

**STATE CAPITOL COMMITTEE**  
**Hybrid/Remote Meeting**

**October 16, 2023**  
**1:30 p.m.**

**Minutes**

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**SCC MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Randy Bolerjack (Designee & Chair-Designee for Secretary of State Steve Hobbs)  
Kelly Wicker, Vice Chair & Governor Inslee's Designee  
Lieutenant Governor Denny Heck

**SCC MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Katy Taylor, (Designee for Commissioner of Public Lands)  
Hilary Franz)

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Jo Aiken, Department of Enterprise Services  
Sarah Bannister, Secretary of State  
Cynthia Barrett, Department of Enterprise Services  
Ariel Birtley, Department of Enterprise Services  
David Bremer, Legislature  
Brule Burkhart, Department of Natural Resources  
Paul Campos, Legislature  
George Carter III, Department of Enterprise Services  
Sharon Case, South Capitol Neighborhood  
Erica Ceder, DLR Group  
Brandon Corneliusen, Dep. of Enterprise Services  
Chris Ferguson, Department of Enterprise Services  
Craig Gunn, Department of Enterprise Services  
Tamara Hayes, Department of Enterprise Services  
Ashley Howard, Department of Enterprise Services  
Sidney Hunt, Department of Enterprise Services  
Kelci Karl-Robinson, Legislature  
Courtney Kinney, Office of Financial Management  
Sidney Hunt, Department of Enterprise Services  
Linda Kent, Department of Enterprise Services

Nouk Leap, Department of Enterprise Services  
Linda Kent, Department of Enterprise Services  
Aaron Luoma, HBB  
John Lyons, Department of Enterprise Services  
Jeff MacDonald, Department of Enterprise Services  
Patrick McDonald, Secretary of State  
Craig McKissick, Legislature  
Allen Miller, Paine-Hamblen  
Kailee Moulton, Department of Enterprise Services  
Rachel Newmann, South Capitol Neighborhood  
Kyle Overmiller, Legislature  
Colleen Pehar, Senate  
Maurice Perigo, Department of Enterprise Services  
Brian Pickering, Department of Enterprise Services  
Sarian Scott, Legislature  
Chris Simpson, Department of Enterprise Services  
Tara Smith, Department of Enterprise Services  
Christopher Stanley, Courts  
James Troyer, Legislature  
Oliver Wu, Department of Enterprise Services

**Call Meeting to Order - Action**

Chair-Designee Randy Bolerjack called the State Capitol Committee (SCC) hybrid/remote meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. and welcomed members, staff, and guests to the meeting.

Members and staff provided self-introduction.

Chair Bolerjack reviewed the agenda to approve the June 15, 2023 minutes, receive an update on the Cal Anderson Memorial Plaque, approve the process for naming/renaming campus buildings, receive an update on the Eastern Washington Cultural Landscape Feature project, and receive an update on the Legislative Campus Modernization (LCM) Project. Time is included for public comments during the meeting.

**Approval of Minutes of June 15, 2023 Meeting – Action**

***Lieutenant Governor Heck moved, seconded by Kelly Wicker, to approve the June 15, 2023 meeting minutes as published. A voice vote unanimously approved the motion.***

**Public Comment - Informational**

Chris Ferguson, Government Relations Coordinator, External Affairs, Department of Enterprise Services (DES), described the process for attendees to provide public comment. Public testimony is limited to two minutes. Public comments submitted during the advanced public comment period have been copied to committee members, DES staff, and other interested parties.

**Allen Miller** thanked the committee and the Legislature for celebrating eastern Washington on the Olmsted West Campus. As a resident of Spokane, Washington, he believes the feature is a good idea. Many years ago in the 90s, he was involved with the North Capitol Campus Heritage Park Development Association and continues to serve on its Board. The campus also houses the Eastern Washington Butte feature at the northern end of the Arc of Statehood near the Law Enforcement Memorial. The feature could also benefit from enhancements and funding from the Legislature as well.

