# CITY OF WEST DES MOINES STAFF REPORT COMMUNICATION

Meeting Date: March 22, 2021

ITEM: Des Moines University, 8025 Grand Avenue – Approve Site Plan to allow construction of four educational buildings and the associated site improvements – Des Moines University Osteopathic Medical Center – SP-004968-2020

Resolution: Approval of Site Plan

<u>Background</u>: Jonathan Martin with RDG Planning & Design, on behalf of the applicant and property owner, Des Moines University Osteopathic Medical Center, request approval of the Site Plan for the approximately 88-acre property located at 8025 Grand Avenue. The applicant proposes with this phase one to construct four educational buildings and the associated site improvements on the site for the proposed Des Moines University campus.

### **Staff Review & Comment:**

- Financial Impact: Undetermined
- Key Development Aspects:
  - <u>Full Site Plan Review</u>: On October 19, 2020, the City Council approved a phased site plan for this site allowing for the installation of private utilities only. This current request is for full site plan approval allowing for building construction, parking, landscaping and signage improvements to begin on the site.
  - PUD Amendment: On March 15, 2021, the City Council approved the first reading of the amendment to the West Grand Business Park Planned Unit Development (PUD) for the PUD parcel upon which the campus is located. The PUD amendment details site development regulations and developer responsibilities for public improvements. The second reading, waiver of the third reading and adoption of the PUD is anticipated to be at the same meeting as Council's consideration of this full site plan request. The site plan aligns with the provisions stated within the PUD.
  - Access: Initially, there will be two access points to the site from Grand Avenue and one access from S. 88<sup>th</sup> Street. Eventually, as more buildings are constructed on the campus in the future, there may be additional access locations on Grand Avenue and possibly one access to the site from Booneville Road.
  - <u>Buffers</u>: The northeast corner of the area is Parcel 7 is currently a single-family home. Existing trees will be maintained along the common property lines with Parcel 7, except that invasive species may be removed as needed. If the adjacent residential property owner provides a written waiver, additional buffer plantings will not be required: if no waiver is provided, the applicant will need to accommodate typical 30' buffer planting requirements however, no earthen berming is required per language in the PUD.
  - Landscaping: The developers of the site desire to create a campus with a naturalized landscape, reminiscent of native prairie landscape and oak savanna. This landscape will be characterized by native grasses and forbs with minimal intrusion of woody plants. To reach this goal of open prairie expanses, the West Grand Business Park PUD has been amended to reduce the amount of open space required on the site from thirty-five percent (35%) of the Professional Commerce Park (PCP) zoning district to twenty-five percent (25%). The open space on the site will actually far exceed twenty-five percent (25%), but the number of trees and shrubs required will be based on the twenty-five percent (25%) which reduces the number of trees and shrubs to better accommodate the naturalized, native prairie landscape that is desired. Also, the site plan shows a reduction in the number of evergreen

trees required on the site from thirty-five percent (35%) to twenty percent (20%) since evergreen trees are not a dominant plant within natural prairie landscapes.

Parking lot landscaping will be installed according to Title 9 (Zoning), Chapter 19 (Landscaping) of the West Des Moines City Code, except that landscape pods may be omitted where adjacent linear islands run the length of a parking row. One tree will be planted in the linear island for every six (6) parking stalls. These trees shall be equally distributed along the length of the linear landscape islands. In addition, bio-retention swales will be installed within the linear landscape islands to assist with drainage of the parking area and serve as natural storm water management means. This removal of the landscape pods has been approved through the amendment to the PUD for this site.

