minimized as much as possible.
- Amy Veatch:
I like the 2 different gathering spaces. Not sure about the "road", "not road". Need drop off for PULLEN ARTS CENTER.
- Vincent Whitehurst:
Don't need a paved road...could be hardscape for occasional vehicle loading.

Plaza Concept #2

- Patrick Begg:
See comments in Plaza Concept #1.
- Bill Belvin (Pullen Heir):
After looking at both of the Landscape and Architectural Visual Boards (as best one can) I agree with your [Vivian Buhrman] opinion on the Plaza Concept #2 as being preferable. Having said that, here are a few points: Keep a strong focus on "green space", i.e. protect the old growth trees and Cedars in the Circle....but here is a further point. Trees like people die. So, once a tree or trees is/are "culled" what comes next?...new trees?...or could some future Park Administration say "got rid of the tree(s)" so now we can have more parking, plaza, concrete, etc I would hope there could be explicit recognition of "re-forestation, or some other suitable "planting" and not more paving, building construction, etc. expressed in the plan.
- Vivian Buhrman (Pullen Heir):
I think the Plaza Concept #2 is the preferable design; I do not think the drive-through concept will maintain the greatest potential for prioritizing the natural beauty of the plaza area. I also prefer the landscape design that incorporates as much of a natural look as possible, with seating nooks and use of natural surfaces on the pathways.

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- Gary Gardenhire:
See conceptual site diagram comments.
- Alvin Headen:
Works better than PC1.
- Clodagh Lyons-Bastian:
I like the more spacious gathering space of concept #2. As noted above, it is difficult to choose between these two without being able to envision the circular path/car drop-off that was discussed. The entrance to the theatre is very central and obvious, while the entrance to the arts center seems a little less welcoming and less connected to the central plaza overall. Is that location for the entrance set?
- Roger Manley:
Although Better than #1 in my opinion, even this concept is not without problems. Back-in parking, car noises, and traffic activities all have the potential to be disruptive. Again, I don't think these are insurmountable issues, but some kind of solution will probably be needed, ranging from re-routing the road and relocating that parking from the way proposed here, to just planting a thick grove of Leyland Cypress (though heavens forbid).
- David Millsaps:
I think the circular drop off makes a natural entrance for the theater's orientation. I would not like to see a road through the space and I think this concept is the best balance. I do think we should serve the theater as much as possible. A formal walkway, a better drop off area – something.
- Jeff Murison:
I support the option with the mini roundabout unloading area. There was strong voices for the need for easy access to the building and unloading of supplies. The mini roundabout loading zone seems to accomplish that in my mind. It also allows for the larger social/event space between the buildings. Hillsborough St. lacks a real community event space, and while this new space may not work for all event, it clearly would be a welcome addition.
- Amy Veatch:
Like the drop off – needs to meet needs of Art Center (i.e., -need to design building to accommodate the parking and vice versa). I like this design best, but may be able to hybrid #1 and #2 for a usable "road".
- Vincent Whitehurst:
Like this one better – Do we really need the drop off? Material loading idea: cover the lower loading zone, so you can pull a car under it!! That would be a great area to load that wouldn't interfere with the front entrance.

Movement Through Space Images Board

- Malinda Bird Wilson:
Like A,B,E,F but still hard to visualize in our space. Can we see examples of these in smaller spaces? Like the way planters are used as boundaries in image A.
- Gary Gardenhire:
The idea of a Plaza is without consideration based on current uses/programming.
- Clodagh Lyons-Bastian:
Image F is the most appealing to me with a combination of areas for people to be, and opportunity for different activities to occur. The combination of lawn/greenery and hardscape with plenty of seating, a performance area, and some type of water feature would be really nice. I prefer a park-like feeling with grassy areas and integrated man-made elements. The space should also lend itself to the display of art.
- Roger Manley:
“Traditional”(O) or “contemporary”® materials will accommodate ADA, elderly, wheelchairs access, etc. better than gravel, stepping stone (M), cobblestones, etc. Although not many people are picking rectilinear form (N), this may actually mesh better with the existing building.
- Amy Veatch:
Accessible solutions and connections that are not exclusive to wheels – surfaces that respect wheels. B&C favorites due to #2 concept preference.
- Vincent Whitehurst:
Whatever you think is best.

