University of California Capital Resources Management

Guidelines for Minor Amendments to Campus Physical Design Frameworks

June 2014

The Regents approval of the Pilot Phase of the Delegated Process in 2008 (GB9) required campuses to establish Physical Design Frameworks (PhDF) as part of "a set of linked design and capital financial documents enabling the Regents to provide portfolio-level oversight of capital projects effectively." The goal of the PhDF is "to create a common vocabulary for planning and design at the campus, while demonstrating how processes and standards at the campus support consistent implementation." The PhDF is to be a "comprehensive report identifying the campus' principles and objectives for the design of the physical environment, how those relate to the campus Long Range Development Plan (LRDP), and how they are integrated into project planning and design." The Regents determined that minor amendments to the Physical Design Framework (PhDF) may be approved by the President, based on guidelines shared with the Committee on Grounds and Buildings. This document sets forth those guidelines and the process for approving changes to a campus PhDF.

MINOR AMENDMENTS TO THE PHYSICAL DESIGN FRAMEWORK ARE DEFINED HEREIN:

- Addition of land or sites not currently in the approved PhDF, that are (i) already owned, leased, or otherwise occupied by the Regents, and (ii) covered in the adopted Long Range Development Plan (LRDP). The proposed amendment would identify the land or site, include appropriate principles and objectives for the design of the physical environment at the added location, and articulate how these relate to the current PhDF accepted by the Regents and to the adopted LRDP.
- Changes to the PhDF principles and objectives for the design of the physical environment, when these changes (i) are in compliance with the adopted LRDP and (ii) preserve the fundamental principles and objectives in the PhDF accepted by the Regents. The proposed amendment would explain how the changes relate to the adopted LRDP.
- Amendment to the PhDF that is occasioned by an LRDP amendment whose approval is delegated to the President, so long as the proposed PhDF amendment preserves the fundamental principles and objectives in the PhDF accepted by the Regents. This may be prompted by addition of land or sites to be acquired, leased, or otherwise occupied by the Regents, or changes to the principles and objectives for the design of the physical environment prompted by the minor LRDP amendment. The proposed amendment would explain how the changes relate to the amended LRDP.

 In each of the above cases, if the proposed changes would be integrated into project planning and design in a different way from the process described in the accepted PhDF, the proposed amendment would describe the revised process.

PROCESS FOR APPROVAL OF CHANGES TO THE PHDF:

The campus shall submit a Draft Presidential Action Item that includes:

- 1. The action to be taken by the President;
- 2. An executive summary providing a brief general description of the changes to the PhDF, and the context and rationale for the changes;
- 3. A bulleted summary of previous or concurrent Actions (Regental, Presidential, Administrative or Chancellorial) that are relevant to the requested Action;
- 4. A complete accounting, with brief descriptions and depictions, of the changes to the PhDF, accompanied by documentation establishing that the changes (i) are within the President's authority as outlined above in the Guidelines, and (ii) preserve the fundamental principles and objectives in the PhDF accepted by the Regents; and,
- 5. Attachment of the section(s) of the PhDF proposed to be revised, in "redlined" and clean final proposed formats.

Completed draft Presidential Action Items will be reviewed by Capital Resources Management (CRM) and the Office of the General Counsel (OGC). Within fifteen working days after initial receipt, CRM will either forward the Item for Presidential approval if no changes are required, or will provide comments back to the campus. Upon the President's approval, the changes to the PhDF will be effective immediately.

PHYSICAL DESIGN FRAMEWORKS ARE NOT "PROJECTS" AS DEFINED BY CEQA

The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) defines "projects" as activities that will directly or indirectly affect the physical environment. The University of California approves physical development through the LRDPs for each campus and individual project design approvals. Environmental Impact Reports (EIR) are prepared to support each LRDP. Subsequent to the LRDP adoption and EIR certification, CEQA evaluation is done for individual projects as needed. PhDFs are guidance documents that do not entitle or allow physical development, but rather further define design principles and material choices. Minor amendments to PhDFs are similarly not considered "projects" as defined by CEQA, as they do not themselves allow development. Any project that requires a minor amendment to the PhDF will have project specific CEQA evaluation to support the design approval of the project.