- <u>Traffic Impact Study Findings</u>: The current plan for development of the site as an education campus
  is anticipated to generate less traffic than previously estimated. With implementation of activities
  operating within the site, as well as addition of future buildings, subsequent traffic impact analysis
  will be required.
- <u>Developer Responsibilities</u>: The following developer responsibilities associated with development of this site are included in the West Grand Business Park PUD for the subject parcel:
  - Road Improvements:
    - Booneville Road: The developer is responsible for reconstructing 1½ lanes of Booneville Road adjacent to the site. Since half of a lane cannot be constructed, if the property owner on the opposite side of the roadway is unwilling to participate at the time of construction, the applicant will need to construct two (2) full lanes. That portion of Booneville Road from S 88th Street east to the proposed future access drive to the site as indicated on the campus master plan (on file with the City) shall be installed at such time that a drive connection to Booneville Road is made, unless otherwise determined necessary sooner by an associated traffic study for improvements within the site. The balance of Booneville Road from the aforementioned access drive east along the frontage of the site shall be installed at such time that the developer makes a secondary access connection to Booneville Road, or unless otherwise determined necessary sooner by an associated traffic study for improvements within the site.
    - <u>S Jordan Creek Parkway & S 88<sup>th</sup> Street</u>: The original West Grand Business Park PUD sketch plan intended for two north-south streets through this site to allow traffic from areas to the north to access Grand Ave. The layout of the campus did not accommodate these roadways which will force traffic to route to S 88th Street or S Jordan Creek Parkway in order to reach Grand Ave. Therefore, the developer shall be responsible for the addition of a traffic lane to both S 88<sup>th</sup> Street and S Jordan Creek Parkway at such time that it is determined warranted.
    - Grand Ave: The traffic impact study did not indicate the traffic to be generated from the phase 1 development plan warranted improvements to Grand Ave. However, due to potential event activities secondary to the University that may occur within the site, as well as possible future building additions to the campus, the developer shall be responsible for their pro-rata share of additional lanes on Grand Avenue at such time that a traffic impact study indicates activities occurring within the campus or additional buildings impact traffic on existing Grand Avenue and therefore warrant expansion of the roadway.
  - Water Main Installation: Water main along Booneville Road shall be constructed from the existing stub at S. 88<sup>th</sup> Street east to the proposed future access to the site from Booneville Road. This portion of the waterline shall be initiated with phase one building construction occurring within the site and be completed and operational prior to issuance of a final occupancy permit for any building within phase one. Unless otherwise provided or agreed upon by West Des Moines Water Works, the remainder of the water main along Booneville

- Road east of the Booneville access drive and adjacent to the site shall be required to be constructed by the developer at such time that Booneville Road is reconstructed.
- Future Traffic Signals: The PUD specifies cost of future traffic signals, when warranted, at twenty five percent (25%) of a fully operational traffic signal at the intersections of S. 88th Street and Booneville Road, S. 88th Street and Grand Avenue and S. Jordan Creek Parkway and Grand Avenue. Additionally, the Traffic Impact Study indicates that all three access points on Grand Avenue have the potential to meet signal warrants in the future. The developer will be responsible for fifty percent (50%) of a fully operational traffic signal at the full access intersections to the site from Grand Avenue at such time that traffic warrants.

### Condition of Approval:

- Development of the site must align with the allowances and regulations stated within the Planned Unit Development (PUD). For the regulations to be effective, formal City Council adoption of the PUD must occur. At tonight's meeting, the City Council is considering the second reading, waiving the third reading and adoption of the PUD. Staff recommends a condition of approval requiring the formal adoption of the PUD prior to issuance of a building permit, including footing and foundations for any building included on this site plan.
- While discussing the provision of various documents and improvements associated with the development of the site, it was realized that with the initial phased site plan approval allowing for installation of site utilities, conditions of approval were placed requiring provision of the items listed below. These documents are typically required to be provided in conjunction with the Council's consideration of a final plat; however, at the time of the site utilities site plan, it was not known whether Des Moines University would be platting the property. The condition placed with the site utilities approval therefore required fulfillment of the condition prior to Council consideration of this full site plan or adoption of an amendment to the PUD, both of which are on tonight's agenda for consideration:
  - 1. Payment to MidAmerican for streetlights along S 88<sup>th</sup> Street, Grand Avenue and S. Jordan Creek Parkway.
    - -- DMU has provided documentation of provision of a check paying MidAmerican for the streetlights.
  - 2. Provision of the Storm Water Management Facility Maintenance Agreement (SWMFMA).
    - -- The PUD includes language requiring provision of the SWMFMA, detention facility as-built drawings and certifications prior to issuance of the first final occupancy permit.
  - 3. Agreement & Waiver for future widening of S 88<sup>th</sup> Street, S Jordan Creek Parkway and Grand Avenue.
    - -- PUD includes language requiring DMU construct one lane to widen both S 88<sup>th</sup> Street and S Jordan Creek Parkway. The PUD also includes language requiring the widening of Grand Avenue at such time that a Traffic Impact Study for activities or buildings within DMU site indicates a need for additional capacity on Grand Avenue.
  - 4. Traffic Signal Agreement for future lights at Grand and S 88<sup>th</sup> Street, Grand and S Jordan Creek Parkway and potential signals at DMU's accesses off of Grand Avenue.
    - -- The PUD includes language requiring the execution of this agreement.
  - 5. Warranty deed for Booneville Road right-of-way.
    - -- The PUD includes language requiring dedication of the right-of-way at such time it is requested. Dedication with the final plat is not being requested as there is some question whether the ultimate location of Booneville will

