# Southern Miss Cross Creek Master Planning Committee Cross Creek Web-Ex Update Executive Summary September 8, 2009

# Present:

Waterton, MA – Greg Havens, Tyler Patrick

**Gulf Park** – Pat Joachim, Bryan Billings, Robert Bass, Ann Billings, Mary Funk, Edward McCormack, David Sliman, Lynn Estes, Tom Lansford, Faye Mitchell, Christy Elias, Dale Ledford, David Marchman, Ray Scurfield, Shelia White **Hattiesburg** – Sid Gonsoulin, Bob Lyman, Joe Morgan, Chad Driskell, Russ Willis, Suzy Hebert, John Hayman, Skeeter Dixon,

Jackson – Jim Eley, Chet Allred, Hoppy Allred

# September 8, 2009

9:00 - 10:00 a.m.

#### Introduction:

Dr. Pat Joachim opened the update meeting with introductions and a roll-call of each site. Attendees are listed above.

# **Update Presentation:**

Dr. Bob Lyman presented the following update:

- Following the opening cover slide, slide 2 showed the original location suggested by Broaddus & Associates in their original site study during the site selection phase.
- Slide 3 showed the complete Cross Creek site north of Interstate-10. This slide highlighted the wetlands, land within the 100 year flood plain, and the developable land outside of the 100 year flood plain, 555 acres of 755 acres of Net Usable Land Area.
- Slide 4 highlighted the original site suggested in the JBH&M Cross Creek marketing materials. This 200 acre site contained 65 acres of wetlands and yielded 78 acres of developable land.
- Slide 5 brought to light concerns about the original suggested location including the isolation of the south-west corner of the development, and the relative adjacency to the light-industrial area along County Farm Road to the west.
- Slide 6 highlighted the area predominately north of the power lines that bisect the Cross Creek property from west to east. This was the site recommended by Sasaki & Associates after initial meetings with our development partners. This location created the desired synergy with the proposed town center. This 200 acre site contained 69 acres of wetlands and yielded almost 131 acres of developable land. This site provided a closer synergistic town/gown relationship, posed the least impact on wetlands and provided the largest contiguous developable land north of the power lines.
- In April, 2009, the developers requested that Southern Miss consider moving the campus further to the North and East, to provide more commercial retail space adjacent to Interstate 10 frontages. This request is attainable but will require the expenditure of additional resources to implement the planning committee's campus design and infrastructure. Slide 7 highlighted a 200 acre parcel of land, still predominately north of the power lines, but still containing land both north and south of the power lines.
- Slide 8 is the illustration provided to Southern Miss by JBH&M (the Developers Planner), illustrating where the developers desired campus location. The illustration shows the proposed campus be adjacent not only to the town center, but to a residential area as well. This site provides better access to Landon Road, which will eventually become a four lane road which connects County Farm Road to Highway 49. In the future, it will provide a better connection to Turner Road, which has been approved for a new I-10 interchange.
- Slide 9 is an illustration of the proposed site, providing an overview of the major roads, including the proposed Turner Road and I-10 Interchange.

# Other issues:

- IHL has approved the site.
- There is no current commitment for funding for the campus.
- A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is being written between the university and the development partners. Upon completion of the MOU, IHL the formally approve the site presented here.
- There is no need to start the planning process over. Planning principles have been established and the committee will pick up where it left off, with the re-configuration of the campus on the new proposed site.