

Land & Water iCAP Meeting 2/17

Attendees: Mickey Castigador, Nikki Palella, Carmen Ugarte, Brent Lewis, Therese Egner, Jonathon Mosley, Betsy Liggett, Kavya Mula

Review of State Farm Center Recommendation

- Environmental issue: Rain flows from south to north, piling up at Kirby Ave
- NE lot is already a permeable system. There are plans to construct the same system in the NW lot next summer
 - The goal is to do one lot each year
- We will propose all three lots in the formal recommendation to play it safe
- Socio-cultural reasons to promote sustainability in the most visible area of campus as well as working in conjunction with Zero Waste initiatives
- Going further than the pavers: Consider bioswales, underdrains to connect to trees and plants in the lot, study soil health associated with this, native prairie plants, the sidewalks around the lot, restarting with new trees on all the planting islands, rain gardens
- By updating the landscaping to 1 tree instead of 2, more shade will be provided and the heat island effect reduced
- An idea for the future: solar panels installed over E-14 stalls

Associated Action Items: Confirm that Athletics is the suggested unit (Nikki), Complete the budgeting section offline (Brent, Betsy), leave individual comments on the recommendation (All)

Water Breakout Room

- Updates include aspirations to obtain a water audit at University dorms, how we can conserve water in the Housing department
- We need to draft a new rec to have permeable lot C9 vacuumed
 - It's around 12 years old and has never been vacuumed
- Timeline: season doesn't matter but we prefer the summer
- Suggested department would be Parking

Associated Action Items: Find existing audit information (Brent), Get the C9 rec started and send over to Brent and Betsy (Nikki, Kavya, Mickey, Therese)

Soils Breakout Room

- Difficulties associated with the implementation of cover crops at the South Farms can confound results from ongoing research projects
- ANSC would benefit from investment in manure processing. This could potentially lead to the production of byproducts like pelletized chicken litter that can also be used by other units on campus on their fertility management plans
- Would be interesting to review some of the sample contracts used for cash rent of University-owned farmland. We suggest inserting a clause in the contract stating farmers can get help on the adoption/implementation of soil conservation practices

Associated Action Items: Pursue a recommendation that would insert a new clause for farmers (Soils group)