



In the News for July 13, 2009

LABOR MANAGEMENT COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

Here is the LMC's final report to Construction Services staff on the question of whether to change CS's work schedule to four ten-hour days.

The Labor Management Council has been gathering information and having conversations with interested parties about the feasibility of changing the standard work week from a 5 day, 8 hours per day schedule, to a work week that would consist of 4 10-hour days.

A survey of CS customers (done by email with the Facilities User Network) was solidly against the change from 5/8's to 4/10's. Some FUN group members liked the idea of work being done in their off hours, but few members saw any overriding advantage, such as lower cost or shorter project completion times.

The people who would likely be tasked with administering a 4/10 schedule were largely against the idea for a variety of reasons including the difficulty of routine scheduling for timely project completion, managing vacation and sick time, and the likelihood that managers would still need to work 5 days per week in order to maintain a high level of customer communication.

While the move to a 4/10 schedule might be seen as green (since CS employees would have one less day to commute), not everyone agreed that the proposed schedule is really green. People mentioned that the savings only benefited the individual employee, not van pool members who might be knocked out of a pool, nor the University as a whole, which operates 5 days a week.

Because the move from 5/8's to 4/10's is perceived as customer-unfriendly, and because the change would likely result in added substantial administrative cost and effort, the LMC recommends that Construction Services does not change to a work week of four ten-hour days.

The LMC recognizes that there are particular shops for which, or special occasions when, in the interest of customer service or special, temporary employee need, scheduling flexibility is highly desirable. Therefore, we strongly recommend that CS keep and improve that flexibility in the interest of improving customer relations and employee morale.

If you would like a copy of the detailed information about this issue that was presented by the LMC at the June 24 Quarterly Meeting, please contact any LMC member.

Questions for you from the LMC:

- **Do you have any questions leftover from the June 24 CS Quarterly Meeting?** If so, please let us know. Topics covered at the meeting included: CS financials for 2009, audit

update, “lean” process improvement for estimating, plan for requesting and scheduling Season Day work, FMAX and the information it provides customers about work orders and CS financials, LMC’s report on the feasibility of a 4/10 work schedule for CS, update on changes in material ordering, and information related to purchase of the former Pfizer campus and continued use of outside contractors,

- **What rumors have you heard that you want accurate information about? Where did the rumor come from?** Please remember that it takes everyone’s efforts to maintain a positive work environment.
- **What piece of good news about Construction Services would you like people to know about?** – a compliment from a customer, a newly completed project that went well, new business, etc.

Please respond by using the CS drop boxes located near the CS conference room and in the storage cage in the tunnel to Mott – or contact any member of the LMC to let us know what’s on your mind.

Next LMC Meeting: The LMC is scheduled to meet Wednesday, July 22, 2009. The Council will discuss plans to hold a “Build the Team” meeting in mid-September on the topic of accountability at all levels of CS. If you have questions or suggestions, please let us know.

Submitted by the Labor Management Council: **Steven Bird, Mike Cobb, Mike Gaubatz, Rich Gross, Jim Hadden and Fred Keeling**; consultant/facilitator: **Bernadette Malinoski**

ANN ARBOR ART FAIRS 2009

The Ann Arbor Art Fairs 2009 begins this week (see information on street closures and transportation impacts below). The impact of this year’s fair begins Monday morning. Trade’s people with projects on central campus will have a short window of opportunity to get materials to their job sites prior on Monday. Please think of the materials you will need and work with the expeditors to get this delivered on Monday.

All projects will be affected by the fair. It will take our expeditors longer to make it through town safely. All managers and trade employees should plan as much as possible for this challenging week.