Mr. Ferguson advised of receiving one public comment during the advanced public comment period. The comment from the South Capitol Neighborhood Association addressed the Legislative Campus Modernization (LCM) project. The comments addressed noise accompanying the Newhouse construction project, a request for South Capitol Neighborhood designees or liaisons to work in tandem with the project team, a request to reopen Water Street for traffic for residents, and a request to use retractable bollards to meet security and traffic control needs as an alternative to the current drop arms. Some issues deserving focused attention include landscaping and the physical mass of the Newhouse and Pritchard construction projects and completion of a campus parking study that speaks to campus parking needs, employee work patterns, and the current remote/hybrid working environment.

**Cal Anderson Memorial Plaque Update – Informational**

DES Director Tara Smith shared information on recent efforts by DES staff in response to the removal of a cherry tree that had reached its end of life. Unfortunately, the manner of removal did not recognize or respect the memory of Senator Cal Anderson to whom the tree had been planted in his honor. Many stakeholders shared concerns with DES. As a result, DES completed some steps and conducted an after action review. Director Smith advised of her outreach to stakeholders when she learned about the tree removal. The experience could be described as humbling as she learned more about the Senator and his legacy in the State of Washington. Since then, she and staff engaged in many conversations with his stakeholders, DES stakeholders, and the LGBTQ Caucus and LGBTQ Commission, as well as engaging in multiple conversations and conducting workgroup meetings. Moving forward, the agency learned much about essential communications surrounding important matters on the campus, as well as having the opportunity to participate collectively to improve honoring the legacy Senator Anderson left as reflected and situated on the Capitol Campus.

Linda Kent, Chief External Affairs Officer, DES, added that many concerned individuals notified DES about the removal of the tree and the lack of transparency. DES should have communicated the purpose of the tree removal and acted more quickly to replace the tree. The process failed to meet the Department's own standards for engagement and communication. Consequently, staff examined processes and is making some adjustments to avoid similar situations in the future. The experience served as a good opportunity for the Department to improve its stewardship of the campus. Staff conducted an inventory of memorials on campus and discovered many instances where a memorial was not well documented or included on the inventory map. Subsequently, staff plans to create an inventory that can be utilized to update the DES website and maps. Staff is also updating communication plans and intake forms as part of the process, as well as creating onboarding and training for employees for the memorials on the campus to create broader awareness within the Department. DES also

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engaged an arborist to identify options for existing trees associated with a memorial if some future project might affect the memorial. Another opportunity supported by both DES and stakeholders is to re-imagine Senator Anderson's memorial on the campus. Recent efforts include participating in a listening session hosted by Senator Mark Liias and Representative Nicole Macri on September 29, 2023, as well as an October 13, 2023 meeting with a core workgroup formed to consider how the memorial on the campus is featured. During that meeting, more information was shared about Senator Anderson, his passion for fairness, and his passion for justice and civil rights. The group expressed interest in exploring ways to update the memorial beyond the plaque and options beyond a single tree. Based on the discussion, DES staff is preparing information on potential opportunity sites and partnerships, as well as engaging in ongoing communications with a list of stakeholders. Staff plans to release updates on steps completed to date and upcoming opportunities to participate and contribute ideas. The core stakeholder group has scheduled a December meeting to discuss the information prepared by DES staff. Ms. Kent invited questions from the committee.

Kelly Wicker asked about the timeline for updating the memorial and the timing of the possibility of moving the memorial for a future utility project. Ms. Kent said more information on the completion of the memorial will be available in December after the stakeholder meeting. The utility project is a future budget request for completion in approximately four years.

Lieutenant Governor Heck expressed appreciation to Governor Inslee for responding quickly. He complimented DES staff for acknowledging the egregious mistake because it was incredibly painful to all who knew Senator Anderson, respected him, and called him friend. It is admirable that the Department stepped up and admitted it screwed up. He conveyed appreciation for moving forward not only with processes designed to avoid a similar action in the future, but also taking the next step in acknowledging the contributions of Senator Anderson. However, given those acknowledgements, the larger point has been mostly missed in terms of how the action should have been unthinkable from side to side and top to bottom on the Capitol Campus where a memorial plaque existed. It should have been unthinkable because the culture of the commitment to steward the entire campus is not present and has not been present for a long time. Many individuals bear responsibility from the Department to the State Capitol Committee to the Legislature. Responsibility is missing because as painful as this recent instance was, it is one in a very long list of decisions made without regard to stewardship of the Capitol Campus. The campus is the state's alter to democracy. It should have been unthinkable for anybody to have done what they did. Although he does not plan to throw the person with the chainsaw that took down the tree under the bus, the truth is, it is a much deeper problem. If there is a lack of commitment to figuring out the problem and rendering either through the committee or through another committee the responsibility to safeguard the campus, it will be lost for future generations by a Frankenstein kind of bolt-on-bolt development of uses of ever-dwindling square footage. It has happened before where decisions were made about developments on the campus that circumvented the law and the committee in its decision and its implementation. Everyone owns the problem. The committee cannot shirk its responsibility but neither can the Department nor the Legislature. It is important to decide whether everyone cares about the campus as in the past. Today, it could be said that there is a lack of care in that actions of ad-hoc pet projects have been pursued for some time. It is unacceptable as the campus is an almost-sacred place and it must be acknowledged and dealt with or disband the committee because it has not been able to impact stewardship values on the campus. If the committee is not serving as any utility then he does not understand why the committee exists. Although, he is grateful for the Department owning and taking the next steps, the Department is still several steps short of what is necessary for the future.

