

CAMPUS MASTER PLAN

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

Campus Master Plan

SPRING 2013

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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Campus Master Plan

SPRING 2013

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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CONSULTANT TEAM

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MOBILITY AND TRANSPORTATION DEMAND MANAGEMENT

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Alliance-Texas Engineering Company, Austin, TX

SUSTAINABLE LANDSCAPE CONSULTATION

Ecosystem Design Group, Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center, Austin, TX

ENERGY CONSERVATION FUNDING STRATEGIES

Energy Strategies, LLC, Salt Lake City, UT

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

By William Powers, Jr.

28th President of The University of Texas at Austin

For some time, The University of Texas at Austin has held a prominent position among national and international universities. Achieving and sustaining this level of excellence comes through thoughtful planning, dedicated implementation and a keen focus on the timeless mission of the university.

Our university has a long history of planning, then building and supporting, a physical environment that is both unique and memorable. The most recent campus master plan, published in 1999, was produced by Cesar Pelli & Associates and provided a sound foundation for developing a sense of community. In 2004, the university's Commission of 125 released a series of recommendations for charting the institution's next 25 years. In recommendations five and six, the Commission called for a new university master plan to integrate academic planning and strategic goals with our facilities, infrastructure, and financial resources.

The Commission's recommendations are even more relevant today than in 2004. The university continues to demonstrate that we are efficient stewards of financial resources, even as those resources are constrained, both across our colleges and across our operations. While emphasizing academic and research excellence—we are doing better with less. With that thought in mind, we initiated this new master plan to identify the strongest return-on-investment opportunities for furthering

our academic mission over the next ten to fifteen years. The plan has done more than that; this process has positioned the university to excel for the next century. Being prepared for opportunity is our strategic goal.




The new master plan lays out a framework of strong ideas that will shape how we invest intelligently, and with consistency, when opportunities arise. With this document as our guide, we are in position to accommodate growth and enhance our existing campus, as well as extend, if needed, our outstanding utility and facilities infrastructure to new academic and research ventures. We are poised to engage with businesses and neighborhoods surrounding the campus on issues of housing and social environments that support academic achievement. We are also in position to revitalize the Waller Creek/San Jacinto Boulevard corridor as a place that knits together our core campus to the west with our central campus to the east while serving a greater role in improving mobility on campus.

I would like to commend the leadership of Dr. Pat Clubb and Dean Fritz Steiner for co-chairing the Master Plan Advisory Committee. Similarly, I personally appreciate the time dedicated to this effort by every member of the committee. Their sensitivity to balancing the operational needs of campus with the academic vision of our deans has helped to achieve a cohesive direction for generations.

Campus planning is done with a long-term view. It guides day-to-day business decisions and investments; it is concerned with creating lasting value. In this way, campus planning is a mirror of our academic mission to create world-class learning environments for our students, enable research that benefits the world, and provide public service to society.



UT AUSTIN CAMPUS

-  FUTURE BUILDING OPPORTUNITIES
-  EXISTING BUILDINGS
-  UT AUSTIN MAIN CAMPUS BOUNDARY

VISION

This initial phase of the master plan for The University of Texas at Austin establishes the physical framework for sustaining a leadership role among the nation's preeminent public research universities. It also identifies additional studies needed to cover the full spectrum of issues contributing to that goal.

The underlying intent of the initial phase of the plan is to respond to two specific recommendations from the Commission of 125. The first of these, **Recommendation Five**, focuses on **the need for systematic integrated planning using objective data sources, with facility and financial resources in service to academic initiatives.**

The second recommendation, **Recommendation Six**, calls for **the best use of facilities, built more efficiently, with better coordination among different university stakeholders, and for the need to address critical maintenance and renovation projects.** The plan also responds to the recent report of the Task Force on Undergraduate Graduation Rates, which emphasizes the contribution of the student campus experience to student success. The plan establishes the groundwork for additional study in this area.