remain where it is currently located or shift north to better serve the area to the north.

Des Moines University does have a Preliminary Plat in the City review process and has indicated that they intend to submit the Final Plat upon approval of the Preliminary Plat. Staff requests the conditions of approval placed with approval of the utilities site plan be amended to allow for provision of required documents with the Final Plat or issuance of a building permit for above ground construction, whichever occurs first, if an alternate timeline is not otherwise specified in the PUD.

<u>Vesting of Entitlement</u>: Per City Code, entitlement (approval to construct or implement) shall remain
in effect so long as substantial site work has progressed beyond grading and completion of
structural foundations and twenty-five percent (25%) of the total building area has occurred above
grade within twenty-four (24) months of the effective date of the approval, unless a greater time
period is authorized at time of the original entitlement, or by approval of an extension of the original
entitlement. It is the responsibility of the developer to be aware of this deadline and request an
extension of the approval <u>prior to</u> the expiration date.

Outstanding Issues: There are no outstanding issues.

**Recommendation**: Approve the Site Plan request, subject to the applicant meeting all City Code requirements, and the following conditions of approval:

- 1. Unless alternate provision of surety is otherwise agreed upon by West Des Moines Water Works, prior to issuance of a water meter for any building within the site, the developer providing a bond to West Des Moines Water Works for water main improvements along Booneville Road from the eastern boundary of the site, west to the future drive access.
- 2. The developer providing all easements and agreements required of site development prior to City Council consideration of the associated Final Plat or issuance of a building permit for above ground construction, whichever occurs first.
- 3. Prior to issuance of a footing and foundation permit for any building within this site plan, the City Council adopting the amendment to the West Grand Business Park PUD establishing allowances and regulations for development of PUD Parcel 8.

### Lead Staff Member: Brian Portz

**Approval Meeting Dates:** 

Plan and Zoning Commission	March 22, 2021
City Council	

### **Staff Report Reviews:**

Plan & Zoning Commission	☐ Development Coordinator (or)☐ Director	□ Legal Department
	Director	
City Council	☐ Director	□ Legal Department
	☐ Appropriations/Finance	☐ Agenda Acceptance

Publications (if applicable)

I GIBIIOGGO	o (ii appiioasio)
Published	Des Moines Register
ln:	Community Section
Date(s) Published	n/a
Date(s) of Mailed Notices	n/a

Council Subcommittee Review (if applicable)

Subcommittee	Development & Planning			
Date Reviewed	1/4/21			
Recommendation	⊠ Yes	□ No	□ Split	

## **Location Map**



# A RESOLUTION OF THE PLAN AND ZONING COMMISSION NO. PZC-21-017

**WHEREAS,** pursuant to the provisions of Title 9, Zoning of the West Des Moines Municipal Code, the applicant and property owner, Des Moines University Osteopathic Medical Center, requests approval of a Site Plan for property located at 8025 Grand Avenue as depicted on the location map included in the staff report. The applicant requests approval to construct four educational buildings and associated site improvements; and

**WHEREAS**, the Site Plan request complies with the findings stated in the applicable provisions of Title 9, the Comprehensive Plan and City Code.

