

Olbrich Botanical Gardens

Public Stakeholder Meeting 4

Monday, April 22 | 6:30 – 8:30 pm

Schematic Design: Evaluate & Refine Concept

Attendees had the opportunity to fill out feedback cards following the large group discussion session. This report records all responses collected on April 22.

Rate your perception of the quality and experience associated with each of the following major programmatic areas.

Education	Frequency
Outstanding	12
Very good	6
Good	2
No opinion, neutral	0
Needs some improvement	0
Needs significant improvement	0
Strongly dislike, disapprove	0

Public & Visitor Experience	Frequency
Outstanding	10
Very good	8
Good	0
No opinion, neutral	1
Needs some improvement	1
Needs significant improvement	0
Strongly dislike, disapprove	0

Growing the Gardens	Frequency
Outstanding	6
Very good	6
Good	5
No opinion, neutral	1
Needs some improvement	1
Needs significant improvement	0
Strongly dislike, disapprove	1

Additional Comments

Glad to see they have set a plan for the future after the current plan is in place.

What is the plan for the event garden if the building expands?

Possible to use Garver building for event space? Like the separate part for kids.

Olbrich is my favorite public space in Madison.

Liked the show space the best and the outdoor courtyard...not much beyond that.

Expand gardens to include Garver and O.B. Sherry (sp?)

I am concerned that the project doesn't include a garden focus, a new garden. To raise \$17 million there needs to be a bigger garden focus.

Great Job!

Public & Visitor - make sure enough and clear orientation space, way finding to events, butterflies? How can visitors from different entrances be welcomed, counted, and directed?

Great design. Education equals dedicated space. Great green roof.

Great expanded gift shop. Improved entry and lobby.

"Green Roof" will not allow light to reach trees growing in orangery.

This means trees will receive light from one angle only. Light tubes
or skylights?

Too much glass.

Rate your perception of how the overall design contributes to the quality and experience of the gardens.	Frequency
Outstanding	10
Very good	10
Good	1
No opinion, neutral	0
Needs some improvement	1
Needs significant improvement	0
Strongly dislike, disapprove	0

Rate your perception of how the overall design is integrated with and enriches the community.	Frequency
Outstanding	10
Very good	8
Good	2
No opinion, neutral	0
Needs some improvement	1
Needs significant improvement	0
Strongly dislike, disapprove	1

Additional Comments

Orangerie needs skylights on roof. New rear entry should be an enclosed corridor, not open to inclement weather.

Like the dedicated education spaces and places for eating in orangeries.

I do feel a pedestrian bridge at Atwood Ave is needed!

It doesn't really seem to embrace the gardens. I think the entrance is confusing. The Orangerie seems like an unfocused space and reminds me of the rendering of Hilldale mall. What welcomes a visitor?

Only possible problem is distance from welcome area and conservatory classrooms. Is there public access to Japanese Garden between Head house & office?

Be sure the addition maintains the warmth of the present building (wood, stone) and not the cold industrial look (concrete, aluminum).

Property values suck in the neighborhoods by the feed mill and OB sherry.

I love the idea of expanding into the garden.

Please include bus shelters in your design. Ideally buses would drop off and pick up passengers right at the front door, but if that's not possible then lightened bus shelters on each side of Atwood would encourage people to take public transit to public garden.

The horticulture staff needs more office space.

All the pedestrian paths could lead to vandalism??

Would like to see establishment of future connection of entire watershed this side of Hwy 30 as connected green space with access for non-motorized transport within and beyond that area via the creek.

New A is good. Too much glass results in lot of bird strikes/kills

Of the sustainable initiatives discussed, which do you feel would have the greatest positive impact on the gardens and the community, and why?

Rain gardens in the parking would be a good model for commercial parking.

Reuse of water

Green roof and parking lot plantings seem like plantings seem like great solutions to storm water run-off and visible educational tools for the public.

Parking lot. The flat roof sounds too confusing for a "botanic garden" space. The green roof may be too costly.

Rain gardens and green roofs sound like great ideas.

Rain gardens in parking lot. It looked like there was still drain tile shown in the drawing so I would imagine a lot of water is still passing through.

Parking lot design - addresses run-off and neighborhood concerns.

Now parking lot rain gardens. Parking lots are a sore spot.

Rain Garden - retaining/reusing rain water

improved, environmentally friendly parking.

The Garver property should be used to develop a large wetland to filter the solids out of Starkweather creek.