While the digital revolution accelerates its challenges to traditional structures for learning and research, **leading place-based scholarly communities such as UT Austin continue to be magnets for the world's best talent, both faculty and students.** In this distinguished company, UT Austin has unusual assets. It is located at the heart of one of America's most vibrant cities; it has a magnificent campus that is connected to the city by an excellent transportation network; and as one of the nation's largest campuses, it has a scale and density well suited to supporting major initiatives in cross-disciplinary research and a fully integrated learning experience for students.

ACTING ON EACH OF THESE OPPORTUNITIES
REQUIRES BIG TRANSFORMATIVE IDEAS.
SOME ARE ADDRESSED IN THIS PHASE OF THE
PLAN, AND THE GROUNDWORK IS LAID FOR
NECESSARY FUTURE PLANNING FOR THE REST.

Building on these extraordinary assets, there are opportunities for enhancement to allow UT Austin to move to the next level and become the leading public research university.

PHASE 1 PROCESS

The UT Austin master plan was developed through a comprehensive planning process led by senior university administrators, and comprising three stages of work. The planning team and work program are described below.

UT AUSTIN TEAM

President William Powers, Jr. appointed a Leadership Team comprising senior university administrators and academic representatives to guide the master planning effort. The Leadership Team provided direction to the master plan consultants through the duration of the planning process. The Leadership Team established an Advisory Committee with broad representation from the university community to assist in the review of the master plan during each stage of work. In addition, four task groups provided technical input and direction.

The Phase 1 master planning process involved the following three stages of work.

STAGE 1: DISCOVERY AND OPPORTUNITIES

During the Discovery and Opportunities stage of the process, which began in September 2011, the consultant team worked with UT Austin stakeholders to develop a comprehensive understanding of the physical context, core issues, and planning framework that informed the development of the master plan. Stage 1 included interviewing task groups, reviewing existing background information, and analyzing the fundamental characteristics of the UT Austin campus and surrounding areas.

STAGE 2: EXPLORATION

During Stage 2 of the planning process, the consultant team explored a range of planning and design strategies for the UT Austin campus, with the goal of reaching consensus on a preferred strategy. The Exploration stage addressed issues related to the physical space of the campus, as well as how these elements together support the overall function of the campus setting.

STAGE 3: MASTER PLAN DEVELOPMENT

The draft and final master plans were prepared during Stage 3 of the planning process. The draft master plan was informed by and coordinated with the supporting task group studies. The master plan and task group studies were refined over the summer of 2012 based on the comments from these groups. The final master plan, together with supporting technical studies, are posted online as interactive, navigable PDFs, which are also formatted for printing. These online resources can be accessed at <https://www.utexas.edu/operations/masterplan/>.



SUSTAINABILITY WORKSHOP, JANUARY 2012

MASTER PLAN TASKS

1 HISTORIC RESOURCES ASSESSMENT

A historic resources assessment includes a survey of the university's building stock categorized according to historic significance and important features. The assessment provides a resource for restoration, renovation, and re-use, and provides guidance for decisions to determine which buildings should be removed or replaced.

2 MOBILITY PLAN

A campus-wide mobility plan integrates pedestrian, bicycle, vehicle, transit, and service-vehicle circulation as well as transportation demand management strategies. The mobility plan addresses the complex mobility systems that converge on campus and recommends a strategy to balance current and long-term conditions.

3 SUSTAINABILITY AND ENERGY CONSERVATION FUNDING STRATEGIES

Sustainability strategies are integrated fully with the overall master planning process and coordinated with the efforts of the President's Sustainability Steering Committee. They establish baselines and goals consistent with the University's AASHE STARS submission, identify metrics, and set priorities around a variety of sustainability initiatives.

As a related effort, the master plan initiates an energy-conservation funding strategy to identify a baseline for future energy consumption by building and use. The plan accepts the goals articulated in the *Natural Resource Management and Conservation Strategic Plan* and proposes energy-conservation funding strategies to meet those goals.