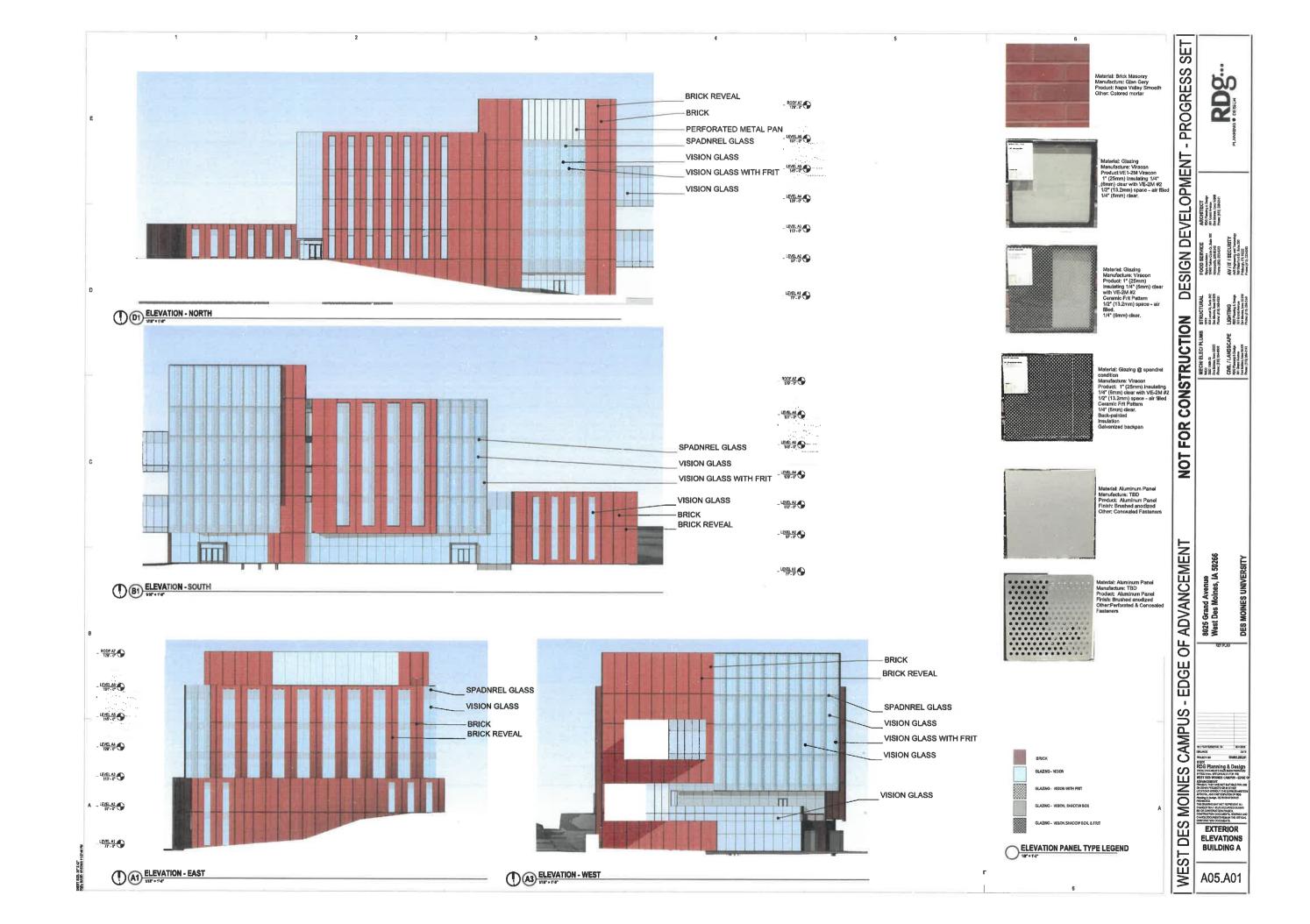
**NOW THEREFORE**, the Plan and Zoning Commission of the City of West Des Moines recommends the City Council approve the Site Plan (SP-004968-2020), subject to compliance with all the conditions of approval as stated in the staff report, including conditions added at the meeting, and attached hereto as Exhibit "A", if applicable.

