

## IOWA STATE CAPITOL MASTER PLAN UPDATE – QUESTIONS?

1. All future changes to the Capitol buildings and lands will be influenced by the recommendations of the Master Plan. Other than protecting the historic buildings, what are the most important things that the planners and architects on the team should focus their attention on?
2. Redevelopment of the West Capitol Terrace has created a place for Iowans to celebrate State and local events. Are there other opportunities for public use of the Capitol grounds that have yet to be fully realized?
3. Are there important accomplishments within the Capitol Facilities planning over the past eight years, that are important to share with the planning team.
4. Most buildings in the Capitol complex have been brought into compliance with ADA access requirements, but what about other access issues? Are means of access for those on foot or bicycle adequate?
5. Are there important deficiencies in the facilities that you as visitors or state employees need to find in the Capitol complex? To what extent could East Village meet these needs if access to them was quicker and easier than it is today? What additional facilities 'belong' on the Capitol grounds as part of the complex?
6. The 2000 Capitol Master Plan introduced sustainability principles and guidelines which have since become widely accepted in public and private development projects. Should the new master plan for the campus again raise the bar by reaching beyond currently used LEED standards towards achievement of carbon neutrality in all future development? *[This would probably imply greater initial construction costs in order to achieve lower energy, maintenance and other operating costs for the life of each new building].* What campus-wide sustainable practices should be developed and documented?
7. Are there ways in which the relationship of the Capitol, its staff and visitors to the adjacent neighborhoods could be improved? What should the objectives of such improvements be?
8. Both public and privately funded improvements along Locust have strengthened the links between the Capitol and Downtown Des Moines. What are the most important opportunities for further strengthening of this link? What other opportunities are there for linking the Capitol physically and symbolically with the surrounding city?
9. Do employees and visitors think they have sufficient transportation choices for getting to the Capitol Complex?

10. How would you rate commuter transit service to the Capitol and the service provided by the circulator trolley? Are there other access improvements to the Capitol that merit investigation?
  
11. Part of the responsibility of the master plan is to direct limited funds towards the most important issues. How do you think the master planning team should deal with the competing needs of more parking versus restoring the Capitol grounds to a quality landscape worthy of its role as the symbolic heart of the State? *[Note that parking ramps on the campus perimeter would oblige legislators and others to walk further, and that underground parking close to the Capitol would be twice as costly to construct as above-grade parking ramps].*
  
12. Are there other issues that the master plan team should address? If so, what are they, and what would be the best outcome in your view?
  
13. Is there anything else that you would like us to know?

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