4 DECISION SUPPORT TOOL

A web-based tool—using existing databases and drawings—was developed to visualize existing patterns of space use, occupancy, historical significance, building condition, and other documented building characteristics. The tool has served as a decision-support system to inform the master plan process and will assist the university with future capital planning.

5 CAMPUS DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

The overall campus development strategy is informed by and coordinated with the other elements of the plan. The strategy defines a flexible planning and urban-design framework for campus development; identifies options for campus growth, redevelopment, and infill; defines the character, density, and urban form of new development; establishes an open space structure; and defines mobility systems within the urban context.

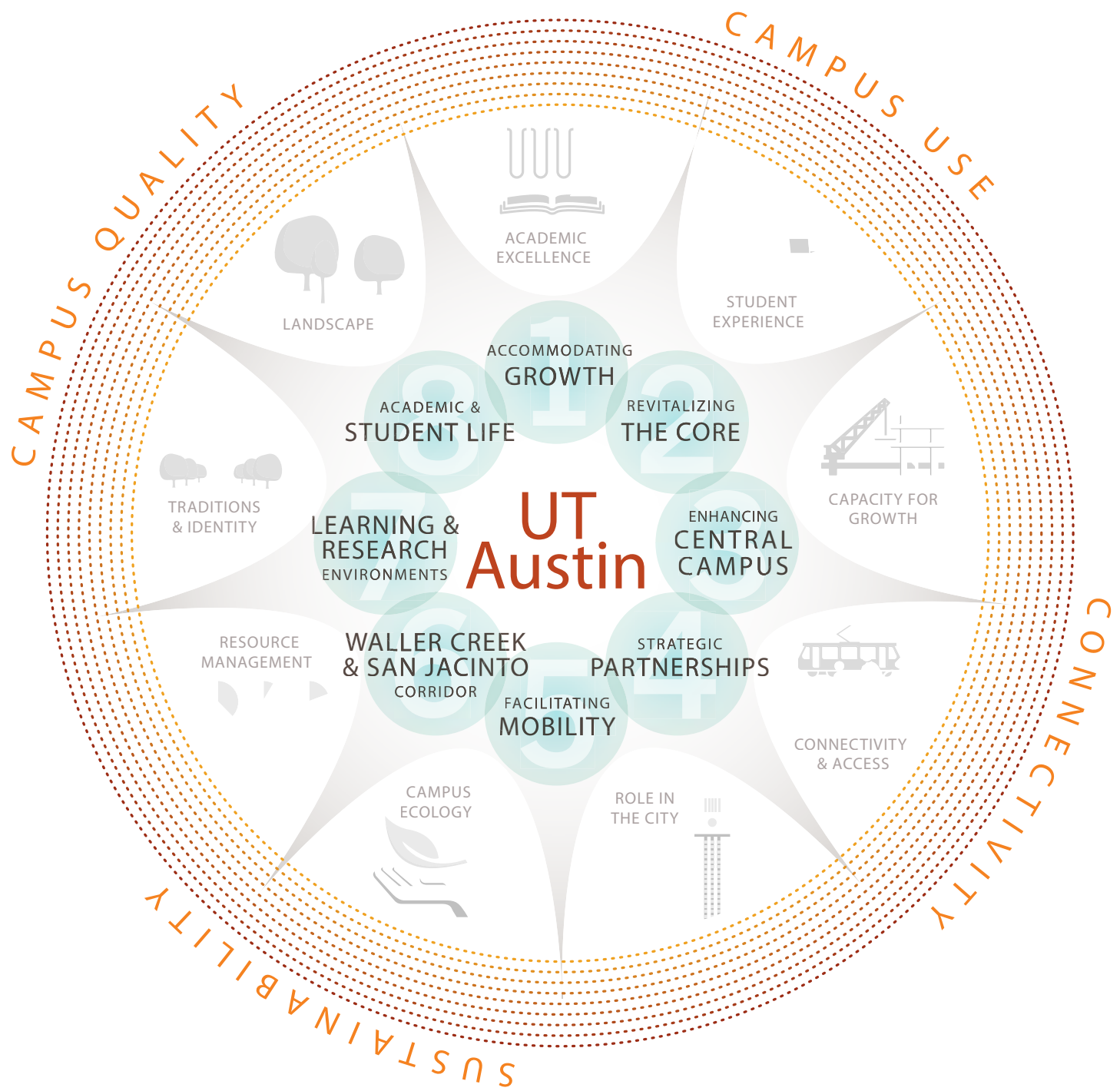
6 BUILDING DESIGN GUIDELINES

The master plan is complemented by new design guidelines for buildings, and the design guidelines from the 1999 Pelli plan are updated accordingly. The new guidelines also consider different building typologies and construction techniques.

EIGHT BIG IDEAS

The plan is founded on eight big ideas. Capitalizing on UT Austin’s assets and opportunities requires big transformative ideas, and all are interdependent. Each big idea has a dedicated section linked to the plan’s introductory chapter. This Phase 1 plan tackles some of these ideas in detail and lays the groundwork for future planning for the rest.

Viewed through the lens of sustainability, as illustrated in the “mandala” diagram, the eight big ideas individually and collectively contribute to a more sustainable campus.



1. ACCOMMODATE POTENTIAL GROWTH

Research universities are widely recognized as catalysts for economic and social transformation. Growth at UT is essential and inevitable. The challenge is to preserve and enhance the university's assets in the context of growth, while taking advantage of as-yet untapped expansion opportunities within and beyond the current confines of the campus.

2. REVITALIZE THE CORE CAMPUS

The Core Campus is one of the most densely built American campus environments. The challenge is to address the Core's aging buildings and infrastructure, while preserving but adapting historic buildings and landscape, addressing changing patterns of research and teaching, and resolving conflicts among cars, pedestrians, and bicycles.