Director Smith asked Deputy Director Maurice Perigo to speak to the concerns as they have had similar conversations specifically about the bigger picture and the culture. As the Director of the Department, she is committed and has the forbearance to impact, move the culture, and transform the agency as to what is expected for the campus.

Deputy Director Perigo thanked Lieutenant Governor Heck for his call to action as it presents an opportunity, as well as an unfortunate reason for pursuing efforts into overdrive. However, those efforts are useful and staff plans to take advantage of them. As previously shared, some actions formed a robust communications strategy to announce any activities of any significant features on the campus. Staff is documenting processes in a horticulture report more effectively when working on significant site features. Creating the onboarding and training program for employees is intended to increase awareness and appreciation by all staff, as well as implementing robust training and tour opportunities annually with Buildings and Ground staff who perform the work on the campus and to increase appreciation and awareness of the beautiful campus. DES recently received certification as an international accredited arboretum and recognized the Building and Grounds team for their efforts. Although pride is present, process steps were definitely missed for the memorial. The Department is striving to ensure appropriate processes are in place.

Director Smith invited members to speak to her about the details of the process from leadership and throughout the agency.

Lieutenant Governor Heck recommended that any internal process should include touring war memorials on the campus because the individuals honored died in the name of democracy, which speaks to the purpose of the campus.

Chair Bolerjack invited the public, committee members, and staff to visit the *Love Equally* exhibit in the lobby of the Office of Secretary of State where Senator Anderson is memorialized and is part of the story of marriage equality, which represents a small fraction of the legacy of Senator Anderson.

**Process for Naming/Renaming Campus Building - Action**

Chair-Designee Bolerjack invited Coordinator Ferguson and Chief External Affairs Officer Kent to provide the update.

External Affairs Officer Kent briefed the committee on the proposed process for naming/renaming buildings on the campus.

With the advent of the LCM project, there has been some renewed interest in the building naming process. The recommended process follows the typical process for introducing proposals to the Capitol Campus Design Advisory Committee (CCDAC) and the SCC during an initial briefing of the proposal followed by action at a second meeting. The proposed process incorporates more communication elements to solicit broad stakeholder and public feedback during the two-stage process. She acknowledged the committee for speaking to the need for a process because of increased interest in the issue. A clear process will help proposers understand their role and the need to work with legislative sponsors for a concurrent resolution that includes funding following any SCC recommendation.

Two comments were received from the CCDAC regarding the process. CCDAC Chair Dan Miles indicated the process was comprehensive and is consistent with RCW 43.34.090. CCDAC member Alex Rolluda concurred with Chair Miles. Both comments were provided to the committee in the meeting packet.

Currently, two proposals for renaming two buildings have been received by DES. Ms. Kent invited questions.

Chair Bolerjack said the proposal is an action item for consideration by the committee.

***Lieutenant Governor Heck moved, seconded by Kelly Wicker, to approve the process set forth to rename buildings on State Capitol Grounds as defined in RCW 43.34.090. A voice vote approved the motion unanimously.***

Lieutenant Governor Heck commented on the importance of acknowledging the receipt of two letters requesting the renaming of the new Newhouse Building to reflect the Irv R. Newhouse Building and renaming the Natural Resources Building to reflect the Jennifer Belcher Building. Both proposals were received by the committee. The SCC is scheduled to consider action on the proposals at its next meeting to ensure the Legislature receives a timely recommendation for consideration during the 2024 legislative session.

