

Sustainable Campus Planning
May 5, 2005

Introduction:

Some changes and additions need to be made to the first draft of the Long Range Plan for Lane Community College. First, the college has adopted the concept of “Sustainability” and this will have a considerable impact on long range planning. Second, the long-range plan should address certain elements not included in the first draft. This paper provides some general background information and a proposal for integrating principles of sustainability into long-range campus planning.

Background:

The college community and the Board of Education accepted the first draft of a long-range plan for Lane Community College in 2004. Since that time the college has made a commitment to include and integrate the concept of “Sustainability” in every part of its practice. While this is a big step that will require much effort and time, the rewards for moving in that direction are manifest.

The campus is made up of several elements such as buildings, roads, open spaces, utility lines, parking lots, etc. and each of these elements has its own distinctive criteria. Principles of Sustainability need to be woven into the criteria that each of the elements strives to satisfy. Likewise, the long-range campus plan must address sustainable principles as it combines these elements and systems into an integrated whole.

While a start has been made much more needs to be done. Currently, some sustainable principles have been incorporated into the Design & Construction Guidelines that shape building projects and the Master Plan for the Grounds. However, sustainable principles have not yet been incorporated into the way in which both roof and surface drainage is disposed of and the college has no overall plan for dealing with water, air, energy or waste products.

Proposal:

1. That the Facilities Council prepare a set of guidelines that shape the application of principles of Sustainability to the long-range plan for the college.
2. That staff prepare the second draft of the long-range plan for LCC. The second draft would add sections that cover storm water, wastewater, potable water, energy, air pollution, recycling and waste disposal. Principles of sustainability will be integrated into to all parts of the plan in accordance with the Facility Council guidelines. The second draft will be prepared by the college planner (Bob Mention), the Sustainability Group facilitator (Jennifer Hayward), the yet to be hired Energy Analyst and Margaret Robertson. Other persons such as Frank Drengacz (Grounds) and Roger Ebbage (Energy) who are well informed in related fields will be consulted as needed.
3. Periodic status reports will be made to the Facilities Council during the development of the second draft and the completed draft will be presented to the whole council for review and approval before presenting it to other groups.