

North Idaho College (NIC): Dr. Priscilla Bell, Mic Armon and Rolly Jurgens  
President Bell discussed several possible partnership initiatives between LCDC and NIC, in particular NIC's Strategic Plan Theme VII: Physical Resources; which includes Goal 1: Assure opportunities for college expansion. Dr. Bell reported that NIC is currently in the process of acquiring the DeArmond mill site property adjacent to the NIC campus. In addition, NIC has completed the environmental assessment and remediation plan that has been reported to the DEQ via the Stimson organization. The tentative closing date for the DeArmond mill site acquisition is July 31, 2009 and NIC anticipates an on-time closing. Dr. Bell noted that NIC has also requested for the mill site to be annexed into the City of Coeur d'Alene (CDA). Dr. Bell reported that the three main higher education institutions (NIC, University of Idaho, Lewis Clark State College) are working together to provide a joint matriculation process for students, and based on that goal, envision the first building built on the mill site being a collaborative facility, shared by the participating higher education institutions.

NIC Trustee Mic Armon discussed that redevelopment of the mill site will take several years. From NIC's standpoint, the next steps will involve partnership opportunities for LCDC. A first step will be to start looking at site design and engineering, determining what infrastructure improvements are needed. Another urgent issue will be to address the ingress and egress design issues for the education corridor area. Mic stressed the importance of signalized intersections at both the Hubbard and Northwest Boulevard intersection, as well as the proposed River Avenue and Northwest Boulevard intersection. Other infrastructure needs include lighting, sidewalks, and landscaping for the Hubbard Road extension through the mill site area, and along River Avenue. Mic shared that additional resources need to target creating a main entrance to the campus which might include monumentation and landscaping. Finally, Mic shared that the Centennial Trail needs to be relocated along the Spokane River, and that the possibility of constructing a bike/pedestrian bridge over the Spokane River from the NIC campus to Blackwell Island should be explored.

Rolly Jurgens, NIC Finance Vice President, shared that any upgraded infrastructure needs to include technology networking capabilities that are compatible with all of the education institutions, as well as the City's wastewater treatment plant.

- Chairman Davis asked if NIC has a timeline for the engineering design of Hubbard Avenue? Mr. Armon responded that NIC would like to start as soon as possible, as he believes the sooner the engineering design is completed, the sooner NIC can pursue construction designs.
- Chairman Davis asked what the role of LCDC might be in constructing Hubbard Avenue? Mr. Armon responded that NIC has invested heavily into the purchase of the mill site property, and therefore will not be financially able

to start site redevelopment for several years. Mic shared that LCDC could add great value by helping with the mill site redevelopment planning as soon as possible, which includes the location and construction of Hubbard Avenue.

- Commissioner Patzer asked how is parking being viewed on the mill site area? Mr. Jurgens responded that when the mill site acquisition closes, NIC would look to utilize certain areas of the site for temporary parking in order to address some of the current parking issues. Rolly suggested that NIC might consider using recycled asphalt as a temporary surface.
- Commissioner Nipp asked how NIC sees the mill site design work progressing, and what work needs to be done to coordinate that effort with the need for an education corridor traffic study? Mr. Armon responded that from a timing point of view, NIC would like to get started on these initiatives in 2009, and would like LCDC to consider partnership funding towards the site engineering/design effort.
- Chairman Davis asked what would be the priority for NIC: work completed on the Hubbard Avenue intersection at Northwest Boulevard, or the reconstruction of Hubbard Avenue through the mill site and the extension of River Avenue to Northwest Boulevard? Mr. Armon responded that NIC would need to review the results of the traffic study before making that decision. Mic added that he believes the first step is to get a sense of the engineering costs associated with reconstructing Hubbard Avenue through to River Avenue. Dr. Bell added that NIC leadership wants to be prepared for emergencies related to both NIC and the Fort Grounds community via better ingress and egress routes onto Northwest Boulevard. Mr. Armon added that signalization is essential at that Hubbard/Northwest Boulevard intersection.