Mr. Ferguson confirmed that the two proposals were received by DES and were included in the meeting packet. The committee is scheduled to act on the proposals at its December 7, 2023 meeting.

**Eastern Washington Cultural Landscape Feature Project - Informational**

Chair Bolerjack invited Kailee Moulton, Grounds & Nursery Specialist 4, DES, to provide the update.

Specialist Moulton reported the establishment of a cultural landscape feature on Capitol Campus to commemorate the geological and cultural diversity of eastern Washington must recognize flora and fauna, rich agriculture, forestry, and the history of eastern Washington. The cultural landscape feature must include floral components such as ponderosa pine trees, quaking aspen trees, western larch trees, or other site-adapted species. The design must serve to celebrate the unique beauty of eastern Washington, its unparalleled agricultural significance to the state and world, and the deep history of these lands, as well as serving as a place of enjoyment and familiarity for those who call eastern Washington home.

Specialist Moulton identified the project team of Chris Brownell, Grounds Shop Supervisor; Dan Kirschner, West Campus Grounds Lead; Em Roberts, DNR Urban Forester; John Lyons, Capitol Planning Manager, Dr. Jeff MacDonald, Historic & Cultural Resource Planner; Dr. Brent Chapman, Horticulturist, and herself serving as one of the designers for the project.

The location of the site was selected for its high visibility near the main entrance, exposure to full sun, site is sloped for better drainage, site accommodates a separate irrigation zone for less water once established, helps to fulfill Olmsted vision for a woodland campus edge, and meets arboretum objective of increasing tree diversity on the campus.

Specialist Moulton addressed questions concerning an existing Western red cedar tree. The initial plan for the tree was to retain the tree as part of the landscape design. She shared an illustration of the proposed landscape design. The red cedar was previously designated as a memorial tree and will be retained and incorporated within the new landscape to reflect how the landscape transitions from eastern to western Washington. The site includes two benches made from aspen trees. The ground cover recommended for the site is meadow barley. Flowering plants include Oregon sunshine, Nootka rose, and snowberries to complement the bioswale located across the sidewalk from the site. The landscape features bulbs and basalt rock columns to mimic the eastern Washington landscape. Also considered was the site of the existing Butte feature near Heritage Park; however, the team determined the site was not the appropriate area for the new installation. Additionally, because of the growth pattern of aspen trees, the proposal is to plant the species separately in the Mansion parking lot rather than with the landscape feature to avoid the proliferation of the species across the campus.

Specialist Moulton shared an example of interpretive signage similar to signage used for the campus pollinator garden. Signage will include information on the history and geography of eastern Washington.

Dependent upon weather, the team is scheduled to begin prepping the site for installation in November 2023 with installation of plants and other features scheduled in December and January. Plant suppliers have been contacted for trees and plants.

**Legislative Campus Modernization (LCM) Project Update – Informational**

Chair Bolerjack invited Program Manager Oliver Wu to provide the update.

Program Manager Wu advised that he was providing the update on behalf of the new LCM Project Director, Wesley Kirkman.

Manager Wu reported the size of the Newhouse Building is 59,000 square feet with an expected completion date of November 2024 for move-in of Senate members prior to the 2025 legislative session. Many planning activities are in progress to meet the completion date. Ongoing work on the basement and foundation continues.

Manager Wu introduced Sidney Hunt, Project Manager for the Pritchard Building project.

Manager Hunt reported the construction document phase was recently initiated. The team is striving to honor the historic Pritchard Building by blending in the details and materiality with the new design. The team is sourcing local materials and utilizing some materials from the existing building. The overall goal of the project is to maintain the timeliness and sense of place as designed by Paul Thiry in 1957-1959. The project is a 77,000 square-foot building with a goal to complete the Pritchard and O'Brien Building projects by fall 2026. Schematic design was completed with design development completed approximately six weeks ago. The team reconciled the overall project costs in alignment with the design with the final cost within one percent of the funding at this time.

The environmental review through SEPA generated no appeals. The relationship with the GC/CM, BN Builders, has been gratifying through a well-integrated team between the GC/CM and the architects, DLR, its consultants, and owner consultants (geotechnical engineers).

