

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
BOARD OF REGENTS
Ad Hoc Committee on the Stadium
February 8, 2005

A meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Stadium of the Board of Regents was held on Wednesday, February 8, 2006 at 2:00 p.m. in the West Committee Room, 600 McNamara Alumni Center.

Regents present: David Metzen, presiding; Clyde Allen, John Frobenius, and Lakeesha Ransom.

Staff present: Vice Presidents Kathryn Brown, Kathleen O'Brien, and Richard Pfitzenreuter; General Counsel Mark Rotenberg; Executive Director Ann Cieslak; and Associate Vice President Donna Peterson.

Student Representatives: Tom Zearley.

**UPDATE: ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT
FOR PROPOSED ON-CAMPUS FOOTBALL STADIUM**

Vice President O'Brien informed the committee that the meeting was being held to provide an update on the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed on-campus football stadium on the Twin Cities campus. She explained the role of the Board of Regents as the Responsible Governmental Unit and the importance of the committee making an objective determination of the adequacy of the EIS. O'Brien introduced University Budget Officer Brian Swanson and Chris Hiniker of Short, Eliot, Hendricksen, Inc. to give the presentation to the committee.

Swanson and Hiniker provided an overview of the project, described the process of developing the draft EIS, and summarized the major themes in the public comments received on the draft EIS. The presenters highlighted the following:

- The EIS process, which is separated into three phases, is currently in the final phase, which includes preparation of the final document, a public comment period, and a final determination of the adequacy of the EIS;
- Following the publication of the draft EIS on October 24, 2005, a 30-day public comment period resulted in a total of 223 written and 11 oral comments received from citizens, business representatives, neighborhood groups, agencies, and public entities;
- The major areas in which comments were received included anticipated types and frequency of use, event noise, traffic, parking, student and fan behavior, mitigation/good neighbor fund, and stadium advisory committees.

Swanson explained that the University has categorized potential stadium events into the following three categories:

- Activities – non-ticketed events;
- Minor events – ticketed events that are currently able to be held at existing University venues (approximately fewer than 15,000 attendees); and

- Major events – ticketed events that are currently not able to be held at existing University venues (approximately greater than 15,000 attendees).

He added that concerts are categorized as a special type of event with specific restrictions related to noise. In response to a question from Regent Allen, Swanson emphasized that holding major events at the stadium during weeknights is not planned, but may occur in rare circumstances.

In response to a question from Regent Frobenius, O'Brien explained that the University is not intending to prohibit tailgating activities, but instead is developing plans for managing the location and scope of tailgating.

In response to a question from Allen, O'Brien clarified that expenditures for mitigation measures from the Good Neighbor Fund will be coordinated through the Stadium Area Advisory Group.

Regent Metzen asked if there were any further public comments. In response to a question, Swanson reported that the current plan will result in no net loss of parking spaces on the stadium site.

Metzen announced that the committee will review the final EIS on March 8, 2006 and make a recommendation to the full Board on the adequacy of the EIS at that meeting. He requested that copies of the final EIS be distributed to committee members prior to the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 2:50 p.m.

**ANN D. CIESLAK
Executive Director and
Corporate Secretary**