3. ENHANCE THE CENTRAL CAMPUS

The Central Campus is significantly different in character from the Core: it is less densely built, has less tree cover and more asphalt, and is less pedestrian-friendly. It offers significant opportunities for redevelopment and transformation into a natural extension of the Core, as well as additional opportunities for growth west of Interstate 35.

4. FORGE STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS

Universities no longer thrive in isolation. Partnerships with adjacent stakeholders have the potential to advance UT's academic, research, and student-life goals. Exploring potential city, state, and private sector partnerships for promoting and guiding development adjacent to the university campus and beyond is a priority initiative.

5. FACILITATE SAFER AND MORE EFFICIENT MOBILITY

Moving around the campus easily, comfortably, and safely is critical to the well-being of the campus community. Safe, efficient mobility helps ensure a vibrant campus setting.

6. TRANSFORM THE WALLER CREEK/ SAN JACINTO BOULEVARD CORRIDOR

Waller Creek and San Jacinto Boulevard form parallel barriers between the Core Campus and the Central Campus. Rethinking how the creek and the roadway can enhance rather than divide the campus is essential to improving the Central Campus. The potential introduction of light rail on San Jacinto Boulevard makes a winning strategy doubly important.

7. IMPROVE LEARNING AND RESEARCH ENVIRONMENTS

The modern learning environment is no longer restricted to the lab and classroom, but includes space for formal and informal learning throughout the campus. As research increasingly crosses traditional departmental boundaries, plans by different schools must be integrated to provide a comprehensive research setting.

8. INTEGRATE ACADEMIC AND RESIDENTIAL LIFE

Student success rates are heavily influenced by student and residential life programs on campus. The heavy concentration of students living in the West University Neighborhood and north of the campus will require university engagement if those areas are to contribute to the university's success. On campus, the relationship between student services and concentrations of academic activity should also be reviewed.