Manager Hunt shared an illustration of a merged landscape plan between the Pritchard Building and Newhouse Building. The entrance will be reconfigured to the Pritchard, Cherberg, and O'Brien Buildings from 15<sup>th</sup> and Water Street creating some implications for campus security modernization. Removable bollards are planned along 15<sup>th</sup> to close the street to traffic while allowing removal of the bollards for security and safety access.

Manager Hunt displayed a model prepared by DLR Architects within an overall campus model to reflect the scale of the new Pritchard Building with the front portion of the Pritchard Building preserved. The scale, size, and bulk of the renovated building are smaller than the O'Brien and Cherberg Buildings. The library stacks will be clad in stone. The design for the new addition has been solidified with refinement occurring over the next eight months during the development of the construction documents, costing, and logistics to meet the construction date scheduled for spring 2024.

Erica Ceder, DLR Group, displayed additional photographs of 3D models. In June and July, the team presented the models during a public forum to members of the South Capitol Neighborhood and the internal stakeholder group. The models were helpful for people to understand the scale and level of detail of the new addition. The portion retained of the existing Pritchard Building is the single story glassed front commonly referred as the library reading room. The stacks portion of the building will be replaced as the stacks were damaged during the Nisqually Earthquake. The design is reflective of an interpretation of the stacks with glass paired with terra cotta fins. The architects developed the design solution in consultation with the Department of Archeology and

Historic Preservation (DAHP) as a design compromise as the House of Representatives will occupy office space in the building and light within the building and in offices will be important.

The new building exterior will be GFRC, a lightweight concrete material selected by the internal stakeholder groups for a variety of reasons including reduced weight and cost. Some feedback from the neighborhood of the initial renderings reflected some concerns that the façade did not reflect sufficient depth. The 3D model assisted in alleviating some of those concerns. Many community members recommended exploring ways to create more of a visual separation between the area of the stacks and the addition. The design team has been reviewing options to pursue, such as material color change to define the areas separately. The team is working with the Landscape Peer Advisory Committee on several iterations of landscaping incorporating fir tree species along the hillside edge and the edge of the campus.

Moving forward, the team is addressing the challenge of the Pritchard Building abutting a steep hillside. The project includes stabilization efforts of the hillside. The work has been accelerated because the hillside is a critical component to meet the deadline for completing the project. Hillside stabilization is scheduled to begin in June or July 2024 prior to the wet season in late fall.

Ms. Ceder shared examples of the terra cotta screen element for the stacks. The team completed some studies in conjunction with the internal stakeholder group to refine the profile and depth of the fins. Other studies included window patterns and incorporating operable window components within member offices. Ms. Ceder shared several graphics presented to the stakeholder group of other major projects using GFRC in lieu of precast concrete. Visually, the two materials are similar and difficult to discern. The GFRC product offers more flexibility in terms of shapes and sizes. The 1987 Washington State Convention Center is a good example of the performance of GFRC over time.

Ms. Ceder reported DES recently contracted with an art conservator responsible for the de-installation of some art murals and advice on protecting some of the significant art pieces that will remain in place.

Program Manager Hunt added that DES contracted with Evergreen Architectural Art from New York City. The company has completed other campus projects. Company representatives are analyzing the Kenneth Callahan mural for removal. The mural will be removed, restored, and reinstalled in fall 2026. The Washington Room will essentially remain as originally designed as an interpretive room to include reinstalling Paul Thiry furniture that has been in storage. Other art pieces in the lobby will be preserved in place and monitored during reconstruction of the Pritchard Building. The Du Pen Fountain will be upgraded, enhanced, and preserved in place.

#### **Future Announcements and Adjournment of Meeting – Action**

Chair Bolerjack reported information on future meetings for CCDAC and SCC is published on the DES website with meeting information, meeting dates, and meeting times. DES posts all meeting agendas, minutes, and meeting packets as they become available. The next meeting date for of the CCDAC is Thursday, November 16, 2023 at 10 a.m. The next meeting of the SCC is Thursday, December 7, 2023 at 10 a.m. At this time, all meetings are scheduled as remote/hybrid meetings.

**With there being no further business, Chair-Designee Bolerjack adjourned the meeting at 2:36 p.m.**

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