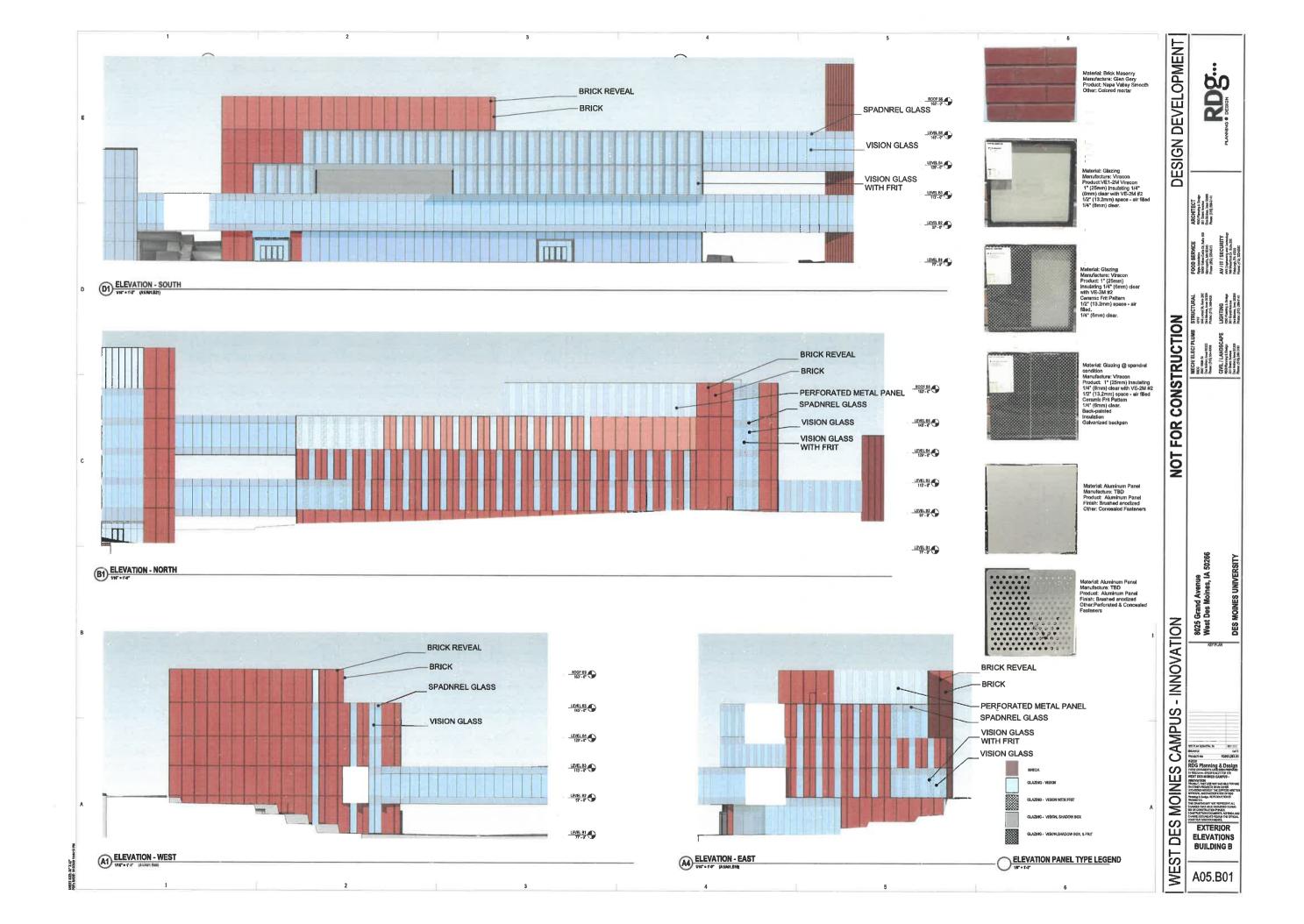
PASSED AND ADOPTED on March 22, 2021.

