Questions Posed to Members of the Council

1. How often do you visit The Corner and for what purpose?
2. What would be the most important improvement you would suggest for The Corner?
3. Do you think The Corner has improved or declined in the last five years?
4. How do students you know perceive The Corner?

Responses from the MPC Groups

Question 1: How often do you visit The Corner and for what purpose?

- 6-10 times a year, to visit with colleagues over lunch or to meet with out-of-town alumni friends
- Once a month, for dinner – it is too far from my office for more frequent visits
- Once a week for Sunday morning breakfast at the College Inn and visits to Ragged Mountain, Plan 9 and other specific shops
- Once a day for a lunch conversation because it is the closest option for the Architecture School and a good place for walking
- Twice a day for coffee or lunch, rarely for dinner
- Visit for the Wi-Fi Access or to use the Bank

Question 2: What would be the most important improvement you would suggest for The Corner?

- A Transit Hub
- Pedestrian safety at crossings, they have been improved but University Avenue is still a barrier; improve on and off street lighting
- Make traffic one-way, or take cars off University Avenue is still a barrier; improve on and off-street parking
- More diverse shops: dry cleaners, grocery and drugstore
- Build up the zoning level – add more depth to the existing buildings
• Improve the aesthetics of the buildings and add a central plaza space in addition to improving Clark Park
• More mixed uses with additional residential along The Corner

**Question 3: Do you think the Corner has improved or declined in the last five years?**
• Improved, as a result of the sidewalk, Bodo’s, and coffee options
• Declined in the dominance of restaurants over other retailers
• Declined, the loss of the UVA lot on Wertland hurts The Corner
• Improved in terms of restaurants
• Declined in late night atmosphere and traffic, it has become a “cruising” spot

**Question 4: How do students you know perceive The Corner?**
• A student center, especially late night
• Student surveys suggest more students visit The Corner than Newcomb
• A tradition for UVA students, food options are better than “cafeteria” Newcomb
• For Undergrads as a drinking destination as grad students go downtown
• There is a perception of The Corner as a place for white students
• As an undergraduate “hang-out”, but more students are discovering and visiting the downtown mall

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**Summary:**

**The Corner Workshop**

**Highlights from The Workshop**

*Held at St. Paul’s Memorial Church, October 22, 2005*

The Corner Workshop was well attended by a broad group of participants including Neighborhood representatives, Corner Merchants, and University staff and students. Following the introduction, workshop participants formed four Focus Groups based on the themes of Transportation, Parking & Service, Student Housing, Neighborhoods and Student Life & Security. Facilitator’s for each group queried the participants with the questions noted below. A summary of results is currently being developed by the Office of the Architect, and a follow-up meeting with the participants is planned for January 2006.

1. What are the most positive and functional aspects of The Corner?
2. What are the missed opportunities that could be improved?
3. In your view, how does The Corner compare with similar student-oriented areas adjacent to other Universities or Colleges?
4. What changes would you like to see the a)University b)City c)Private Sector make to improve the problems they observe in the current situation?