CORE

CENTRAL

EAST

CAMPUS ZONES

- UT AUSTIN CAMPUS
- FUTURE BUILDING OPPORTUNITIES
 - EXISTING BUILDINGS
 - UT AUSTIN MAIN CAMPUS BOUNDARY

W 27TH ST

E DEAN KEETON ST

E DEAN KEETON ST

MANOR RD

LEONA ST

SAN JACINTO BLVD

E 23RD ST

ROBERT DEDMAN

I-35

COMAL ST

SPEEDWAY

RED RIVER ST

MARTIN LUTHER KING JR BLVD

W 24TH ST

W 21ST ST

SAN JACINTO BLVD

TRINITY ST

E 15TH ST

W. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR BLVD

N. CONGRESS AVE

FRAMEWORK

FOR THE CORE AND CENTRAL CAMPUS

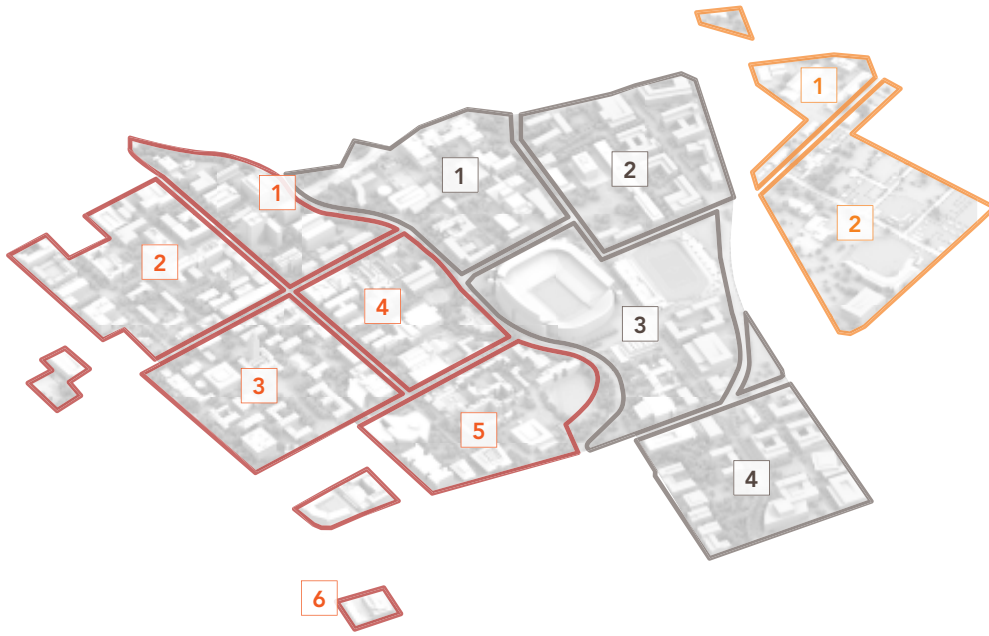
The campus design framework establishes the physical configuration and dimensional attributes that will guide future development of the campus. The framework has three primary elements: the building edges, heights, and massing that define campus spaces; the visual and physical relationships between different typologies of campus spaces; and the overall connectivity and landscape of spaces across campus.

The campus design framework begins by **reinforcing and extending the iconic cruciform of malls** that emanate from the Main Building at the top of College Hill. Improving the physical coherence of these malls and reinforcing their role as armatures of community and student life will help clarify the primary campus structure. Beyond the east-west and north-south malls, a network of secondary campus spaces further connect the campus. The **network of campus spaces** provides a variety of places for students to study and interact. It includes courtyards and small quadrangles, as well as gathering places and pedestrian corridors.

The tree-lined walkways and shady gathering places on the Core Campus are the kinds of places that attract students and faculty. They support the social activities and learning opportunities that keep students on campus and focused on completing their degrees. The combination of adequate amounts of lawn and ground cover, tree canopy, and shade create significantly more comfortable outdoor spaces in the Core than anywhere else on campus.

Use, size, and form of future building opportunities shown on the framework plan will be determined later by UT Austin, as needs arise.

THE UT AUSTIN CAMPUS HAS
A DISTINCT AND MUCH-LOVED
CHARACTER THAT MUST BE
PRESERVED AND ENHANCED FOR
FUTURE GENERATIONS.