Terraces and Steps Images Board

- Malinda Bird Wilson:
J & K have too much concrete.
- Gary Gardenhire:
There is obviously a desire for little or no hardscape terracing and more of a natural, gentle, sloping akin to areas in Central Park, NYC. Less change, more as is, less designer statements, less cost.
- Clodagh Lyons-Bastian:
My favorite is image K. It is contemporary, but integrates function with natural aspects. The terracing could also be used for audience seating for shows which would be an additional useful feature.
- Roger Manley:
Seating nooks to contemplation areas (L) will help maintain a park-like feeling – it might be hard to transition from contemporary (K) to the more random landscaping of the rest of the park.
- David Millsaps:
I think the contemporary terracing makes sense considering the architecture that

surrounds it.

- Amy Veatch:
L favorite because of natural look vs. all others shown.

Paths and Pavement Images Board

- Malinda Bird Wilson:
I share concerns about tree roots pushing up sidewalks. Since the images show larger spaces than what we have to work with, it's hard to envision these in our space. Image M stepping stones – bumpy ride for wheelchairs and strollers. Generally like grassy and softer surfaces.
- Clodagh Lyons-Bastian:
The contemporary image R is again more appealing to me because it is imaginative. To me it represents interaction with various art forms best of all the images; which is an important underlying purpose of the tri-venue space.
- Roger Manley:
I like the “hotel-style” drop-off area, and do not think we should be overly afraid of hardscaping, which may generate new uses that folks may not be considering yet. When I think of many of the most successful public spaces in the world – San Marco Square in Venice, Herald Square in NYC, the ellipse in Luxemburg, gardens in Paris – the hardscaping brings performers, bicyclists, market booths, artists with easels, dancers, etc. together – it can work. Complaints about the brickyard at NCSU have more to do with its size than the hardness of its surface – but it remains a heavily used place.
- Amy Veatch:
N,O,R favorites. N-set aside beds. O-movement meanders. R-trees in pathway.

General Comments

- Patrick Begg:
I come to Pullen at least 2 nights a week and at least one weekend day. I never have trouble finding parking. Never.
- Malinda Bird Wilson:
Want plaza to be well lit. Want safety to be taken into consideration and prioritized.
- Laurent de Comarmond:
I like the option of a two-story rectangle on the south side of the existing building. It sounds like that might be the preferred option of the architect (?). It's easier to build (you only have to deal with interface with existing building on one side, rather than wrapping around), and creates a nice, simple two-story element as the new focal point and building entrance. It's taller than the other two, and more efficient in terms of interior layout and programming.
- Gary Gardenhire:
For this project to get endorsement from the Board, Staff, Patrons and Volunteers of

the Theatre In The Park, it must provide regular vehicular traffic to front door. We are now seeing examples of specific changes to the Master Plan which are quietly/quickly adopted and then other features that are “non-starters, off limits”. The private agendas are becoming evident. Examples of significant changes to Master Plan: TIP loading dock, cedar tree preservation, parking to east of TIP, Gregg Museum. But, OFF LIMITS, we are told is a drive through plaza area. Note: To my knowledge, there was not any review of the building interior programming as was stated in the first CPC meeting.

- Clodagh Lyons-Bastian:

Art Center interior space needs were discussed with center staff and Arts Department staff, which makes sense. However, meeting comments made clear that the artist community would welcome having input into that discussion also. Some sort of feedback-gathering to that affect (meeting, survey, comment area on website, etc.) would be helpful to include all stakeholder voices.

- Roger Manley:

Some comment about a possible amphitheater-like space are a little worrisome – I would appreciate the opportunity to discuss some of the uses we’ve been planning for our formal garden and path system (for the Gregg) before you put a lot of time and effort into creating similar activity zones so close by. “Dueling Concerts” is a recipe for unpleasant relations between the three institutions at this end of the park!

- David Millsaps:

Can’t make them all happy.

- Jeff Murison:

I especially like the traffic flow of the road throughout the area. I appreciate how it connects Oberlin Road with Hillsborough St. and visitors can enter from both sides and exit both sides. I like the parking plan. It appears you added as much parking as possible without disrupting the feeling of the park as a park. The more parking the better in our community, so please resist pressure to remove any of the new parking, but I totally understand and support the effort to keep the area feeling like a park.