ANN ARBOR ART FAIRS 2009--2009 Street Closures and Transportation Impacts

The Ann Arbor Art Fairs 2009, consisting of the Ann Arbor Street Art Fair, State Street Art Fair, Ann Arbor Summer Art Fair and Ann Arbor’s South University Art Fair, will be held July 15 – 18. To accommodate the 4 fairs, several streets that run through or next to campus will be closed as early as Monday morning, July 13, for the Townie Street Party and for booth setup on Tuesday morning, July 14. They are as follows:

- North University Avenue from South State Street to Fletcher Street (closed for Townie Party on July 13 and for Art Fairs on July 14 through 18)
- South State Street from East Washington Street to Monroe Street
- South University Avenue from South State Street to Washtenaw Avenue
- East University Avenue from South University Avenue to Willard Street
- Church Street from south of the Church Street parking structure (525 Church Street) to Willard Street
- East Liberty Street from South Main Street to South State Street
- Maynard Street from East Liberty Street to East Jefferson Street
- South Thompson Street – half a block south from East Liberty Street
- South Main Street from Huron Avenue to East William Street

The first Art Fairs event is the Townie Party which is set for Monday, July 13 from 5:00 PM to 9:30 PM. The Townie Party is located on North University Avenue between Thayer Street and Fletcher Street. Setup for this event will occur on Monday, July 13 beginning at 9:00 AM. The remainder of the

impacted streets for the Art Fairs will close for setup on Tuesday morning, July 14. Art Fairs hours will be Wednesday through Friday 10:00 AM to 9:00 PM and on Saturday from 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM. All impacted streets will return to prior operational levels beginning Sunday morning, July 19.

The Ann Arbor Street Art Fair will utilize portions of Ingalls Mall. Ann Arbor's South University Art Fair will extend along both South University Avenue and East University Avenue. The Ann Arbor Summer Art Fair will continue along South Main Street and South State Street, while the State Street Art Fair will be located in the East Liberty Street area. For more details, visit the Art Fairs map at <http://dev.annarborcvb.org/images/uploads/images/todo/c375cbe5c5225fd923694e632f438247.pdf>

Parking and Transportation Services will provide the M-Art Line, a shuttle service from the Glazier Way/Huron Parkway parking lot (NC51). U-M permit holders will continue to have regular access to the lot. M-Art Line riders will pay \$5 per vehicle to park. During weekday Art Fairs hours, bus service will be provided by the regular Commuter route. However, from 9:00 AM to 7:00 PM Saturday, when the summer Commuter route does not normally operate, the M-Art Line buses will provide 15-minute service around the northern portion of the Commuter route – from Glazier Way to the stops at East Washington Street/Fletcher Street and C.C. Little Building. For details, please visit Parking and Transportation Service's home page at <http://pts.umich.edu> (Ctrl + Click to follow link).

The following listing outlines operational details that have been planned in order to continue services to the campus building occupants in the areas of the Art Fairs:

- Parking structure/lot access – The Thayer Street parking structure will remain open to U-M permit holders. U-M permit holders will be able to access the structure via East Washington Street to South Thayer Street. Lot C10 (the small surface parking lot by West Hall) will not be available for normal parking. During the Art Fairs days, all U-M parking structures will remain gated to only allow vehicles with appropriate U-M permits to enter. After 3:30 PM weekdays and all day Saturday, special event parking permits also will be sold at the structures where adequate vacancies occur.
- Vendor deliveries to the Chemistry Building – The Chemistry Building dock will remain open, as will the intersection of Fletcher Street and North University Avenue.
- Transit bus routes – U-M transit bus schedules will follow traditional “Art Fairs” routes, which include relocating the Museum of Art/State Street stop west to South Division and the South University stops to Hill Street. Alternate route maps can be viewed at <http://pts.umich.edu> Enjoy the art fairs!

SICK TIME—2008 CONTRACT

The contract agreement arrived upon between the University and the University of Michigan Skilled Trade Union included significant changes to the sick time article (Article 23). As we move to the end of the contract year all skilled trade employees should review the contract changes and contact your union representatives if you have any questions. A copy of the skilled trade contract is available on line by going to <http://www.hr.umich.edu/staffhr/contracts/TRADES2008contract.html> . The biggest change in the contract was the separation of sick time into two banks of hours; “short-term sick time” and “extended sick time”.