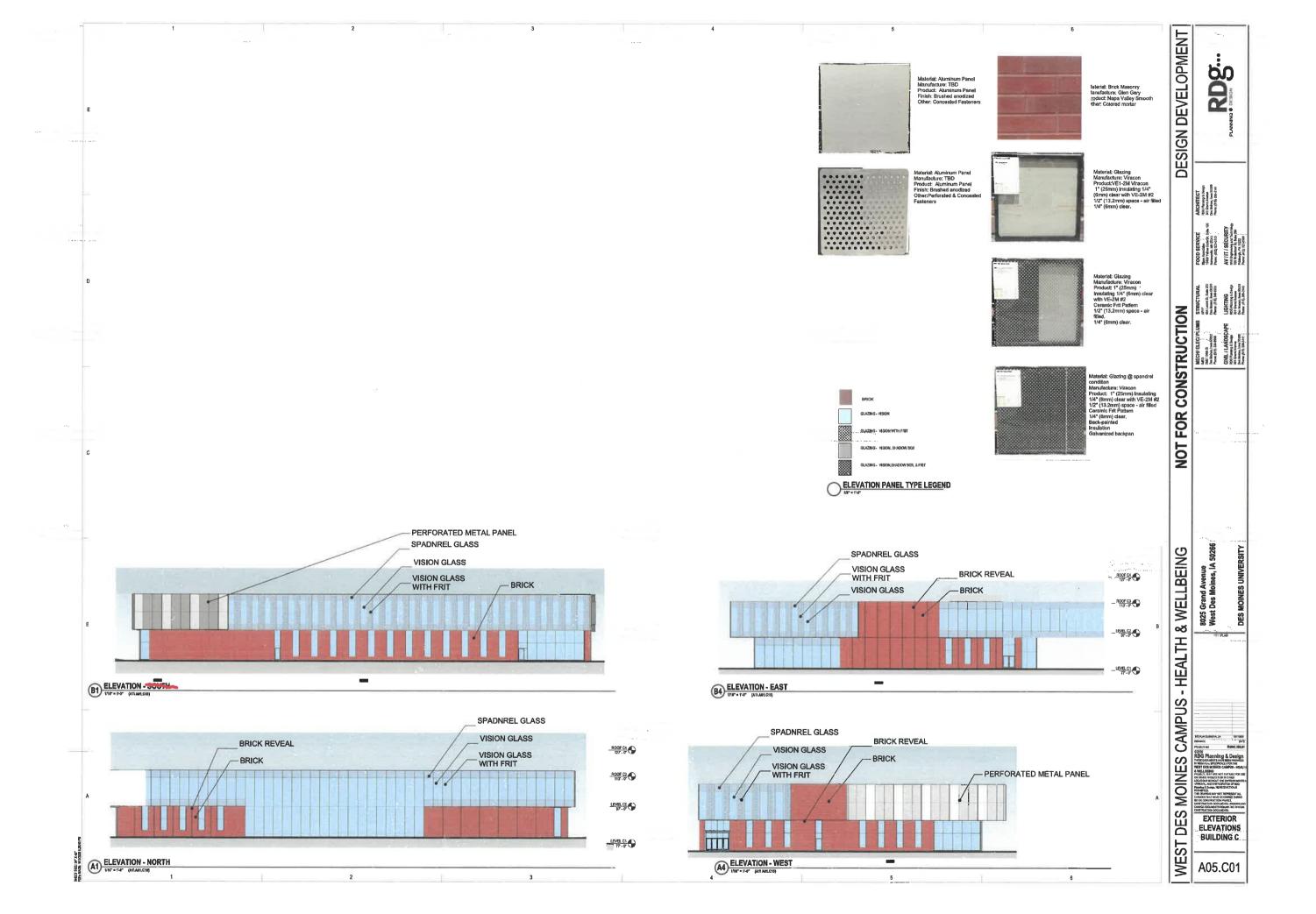
Recording Secretary

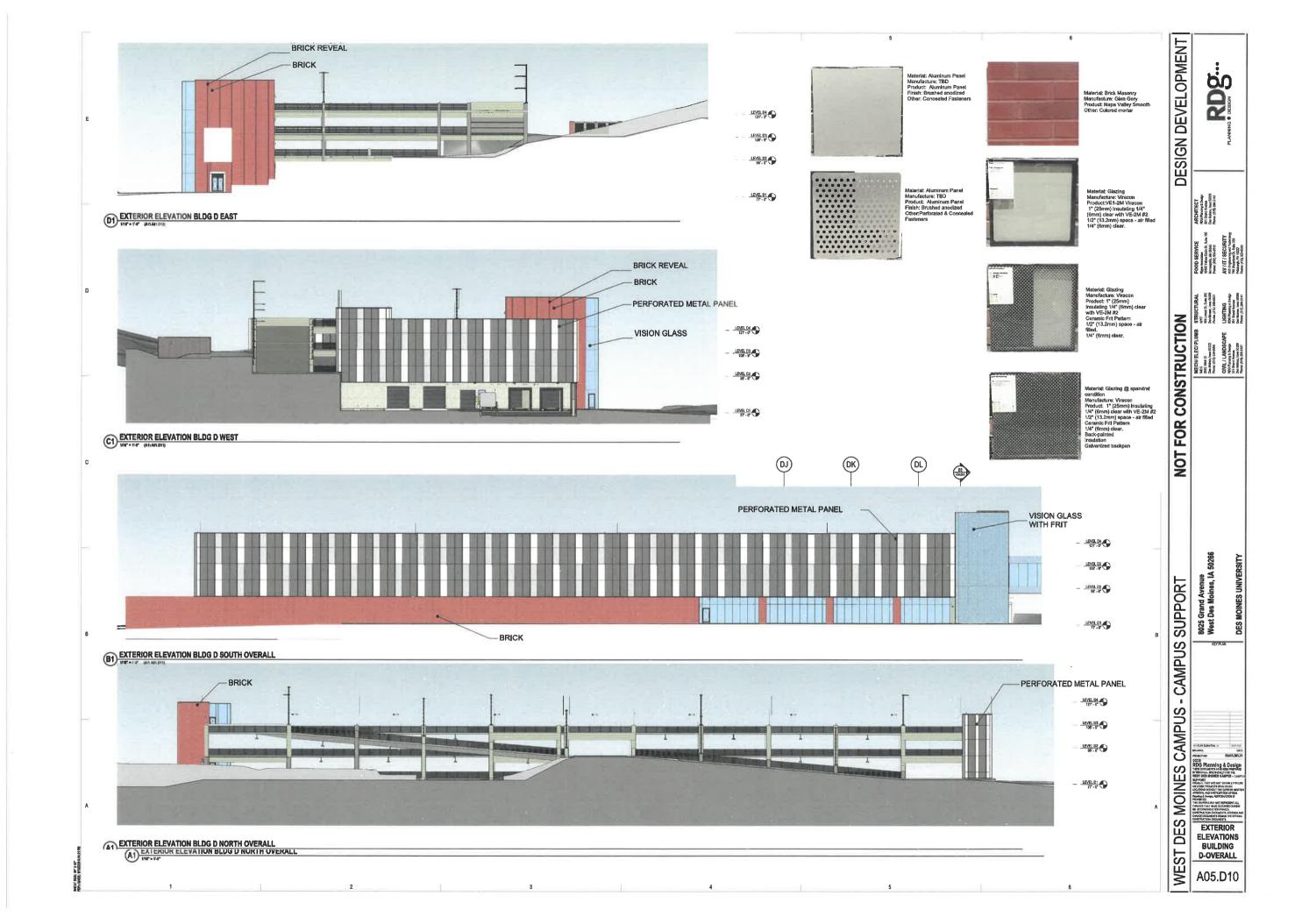
Erica Andersen, Chair Plan and Zoning Commission
I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted by the Plan and Zoning Commission of the City of West Des Moines, Iowa, at a regular meeting on March 22, 2021, by the following vote:
AYES:
NAYS:
ABSTENTIONS:
ABSENT:
ATTEST:

















