



Government of the District of Columbia
ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 5A
5171 South Dakota Avenue NE, Suite 125 Washington,
DC 20017

Letter of Support for the Lamond-Riggs Campus Master Plan

Friday, October 27, 2023

DC Office of Zoning (DCOZ)
441 4th St NW # 200
Washington, DC 20001

Dear Officials of the DC Office of Zoning,

I write on behalf of the Advisory Neighborhood Commission 5A to express our support for the proposed Lamond-Riggs UDC Master Plan dated June 21. The University of the District of Columbia's ambitious vision to enhance the campus and align it with modern-day needs while diligently serving our community is deeply appreciated. While the plan portrays a robust blueprint for the campus's future, we pinpoint specific areas that, when addressed, will further solidify its merit and relevance.

Section 5: Transportation

1. Prioritize and fast-track pedestrian safety improvements in Phase I. This includes the immediate need for bump-outs on Hamilton and Galloway Streets. Given the complexities associated with interim enhancements during Phase I and considering the forthcoming upgrades to S. Dakota Avenue by DDOT, the urgency for these improvements cannot be understated.
2. Form a partnership with DDOT to address the deteriorating curb situation on the southern side of the 500 block of Hamilton Street NE. This collaboration will rectify the immediate concern and pave the way for future joint endeavors.
3. Incorporate pickup and drop-off activities provisions in the master plan, suggesting Galloway Street as the primary avenue for such operations.
4. Highlight the importance of initiating a bike-share station near the campus in the project's initial phase. Such facilities will promote eco-friendly transportation and ease the commute for many.
5. Seek detailed clarification from UDC concerning the loading/service blueprint, emphasizing the expected vehicle dimensions and the nature of their usage. We note UDC's indication that most trucks serving the Lamond-Riggs campus will not exceed 30 feet in length. Their operational hours will be restricted between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., from Monday to Friday. Such insights will be pivotal for logistical planning.
6. Given the anticipated surge in vehicular movement on Hamilton Street, emanating from South Dakota Avenue, and the existing parking configurations near the intersection of South Dakota Avenue and Hamilton Street that challenge safe vehicular maneuvers and endanger both drivers and pedestrians, there's an immediate need for comprehensive safety interventions. We recommend that UDC engage closely with DDOT to devise solutions for this significant issue.
7. Advocate for expansive transportation enhancements within and around the campus to ensure seamless movement and connectivity.

Section 6: Sustainability

1. Champion the Lamond-Riggs Food Hub, ensuring robust leadership.
2. Should a farmers' market be established at Lamond-Riggs, its management must be exemplary.

3. Foster enhanced communication amongst CAUSES, UDC officials, and neighbors. This includes proactive promotion of the community garden.
4. Position recycling receptacles externally on South Dakota Avenue NE.
5. Ensure the facilities' blueprint encompasses daily trash collection around pivotal streets. Collaboration with the National Park Service for cleanup initiatives near Galloway Street NE should also be considered.

Section 7: Community Relations Element

1. Curate an extensive outreach and community engagement blueprint for the Lamond-Riggs campus, which should:
 - Engage professionals adept at outreach targeting older adults and non-digitally connected individuals.
 - Present transparent avenues for residents to provide continuous feedback.
 - Organize an open house centered on the campus plan.
 - Feature informational boards in strategic community locales.
 - Employ QR codes at pertinent sites linking to the campus plan.
 - Consistently liaise with local council offices, ANC 5A, 4B, and community organizations.
2. Amplify outreach related to diverse educational programs and opportunities for lifelong learning.
3. Form synergies with The Parks Main Street to accentuate neighborhood vibrancy.

Section 8: Campus Character Element

1. Utilize signage to weave CAUSES activities on campus into the wider community fabric.
2. Synthesize community college programs with high-demand vocations, creating clear career pathways.
3. Mull over instituting an internship program tailored for high school students.

Additional considerations based on the master plan's specified sections include:

- **Transportation Demand Management:** Highlight 'Mode Share Goals and Monitoring' and pinpoint a designated spot for pick-up/drop-off and deliveries.
- **Bicycling:** Augment bicycle infrastructure via conspicuous signage about bicycle parking and contemplate incorporating a Capital Bikeshare station.
- **Campus Access:** Foster collaboration with DDOT to establish wayfinding signs, enhancing connectivity.
- **Waste Reduction:** Illustrate strategies to curtail waste, ensuring minimal impact on neighboring premises.
- **Landscaping:** Champion the use of native and pollinator-friendly flora.
- **Community Outreach:** Systematically update and engage local community entities and representatives.

In summation, we firmly believe that by addressing these pivotal areas of consideration, the Lamond-Riggs UDC campus can epitomize excellence in campus development within our city. ANC 5A is committed to collaboratively ensuring a harmonious and dynamic relationship with the broader community.

We sincerely urge the DC Office of Zoning to contemplate our feedback when evaluating the UDC's Lamond-Riggs Master Plan.

Thank you for considering our suggestions and recommendations.

Warm regards,

Gordon Andrew Fletcher

Gordon-Andrew Fletcher, Chairman
Advisory Neighborhood Commission 5A

APPROVED:

ANC 5A Commissioners (2023-2024)

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