

Community Conversations
About Montgomery College's Takoma Park/Silver Spring Campus

Meeting #1 – Comments, Thoughts, and Feedback From Blue Sheets

March 21, 2017

Note: Each block below are the comments made by one person.

1.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New building should have a pool for MC & Community. • Fitness center MC & community would be prudent, and should be in new building. • Preserve some green space on campus! • Better consultations now (policy & process). • Fit with other buildings in the future and fabric of community and rest of campus is very important.
2.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What does the future look like for the Takoma Park Campus? • Can we make a balance to go forward? • Ad Hoc Committee should be formed to work on all the concerns and proceed to the end result. • Thank you for the opportunity. Elias Woldu from the Ethiopian Community Center in MD
3.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage to use recreation facility to act as a buffer between science labs and community spaces. • Renovate Falcon Hall
4.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I haven't seen the Master Plan, but I am very concerned about demolishing Falcon Hall (I use and love the pool) and putting a more industrial building there. • Isn't there another place to put the new science building? • And, where will the new athletic building go?
5.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Next meeting, have someone clarify that a chemistry classroom/lab is not a chemical company! Thanks, Monica. • P.S. Also – come with a estimated value/amount what it would cost to buy the storage facility to put it in perspective.
6.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not enough time outlining current proposal or considering options that are available. That needs to happen before decisions are made. • Please keep health and wellness facilities (pool and Falcon Hall) for community and students.
7.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Move ahead with new buildings – include architectural features that relate to the character of the neighborhood. • Replace the ugly lights on New York Avenue with historic ones. I'm a neighbor, retired faculty member.
8.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Pollard – Please do not present this as an either/or. The question is not, should the science labs be replaced. Rather, can they be shifted away from the residential and toward Georgia Avenue?
9.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We need to talk about the size of buildings and where they fit with the whole plan. I would like to see the whole plan. • Also, what is planned for New York Avenue and Chicago Avenue?
10.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please have parking enforcement in the evenings on Islington Street, New York Avenue and Chicago Avenue in Silver Spring – directly adjacent to the college. The evenings are when the maximum number of students are on campus. Several neighbors do not have driveways and have no where to park.
11.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Too much time spent on hearing how the school is a wonderful place. Of course, we all support the need for a new science building, but we do not need to hear from students during this small amount of time.
12.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please consider ways to incorporate a pool and recreation facilities into the new building(s). Or, keep Falcon Hall and update interior.

13.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need to thoroughly illustrated describe the current baseline master plan. Where is this on the internet? • Please consider support for <u>WHY</u> the footprint/height/location/etc. of planned changes.
14.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Renovate Falcon Hall as new health/wellness center. • Renovate Science South and North as new science and math buildings. • Expand campus to Burlington Avenue and Fenton Street.
15.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Retain Falcon Hall and renovate. Keep labs at: Science North, Burlington Avenue, Science South. • No 135,000 SF Building on Takoma Avenue.
16.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clemmie Solomon, College Staff • I strongly support the college's facility master plan as is. The students at the college need a state of the art facility to be better prepared with the essential skills necessary for the 21st century workplace.
17.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Science Learning Center at MC TPISS needs a larger space. We turn away students who want to study or get tutoring support because of space limits. Owen Powers, Manager, Learning Center, MC TPISS
18.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What does "respect historic designation" really mean? Is it a matter of architectural style?
19.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How do we balance process with the urgency of the need of new facility?
20.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create a working group comprised of historic Takoma and adjacent neighborhood reps and confer with the Silver Spring Historical Society and Montgomery Preservation Inc. and especially as it relates to our historic Jesup Blair Park, unique and irreplaceable. • Viable Building Options: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Award-winning 850 Sligo Avenue at Fenton, 8-story with vestibule, perfect college building by noted architect, Eugene Delmar. • 7900 Fenton Avenue, mid-century modern • MC Parking lot on Burlington Avenue <p style="text-align: center;">Marie Stickle, Silver Spring Historical Society Advocacy Chair</p>
21.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Growth of college is in Silver Spring, but you have made Silver Spring residents unwelcome. The college affects Silver Spring much more than Takoma Park. We live around the college. Takoma Park does not.
22.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please schedule next conversation much sooner than May 9 so that they do not happen after the County Council's related budget decisions are already made.
23.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GO MC! However, the loss of Falcon Hall is too great a cost for the new science building. The college needs both. Question: Has the college considered <u>all</u> plans that would allow FH to be preserved?
24.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bliss Electric School Dining Hall Built in 1906 This is my house that I bough in 1995. (22 years) 1996-17 • As a young hill staffer, I personally helped bring federal dollars to modernize the MC campus. (getting the main building, the bridge across the RR and getting rid of the auto shops) • So, I have been a neighbor and a supporter of MC for a long time. • The issue is not a NIMBY thing. We have supported the school and students. The issue is process (talking to us) and what kind of buildings vs what buildings the MC Administration wants to blindly pursue. The buildings need to fit in with the future of SS and Takoma Park and the neighborhood. • This meeting and process would have happened without the neighbors getting upset over the utter lack of interest on the part of MC Admin to engage/talk with us – they just seemed to want to roll over us!
25.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MC Faculty Member: With respect to transparency of the process, I would like information on the timeline for these changes to the TP/SS campus and when we can expect to have a facilities master plan that will not change yet again, so we have a sense of when to expect the changes to the campus?
26.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • My name is Anita Neal Powell, an alum and on the Board of Governors for Montgomery College. I

have seen the existing labs – terrible. Students on this campus, Takoma Park/Silver Spring must have modern labs/classrooms; all students must take math/science to get a degree.

- This project has been in the works for many years -- this can't wait. This is our community college. It demonstrates our community's values.
- I look forward to a replacement building for our future leaders.