Building B - Innovation





Building A- Edge of Advancement, and Building B - Innovation



Building C Health and Wellbeing





8	SUPPORT	8025 Grand Avenue West Des Moines, IA 50266	DES MOINES UNIVERSITY
	- CAMPUS	REYPLA	N
	DES MOINES CAMPUS	PATES PLEATING & PATES COLLECTION OF THE STRONG PATES OF THE STRON	ITABLE FOR USE OTHER OTH
	WEST D	BUILDI	NG

NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION

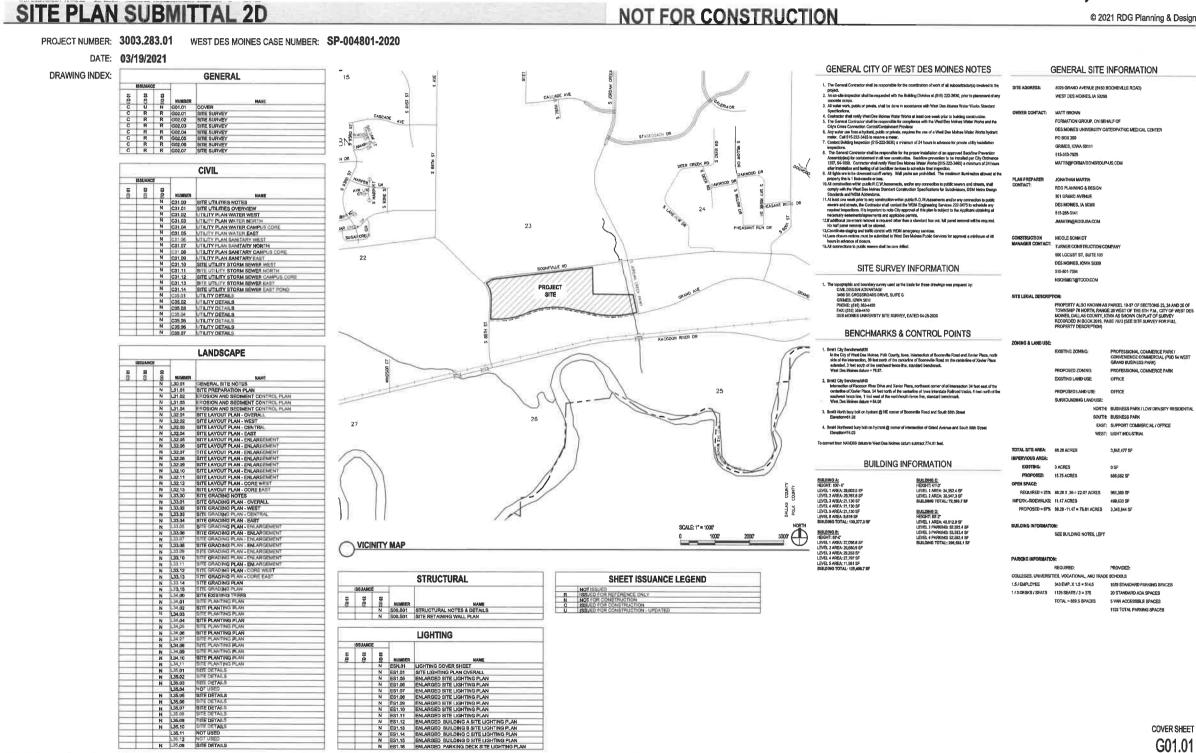
| NECH ELECT PLUNB STRUCTURAL | NECH ELECT P

DESIGN DEVELOPMENT

RDG.



# DES MOINES UNIVERSITY WEST DES MOINES CAMPUS - SITE 8025 GRAND AVENUE WEST DES MOINES, IA 50266



RDG Planning & Design 301 Grand Avenue Des Moines, Iowa 50309 Phone 515-288-3141 www.rdgusa.com RDG IA Inc.
An Architecture, Landscape Architecture, Engineering, Interior Design and Planning Corporation Des Moines, IA Fort Myers, FL Omaha, NE St Louis, MO

000

DES MOINES UNIVERSITY WEST DES MOINES CAMPUS - SITE