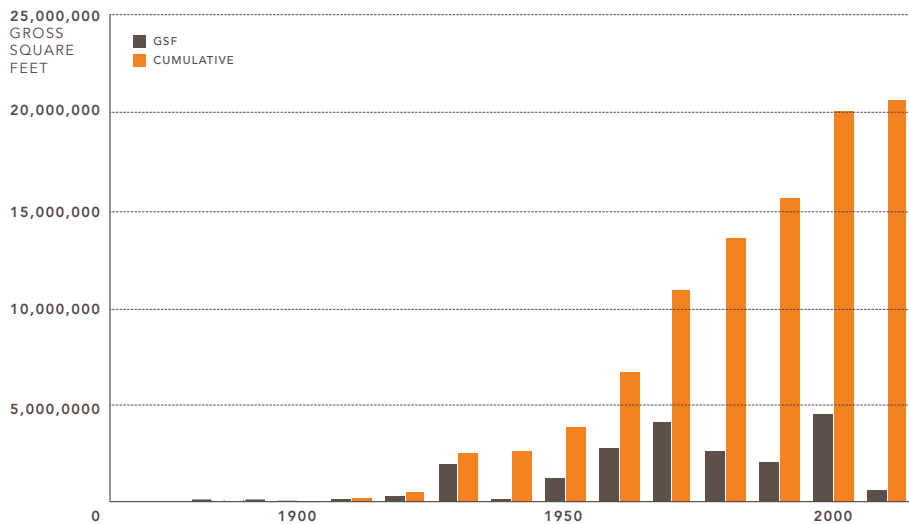
ZONE	EXISTING GSF	PROPOSED NEW CONSTRUCTION	PROPOSED DEMOLITION	NET NEW GSF	ZONE TOTAL GSF	EXISTING FAR	PROPOSED FAR
1	2,048,323	502,683	219,523	283,160	2,331,483	1.9	2.1
2	3,905,350	415,636	211,675	203,961	4,109,311	2.3	2.4
3	2,809,119	55,092	4,951	50,141	2,859,260	1.6	1.6
4	1,892,756	204,501	110,995	93,506	1,986,262	1.4	1.4
5	3,514,786	154,000	0	154,000	3,668,786	2.0	2.1
6	459,819	0	0	0	459,820	6.0	6.0
SUB TOTAL		1,331,912	547,144	784,768			

ZONE	EXISTING GSF	PROPOSED NEW CONSTRUCTION	PROPOSED DEMOLITION	NET NEW GSF	ZONE TOTAL GSF	EXISTING FAR	PROPOSED FAR
1	1,703,753	904,480	245,364	659,116	2,362,869	1.1	1.5
2	609,940	2,550,550	155,789	2,394,761	3,004,701	0.3	1.7
3	2,210,424	739,493	0	739,493	2,949,917	0.9	1.3
4	1,132,095	2,375,597	724,137	1,651,460	2,783,555	0.7	1.8
SUB TOTAL		6,570,120	1,125,290	5,444,830			