What about the larger stark weather creek watershed? The urban swamp.

Hope the sustainable parking lots will be a real wonderful example that will motivate others in the community.

Water management (runoff and previous parking surfaces)

Rain garden parking lots as test/demonstration areas for other community projects

Certainly the strategies for handling water will stand out. But oddly, little or no thought has been given to integrating Starkweather creek into the gardens. This gap will be even more obvious when the gardens expand east. Then the creek will be within, not just an edge.

Demonstration parking lot good. Not sure on green roof without ability to see it. Perhaps more of meadow. Possible to use atrium stairs/elevator to access a look out? Consider solar?

Extra space and planned in such a way that is least effective as well as fits our needs.

Help clean water going into the lake.

Additional Comments

Wondering about possibility of sun tubes to allow height into orangeries.

I think the comments about the entire watershed are very important to consider.

Plan to restore Stark weather wetland in the Garver acreage.

How about solar?

What is the cost of a green roof vs. a light transmitting roof? I am very doubtful of a green roof in a botanical garden, it's better to use the water for existing greenhouses and gardens.

Too bad about no public access to the green roofs, but a green roof visible from Atwood is a terrific idea.

Green roof will purely create a lot of interest. Somewhere people can view it - from 2nd floor atrium patio, rose tower?

Already have main gardens, not so much a need to add more except in a parking lot.

Don't use too much area of parking for trees.

Tell us what you liked about today's meetings and what you found to be effective.

Liked the background leading to this design.

Very nice. I liked everything.

I liked the additional plans for after the changes are made. Room for expansion.

Great! Clear effective presentation. Thanks for listening carefully and responding to feedback.

First meeting, very informative.

Good presentation.

Enjoyed seeing progression of the design and retaining original building features. Improved access and program space.

A lot of information was covered. It was a little long at first.

Opportunity for questions and discussion.

Lots of explanatory slides.

Today's meeting was informative and very well run.

The architects really set the tone for a reasonable discussion. Also, I could hear everything well.

All presenters were very good!

Great meeting. Presentation and public access parts were great.

Great presentations

You worked out an entrance in the back.

Good presentation.

Everything. HGA's architectural consultants are extremely well prepared for their presentations.

Tell us what elements of today's meeting didn't work for you; or, elements you thought were missing from the discussion.

The emphasis was on buildings, but not the garden itself.

I'm personally interested in role of Garver property, but understand it's not the focus of tonight's meeting.

I am hungry for more detail, but I understand you aren't completely "there" yet.

Missed the moving around and looking at plans at tables, but understand that that wasn't doable in smaller space.

Cost seems exorbitant.

Visitor growth does not "Parallel" Madison's growth. Olbrich from 60K-250K = 308%, city did not grow 309%, Olbrich growth has exceeded the city.

Please use this space to give us comments about the project or the Gardens overall.

To cut speed - use speed bumps! Not the BS ones.

Love the idea to make Sugar Ave. More Ped/bike friendly and connects bike path to park/lake. Could be opportunity to incorporate Garver as well.

Crazy planning to plan building before Garver planning is finished. Also sorry to see garden master planning for gardens didn't come first.

Looking forward to the improvements. I think the decision about café is shortsighted.

Appreciate that you have addressed many of the concerns expressed during March review of 3 designs in the design presented this evening.

Good plan, but amount of parking may be inadequate.

Even if you could add a place to VIEW the rooftop gardens, that would be great.

I'm extremely impressed both with the public participation process and with the design team's work products.

Fabulous. We need access to rooftop gardens for educational purposes.

Thank you for your extensive consideration of all aspects. Please continue to carefully consider staff and volunteer working conditions. They make this place great!

I think LEED is a waste of money. Just do the design correctly. It's the plants that make Olbrich, not a LEED stamp.

How would kids get from the new classrooms to the rest of the buildings. If the all shown is used for kids, why not use that for 2nd entrance rather than the further outdoor entry?

What about using the flat roof of the orangeries for outdoor patio seating space. Could demonstrate patio gardens used by apartment & condo dwellers, as well as take advantage of fabulous lake and garden views and make the space useful and/or use the roof of the education space. My understanding is that "green roofs" aren't particularly successful and the space may be better used as a "patio" or shared green/useful patio space (yoga, etc.).

Showing 4,250 SF office space should be recast as programs; education, visitor support, etc. not a master plan, either gardens or buildings.

Don't waste parking area, too many trees.