- Sallie Ricks:

Cedar Circle: I see on the PP Master Plan the Cedar Circle stays. I think introducing parking inside this circle does not preserve the integrity of the circle or the cedars. The trees there are just old, not weak or dying. If some need to be replanted, do it. It would not be possible to grade and pave (however porous or tree friendly) new parking spaces within the circle without damage to the trees. The roots are everywhere and just because there is an opening between tree trunks does not mean parking can be integrated into the circle without great harm to the cedar roots. It would take several years for a tree of this size to be weakened to the point it would need to be removed and at that point, the designers are long gone. (The garden in front of the Theater was designed, paved and planted around a very very large beautiful oak tree when this garden was first built. That tree did not survive the intrusion, no matter what care was taken, and after a few years of decline from the root disturbance, the tree sadly had to be removed. The grading, paving, and plantings under the tree killed it. It can take a

long time for a mature tree that has been weakened by new construction/planting to die. The design was in part built around that tree, and then the designed killed the tree. Let's don't repeat this all too common mistake around the old, mature trees on site that you want to protect. Either protect the trees from disturbance, or remove them and maximize the new design.)

Plaza: Plaza seems like a grandiose word to describe the common spaces between PAC and TIP. Maybe the word plaza intimidated or turned off people when simple language about the space (porch, covered drop-off, pedestrian area, patio, vehicular turn around, etc.) would make more sense with the scale of the space. Most people associate a plaza with a large, hardscape gathering space, like the NCSU Brickyard, not a small outdoor or gathering space such as the one proposed between these two facilities.

How will summer art camp children use PAC outdoor space? I see them outside a lot but it's very very hot during the time of day they are at PAC and I see them sitting at picnic tables in the shade in the cedar circle. They need a cool place to work outside, and to sit and gather.

Images of Outdoor Spaces: I found the "style" images for outdoor spaces very distracting for people. Such images, out of context, tend to direct people to think prematurely of details in the images such as the red color, specific materials, and whether mosquitos can hide under benches, etc - - detail and discussion that is very distracting from what you were trying to achieve: the function (program) and the kind of space to accommodate the function. Joy's comment about smooth paving for wheels is much more directive to the type of materials we should be using than a picture.

As you begin to discuss the building form and materials, please don't show building "style" pictures and ask people to comment or pick their favorite style. I would prefer the style and materials to be driven by the building function, how it relates to the existing facility, and how meets the needs of the users. That's the job of the architect to present options that make sense in the context of this particular site, building, and function.

Loading Dock and Elevator: I see the loading dock is proposed to move to the north entry, lower level. Is this a result of conversations with the building management about how things work inside the building? What is the plan to move a ton of clay from the loading dock to the clay storage area associated with the clay studio? If an elevator is used, can it haul 1,000 pounds of clay up to the second floor? on a metal cart? How many trips? Does the loading dock need to be on the same floor as the clay storage floor? Is the clay studio proposed to move downstairs near the loading dock?

Parking: Always a hot topic. More parking in areas visible from the (new) arts center entrance. I heard safety and convenience are the greatest concern. I doubt anyone would want to park at night in the less visible parking on the east side of the theater no matter how brightly lit. There is often no one in the theater at night and it is spooky over there when you are alone. People will expect the new

parking layout to be at least as much, as convenient and as safe as it is now. To do otherwise, will require a lot of convincing!

Consider at least one participant (Bird Wilson) does not need parking. She takes the bus to PAC, toting her clay, metal or glass tools several times a week. How does this person get to the new PAC entrance from the bus stop? She doesn't need parking! and some days, because I live about a mile away, I wouldn't either if I had an adequate locker to store my tools and materials.

Creating an Arts Campus: I like the idea of building an arts campus with entrances, vehicle and pedestrian traffic flow and connections that relate to each other. Hopefully, the improved exterior environment will encourage use of the outdoor spaces and facilities across disciplines and facilities.

Please factor into the exterior design how adults use PAC. Adults in classes rarely spend much social or work time outside. Short breaks away from class are taken for cellphone conversations in the lobby or sometimes outside for privacy. A studio class is only 3 hours long so very little time is taken for breaks.

Short breaks from studio work outside of class times are taken for a rest, for a short bag lunch/snack or socializing. More use of outdoor space might be encouraged for use, etc if the outdoor sitting spaces were close to the studios, linked visually, and functioned more like porches rather than a plaza. I could imagine a terrace off the clay studio with rocking chairs and benches/tables for drying clay in the sun would be used.

Painters, glass work, book makers, (other?) come to class for 3 hour class and do not return to the studio between classes. Potters, metal workers, printmakers, and other disciplines come to PAC between class to work on projects. The needs of patrons who come outside of class to work are different than of students during class. PAC studio time working on projects outside of class involves more, extended contact hours, less group structure, flexible time for eating, resting and socializing and those are the people most likely to use a convenient outdoor space close to their studio.