An employee's short-term sick bank is used for **all absences** from work for personal sick, family care time, scheduled medical and dental appointments. An employee's extended sick time is used for absences from work resulting from work related illness and injuries and continuous absences from work for more than 40 hours. **To be eligible for extended sick time the employee must provide the University with acceptable medical documentation signed by the employee's treating physician certifying that the employee was unable to work all days of the absence.**

UM CONSTRUCTION TRAFFIC UPDATE

Central Campus

Parking space closures in Law School parking lot. A project to relocate utilities at the west side of parking lot S5 for the proposed Law School Academic Building project will require the closure of 12 Blue parking spaces in the northeast corner of the lot. The project will also require the closure of 10 Gold spaces at the southeast portion of parking lot S5, as well as the closure of the sidewalk on the west side of Oakland Avenue between Hill Street and Monroe Street directly in front of 712 Oakland Avenue only. Signage will be posted to direct pedestrians to utilize the sidewalk on the east side of Oakland Avenue for north/south travel. The work is scheduled to begin on Monday, July 6, and is anticipated to be completed on August 28. The complete closure of parking lot S5, for the Law School Academic Building project, is scheduled for late September, 2009.

To view maps of the impacted areas, please visit <http://www.aec.bf.umich.edu/closures.html>

Medical Campus

Parking space reductions in Medical Center Drive Parking Structure (M18) for concrete repairs- Miscellaneous parking structure repairs and routine structural maintenance began at the East Medical Center Drive Parking Structure (M18) on June 15. The work will begin on the north portion of the structure on level 2, in the east parking row. While level 2 is under construction, the parking spaces below on level 1A will also be closed due to potential overhead debris. Approximately 120 parking spaces will be closed. A single drive lane will be maintained on level 1A for exiting traffic only and two-way traffic will be directed to the west bay of level 2.

Phase II of the project is scheduled to begin in early to mid July, with work shifting from level 2 down to level 1A, with parking space closures shifting down a level to the east side of level 1 (debris protection below work area). Affected Gold parking spaces on level 1 will be temporarily relocated to the south portion of the parking structure, 1A ramp. During this phase, a lane for exiting vehicle traffic on level 1A will be maintained.

During phase I, the north entrances will be restricted to Accessible parking spaces only. All others will be directed to the south entrance lanes (9, 10). A connector between the north and south portions of the parking structure will be opened on level 2A to allow parkers access to the north deck. Connectors are also available on levels 3 and 3A. The north entrances to the parking structure will be reopened to all parkers during phase II. Pedestrian entrances and exits from the parking structure to the Taubman Center will not be impacted. The work is anticipated to be complete by late August.

Children's & Women's Hospital and the Mott/Simpson Circle Drive (M22) Parking Structure – East parking structure entry/exit closure and traffic detour on East Hospital Drive – Scheduled for May 30 – November 2009

Central Campus

Diag utility replacement - Sidewalk closure north side of the Diag between the Kraus Building and Chemistry Building/Dow Lab. Also, sidewalk route reduction on north/south sidewalk from North University Avenue to Diag between Kraus and Chemistry as part of Diag utility replacement – Scheduled May 4 to end of December

Lorch Hall/School of Education Building utility replacement - Sidewalk closure between Lorch Hall and School of Education – Scheduled week of May 4 to end of September

Angell Hall partial roof replacement - Sidewalk closure on west side of facility for construction staging – Scheduled week of May 4 to end of August

PLANT OPERATIONS RETIREMENT CELEBRATION JULY 23

The next Plant Operations Retirement Celebration will be held on **THURSDAY, JULY 23, 2009** at the Kipke Conference Center in the Campus Safety Services Building. Please see the attached flyer

Please mark July 23 on your calendar and plan to attend to honor your co-workers participating in the celebration.

ARCHITECTURAL ENGINEERING & CONSTRUCTION SUMMER DESIGN CHARETTE:

The Summer 2009 Charette Create and Construct a facility for our furry/feathered friends or mystical creatures.

The facility can be single or multiple residential, dining, recreational, assembly or business occupancy.

The facility should be created from recycled/found items. The facility must be useable by our furry/feathered friends or mystical creatures. The facility must be complete by August 7, 2009 and set up for display in Der Reisterplatz by 9 am the morning of August 7.

