



MEMORANDUM

TO: Charles W. Steger
FROM: Sherwood G. Wilson
DATE: August 20, 2012
SUBJECT: Athletic Practice Facility Site Recommendation

I have spent the summer studying the Athletic Practice Facility Site Evaluation Committee's report which I am enclosing with this memorandum. The report is detailed and thorough, and I am impressed that the Committee developed such a well written report in the short timeframe they were given. I would also like to acknowledge how impressive it is that a Committee with members representing such a broad range of constituencies could work together so well to provide such unified recommendations. I appreciate each member's service to the university and this important task.

After careful analysis of the Committee's report, and consideration of planning information provided by my staff, it is my recommendation that the university not locate the Indoor Athletic Practice Facility in the originally proposed location directly behind the football practice facility. As you know, our new Assistant Vice President for Planning, Jason Soileau, will be on board August 20th, and I would like to recommend that our planning staff, under Jason's leadership, work with Athletics to evaluate the options presented by the Committee, as well as any other potential sites that may be appropriate. The planning staff will take into consideration the tennis courts and roller hockey rink as they conduct their evaluation, and will also work with the Finance staff as appropriate to address concerns related to the additional costs that may be realized to relocate the facility in an alternate location. Finally, as the new Assistant Vice President for Planning, Jason will conduct a review of our planning policies and procedures, including guidelines for major deviations to the campus master plan.

In regards to the Committee's other recommendation, I am not willing to recommend designating university property as an old growth reserve or place land in a conservation easement. While this might be the prudent action to take today, these designations are permanent and we do not want to restrict the ability of future leaders to manage the physical campus 100 years from now.

I am, of course, available to discuss my recommendations at your convenience.

Enclosure

- c: Mike Coleman
- Larry Hincker
- John Randolph and Members of the Committee
- Jason Soileau
- Jim Weaver