Dr. Bell concluded NIC's remarks by recalling that the Education Corridor concept has been "in the works" for many years, and NIC is very happy that they can be a part of the partnership that turns the corridor concept into a reality.

UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO (UI-CDA): Dr. Larry Branen

Dr. Branen thanked LCDC for their participation in the higher education corridor initiative. Dr. Branen reported that the University of Idaho does not see any major changes to the proposed UI presence in CDA, even in light of the current economic conditions. As a matter of fact, the University of Idaho has added programs in Coeur d'Alene. Larry shared that the UI is focusing on the "3P" concept for their CDA campus: people, programs and place.

First, the importance of people. UI-CDA has added a total of five faculty positions in education, business (the EMBA program), child development, and nutrition. The UI-CDA currently has 16 faculty members. Larry noted that one faculty member has brought \$3,000,000 of grants funds to the UI-CDA campus.

Second, the importance of programs. UI-CDA works in collaboration with other Idaho higher education institutions, with NIC being premier in partnering with their 2-year undergraduate programs. UI-CDA works very closely with Lewis Clark State College (LCSC) for both undergraduate and graduate programs. The City of CDA has been a great partner, as have the local area school districts (CDA, Post Falls and Lakeland). UI-CDA is currently partnering with the CDA and Post Falls school districts to provide teacher training for their elementary teaching programs. Another future UI-CDA program will focus on water quality in partnership with the City of CDA, Idaho Department of Environmental Quality, and the CDA Tribe.

Third, the importance of place. Following great internal discussion, UI leadership has determined that the soon to be redeveloped mill site area is the best long-term location for the UI-CDA. The mill site area is the prime choice due to its proximity to NIC's existing campus and related infrastructure. One of the programs that UI-CDA is creating is an interdisciplinary degree program that begins at NIC, and then migrates on to the UI-CDA and LCSC. UI has \$420,000 in planning money available for the UI-CDA presence in the Education Corridor, and their hope is that they will be able to begin planning once the mill site is acquired. In the mean time, UI-CDA has renewed their lease with the City for another four years (until 2013) which provides a four year period for planning.

Dr. Branen concluded his remarks by commenting that Harbor Center provides a good place for their current functions, but space is limited. UI-CDA has discussed increasing the amount of joint classroom sharing with NIC. UI-CDA is very optimistic about their long-term presence in CDA, and hopes to have a collaborative (i.e. joint use) building built on the mill site within 5-10 years.

LEWIS AND CLARK STATE COLLEGE (LCSC-CDA): Dr. Cyndie Hammond  
Dr. Hammond thanked LCDC for their contribution to the community and reaffirmed LCSC's commitment to Region I by offering 13 bachelor degrees, and working closely with 21 regional health agencies to provide further educational opportunities. Cyndie believes that education is a pathway to employment.

On behalf of LCSC-CDA, Dr. Hammond presented several short-term initiatives that might warrant LCDC partnership funding. Cyndie shared that The North Idaho Committee for Higher Education (NICHE) organization requires that funds received through this venture must be used for collaborative endeavors. Cyndie shared that LCSC-CDA believes that a redesign and remodel of the Harbor Center building will facilitate the goals of the NICHE program by creating a venue of collaboration for the state's higher education institutions. The Harbor Center remodel vision includes two new classrooms for LCSC-CDA, which would eliminate the need for LCSC-CDA students to cross Northwest Boulevard (currently, LCSC-CDA has temporary classroom space in the Harbor Plaza development). Cyndie believes that LCDC should focus on both the long-term and short-term issues associated with the Education Corridor initiative, and that

LCDC participation with the Harbor Center remodel would be of great value in the short-term until new facilities are developed on the mill site area.

Commissioner Colwell asked if there are any plans for a dental hygienist program at LCSC-CDA? Dr. Hammond responded that LCSC has this type of program at the Lewiston campus, but nothing is planned for the CDA campus – more of an NIC focus.