- Amy Veatch:
Public meetings – show agenda (up during entire meeting). Show project time lines (up during entire meeting). Stick to time on agenda PLEASE. When CPC has time, let ONLY CPC talk. Give preview presentation to CPC.
- Vincent Whitehurst:
The best thing on this site, besides the fairly decent buildings, is the garden in front of the theater.

PUBLIC MEETING #2 SYNOPSIS

Pullen Arts Center Improvements Project

Date: Tuesday, January 12, 2016
Time: 6:00 – 8:00 PM
Location: Pullen Community Center
Topic: Concept Diagram Options

Attendees:

City of Raleigh: James Marapoti, Shawsheen Baker, Belva Parker, Eliza Kiser, Scott Payne
Clearscapes: Steve Schuster, Mon Peng Yueh
DHM Design: Graham Smith, Jeremy Arnett
CPC Members: Patrick Beggs, Vivian Burnam, Katherine Cherry, Gary Gardenhire, Al Headen, Roger Manley, Jeff Murison, Sallie Ricks, Amy Veatch, Vincent Whitehurst, Malinda Bird Wilson & David Millsaps
General Public: Estimate ~ 50 attendees

SUMMARY OF PUBLIC and CPC COMMENTS:

Conceptual Site Diagram:

- There was general support for the Conceptual Site Diagram given the considerations of the Pullen Park Master Plan Goals, the public comments received from Public Meeting #1, and the project budget.
- Below are the concerns expressed by some with the conceptual site diagram:
 - The distance of parking spaces located on the east side of Theatre in the Park (TIP) from the Pullen Arts Center (PAC).
 - Potential negative impact to outdoor activities being held at the Gregg Museum.
 - Some suggested parking or drop-off area on the west side of PAC facing Pullen Road.

Plaza Concept #1 – Drivable Plaza and Gathering Space:

- There was mixed support for the drivable plaza concept.
- Those in favor wanted convenient drop-off in front of TIP and PAC.
- Those opposed did not want vehicular traffic through the pedestrian area.
- Many favored having vehicular access limited to a few occasions during the year and having the outdoor area reserved for pedestrian use during majority of the time.
- Some favored having a road that is open for regular use for convenient drop-off of supplies and artwork as well as everyday access to the front door of TIP.

Plaza Concept #2 – Separate Drop-off Plaza and Gathering Space:

- This concept diagram received significantly more comments.
- Many like the hardscape drop-off area that is separate from the pedestrian gathering area.
- Some suggested enhancement to the outdoor space such as adding fountains, bamboo, picnic tables, etc. while others suggested focusing resources for the arts center and not the outdoor spaces.

PUBLIC MEETING #2 SYNOPSIS

Pullen Arts Center Improvements Project

- Some suggested using Cedar Circle or the area north of PAC as the gathering space.
- Some suggested having a covered veranda close to PAC for drop-off of artwork and supplies.

Movement Through Space Images Board:

- Many people responded to Image B, which showed a circular vehicular drive with landscaping in the center island. Some felt this image was too generic and too vehicular centric.
- Many people also responded to Image E that showed pathway integrated with planting.

Terraces and Steps Images Board:

- Images that received the most responses were Image I – Art Displays, Image K – Contemporary Design, and Image L – Seating Nooks.
- The written comments included the following:
 - Focus on cost effective solutions and let art installations provide the visual impact.
 - Have meandering paths which are more usable for the elderly and those who are mobility challenged.
 - Provide shaded seating areas

Paths and Pavement Images Board:

- Images that received the most responses were Image N – Rectilinear Form, Image O – Traditional Materials, Image P – Natural Surfaces, and Image R – Contemporary Materials.
- The written comments included the following:
 - Many people responded to Image R for the way the path is done in an artistic way with the integration of landscaping along the path.
 - Some raised concern with materials, such as grass, gravel, stone and brick that may be more difficult to navigate by those who are mobility challenged.

General Comments:

- There were many comments on the need for a covered drop-off area close to the entrance for those who have to carry lots of heavy art supplies to and from classes at PAC.
- Suggestions were made to provide storage lockers to help reduce the need to carry large and heavy arts materials to and from the arts center.
- Painters expressed desire to have windows on the north side of the building and the potters preferred windows on the south side of the building.
- There were discussions regarding the selection of paving materials that allow ease of navigation for those with mobility challenges.
- Some commented that the priority of this project should be on improvements to the arts center building and less on the exterior spaces.