The judging will occur on August 7th during the lunch hour. All AEC employees can participate in the judging by contributing to a facility's donation box. All contributions will be donated to the Children's Make A Wish Foundation. The facility that raises the most funds for Children's Make A Wish will receive the Charette Award.

The participants that create the facility can choose to keep their facility or offer the facility to the highest bidder. The money raised from the sale of the facilities will also be donated to the Children's Make a Wish Foundation. We will accept checks made out to Make a Wish Foundation or cash.

All facilities must be removed from Der Reisterplatz by August 7th at 5:00 PM.

If you would like to sign up to participate in the Summer Design Charette or have any questions please contact Jackie Jeffery.

Mark your calendars for Aug 7th lunch hour.

WELLNESS NEWS!

Register for MHealthy Employee Weight Management Program at Dental School

Register by July 10 for this 12-week weight management program which meets on Monday's from 12:00 to 12:45 p.m. at the U-M School of Dentistry starting on July 27. One-on-one consults with MHealthy dietitians and fitness specialists start week of July 20. The program is exclusively for U-M employees. Cost \$95. Payroll deduction available. To register call 734-975-3024. For more information, visit www.mhealthy.umich.edu/programs/nutrition/healthy_work.html

Got Feelings? Visit the Understanding U website

MHealthy's "Understanding U: Managing the Ups and Downs of Life" includes a comprehensive website covering the entire mental health spectrum, from everyday challenges to diagnosable, treatable illnesses such as depression. Look for information on common concerns and mental health conditions, tools and strategies to help manage everyday stress, confidential online screenings, a directory of U-M and area resources to assist with mental and emotional health issues and e-learning modules for managers. Visit the Understanding U website at www.MHealthy.umich.edu and feel your best.

Ask the Personal Trainer

Have a question about fitness or personal training? Email us at mhealthyfitness@umich.edu and we'll get back to you within 48 hours!

HAVE YOU MOVED OR CHANGED TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Have you moved recently, changed your home or cell phone number or changed your emergency contact information? If so please contact **Sue Nylen** or **Jeanette Craft** and update your personal information cards.

RECEIVE "IN THE NEWS" ELECTRONICALLY

Construction Services personnel who would like to receive In The News as an email attachment should email Paul Guttman at pguttman@umich.edu and you will be added to the distribution list.

"IN THE NEWS" IS ON THE WEB

Current and past issues of in the news are available on the web on the Construction Services home page. If you have missed back issues go to the site and check them out. Our home page is <http://www.plant.bf.umich.edu/construction> and the link to the newsletter is currently in the lower left hand corner.

Please let us know if you have anything for the July 27th edition of "In The News".

*PLANT OPERATIONS
RETIREMENT CELEBRATION*

Thursday, July 23, 2009

11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Please join the Plant Operations Division of The University of Michigan to help us celebrate with and honor the following retirees for their many years of service:

Joe Mahler

**Facilities Maintenance (Hospital Foreman)
39 Years of Service**

Alan Stevens

**Work Management (Estimate Coordinator)
30 Years of Service**

Sandra Kitts

**Building and Grounds Services (Custodian II)
27 Years of Service**

Guy Hurlbutt

**Fire Protection Shop/Zone Maintenance (Fire Alarm Electrician)
25 Years of Service**

Sharon Bailey

**Building and Grounds Services (Custodian II)
18 Years of Service**

Nancy Fortune

**Plant Administration/Network Services (Desktop Support Specialist)
17 Years of Service**

*1239 Kipke Drive, Campus Safety Services Building
Kipke Conference Center, Second Floor
(Additional Parking in OSEH Lot SC7)*

*The presentation ceremony will begin promptly at 12 noon.
Refreshments will be available. Please join us to congratulate our retirees!*

*NOTE: Staff wishing to attend the retirement celebration will be granted one
hour of release
time. Use the following when reporting the one hour of release time ~*

*Work Request: UFUNCTION-2010
Work Code: RECG*