



December 28, 2010

E. Christian Wells, Ph.D.  
Director, Office of Sustainability  
Associate Professor, Department of Anthropology  
University of South Florida  
4202 E. Fowler Ave., SOC 107  
Tampa, FL 33620

Re: USF Master Plan Greenway

Dear Dr. Wells:

The Department of Facilities Planning and construction confirms USF's commitment to the preservation of the Greenway in the upcoming Master Plan Update.

High priority is placed on the Campus Greenway as this long term project is essential to the Campus Master Plan's goal of creating a pedestrian integrated campus community as well as the University's primary, public open space. This natural landscape will be the essential bridging element that provides the campus with clarity and orientation.

The University of South Florida Tampa has evolved from a primarily commuter campus, with all the associated surface parking lots, to a campus culture of community, pedestrian/bicycle accessibility, and sustainability. The role of the Greenway to the USF Tampa campus is essential as it establishes this common principle of organization.

The USF Campus Greenway connects Lake Behnke and the Botanical Gardens, located at the southwest corner of the campus, (near the intersection of Bruce B. Downs Boulevard and Fowler Avenue) and continues diagonally across the campus to the northeast corner wetlands, located at the intersection of 50<sup>th</sup> Street and Fletcher Avenue. Campus residential housing was planned and constructed at both ends of the Greenway, providing passive recreation for students.

The Greenway contributes to the campus sustainability initiatives first, by providing shaded pedestrian pathways, connecting campus buildings, to encourage foot and bike traffic. Second, defining, maximizing, and dedicating open, exterior space for stormwater retention and detention. And third, by helping to reduce the heat island effect within the campus setting through the use of landscaping and shaded canopies.

Based on USGBC LEED version 3, New Construction, credits impacted directly by the Greenway are listed below.

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LEED SS c2                    Development Density and Community Connectivity  
LEED SS c5.1                Protect or Restore Habitat  
LEED SS c5.2                Site Development – Maximize Open Space  
LEED SS c6.1                Stormwater Design – Quantity Control  
LEED SS c6.2                Stormwater Design – Quality Control  
LEED SS c7.1                Heat Island Effect – Nonroof

*LEED SS c2                    Development Density and Community Connectivity*  
*LEED SS c7.1                Heat Island Effect – Nonroof*

As the primary dedicated, exterior open space for the Tampa Campus, the diagonally oriented Greenway weaves together campus landscape and life, including plantings, seating areas, and shaded circulation paths. Shaded tree canopies, pergolas, arbors and trellises provide shade and shelter from the Florida sun. These planned landscape elements encourage the use of pedestrian access paths between buildings and campus life, and provide for the general well being of the University community.

*LEED SS c5.1 Protect or Restore Habitat*

*LEED SS c5.2 Site Development – Maximize Open Space*

The Campus Greenway takes major priority in the implementation of future landscape improvements. The planned Campus Greenway element establishes a method to provide dedicated land that is designed, preserved, and maintained as open space for the campus.

The intent of the open space is to contribute to the “maximizing of open space” requirements for future LEED certified buildings. Academic buildings will be sited in close proximity, thereby encouraging pedestrian access between buildings. Future buildings may meet their required open space requirements through open space areas within the Greenway.

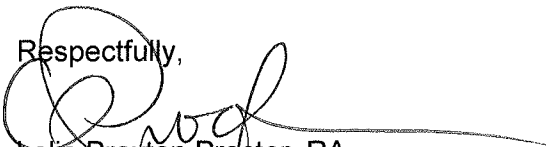
*LEED SS c6.1 Stormwater Design – Quantity Control*

*LEED SS c6.2 Stormwater Design – Quality Control*

The Campus Greenway serves a functional role in sustainable sites by providing the campus with dedicated stormwater retention and detention areas, thereby controlling stormwater run off and land erosion.

The Greenway, as a major campus planning element, is the one feature which establishes a unique sense of place for USF Tampa. Therefore, the Department of Facilities Planning and Construction is dedicated to the preservation of the Greenway in current and future Master Plan updates.

Respectfully,



Lelia Braxton Proctor, RA  
Director  
University of South Florida  
Facilities Planning and Construction

Facilities Planning & Construction  
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