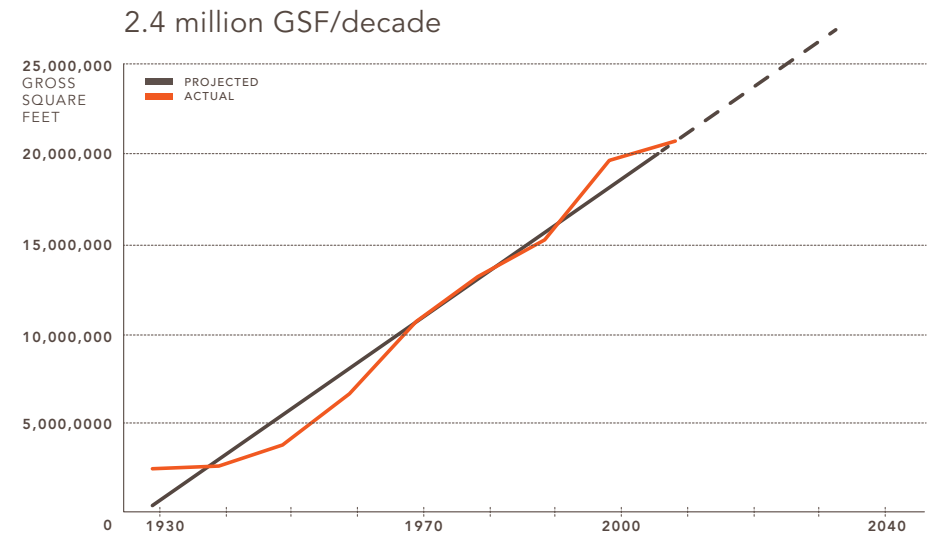
ZONE	EXISTING GSF	CALCULATED NEW CONSTRUCTION	PROPOSED DEMOLITION	NET NEW GSF	ZONE TOTAL GSF	EXISTING FAR	PROPOSED FAR
1	238,587	0	0	0	238,587	0.4	0.4
2	274,611	378,002	0	378,003	652,614	0.2	0.4
SUB TOTAL		378,002		378,003			

*FAR (Floor-to-Area Ratio) – a measure of building density, defined as the ratio of total building square footage to land area.

ACCOMMODATING GROWTH: MAIN CAMPUS CONSTRUCTION BY DECADE



MAIN CAMPUS CONSTRUCTION TRENDS: 2.4 million GSF/decade



ACCOMMODATE POTENTIAL GROWTH

Most experts agree that the major research universities in the nation will play an increasingly important role in fostering the entrepreneurial and creative spirit to fuel economic and social leadership for the United States in the coming decades. Universities will be essential to developing a sophisticated and highly trained workforce, and to generating solutions for a complex and environmentally challenged global economy. The United States remains the leader in the creation of new knowledge and technological advances, and in providing sophisticated professional services across the globe, based on multidisciplinary problem-solving.

UT Austin plays a significant role in this effort. As the university extends its capabilities and its reach as an economic engine, **the need for more and improved research space and for space to support a host of other new endeavors will almost certainly accelerate.** While some supporting activities need not be immediately adjacent to the current campus, the focus on interdisciplinary collaboration puts a premium on proximity for key academic initiatives.

BASED ON HISTORICAL TRENDS, UT AUSTIN COULD GROW BY 2.4 MILLION SQUARE FEET, OR ROUGHLY TEN PERCENT, PER DECADE. THIS GROWTH IS NOT TIED TO ENROLLMENT. AS A NEW MEDICAL SCHOOL IS ESTABLISHED, GROWTH COULD BE SIGNIFICANTLY GREATER. UNDERSTANDING HOW TO ACCOMMODATE THIS GROWTH IS CRITICAL FOR THE UNIVERSITY AND ITS SURROUNDING COMMUNITY.



UT AUSTIN CAMPUS

 FUTURE BUILDING OPPORTUNITIES

 EXISTING BUILDINGS

 UT AUSTIN MAIN CAMPUS BOUNDARY

REVITALIZE THE CORE CAMPUS

The University of Texas at Austin's Core Campus is its most cherished physical asset. It contains some of the most beautiful places on any campus in the world. It is rich with architectural treasures built throughout the twentieth century with care and attention to detail. The buildings are sited carefully in the topography, creating a well-connected, mature, and human-scaled landscape that supports a vibrant academic culture.

Planned in the early twentieth century as a formal arrangement of buildings and landscapes that reflect the Jeffersonian American ideal, such as the "academical village" of the University of Virginia, the campus developed into one of the country's most dense and renowned university settings.

Embracing this historic legacy while re-purposing and renewing the Core Campus is a fundamental strategy of the master plan. Key initiatives include **enhancing the open spaces to create a cohesive environment; improving connectivity within the Core Campus and surrounding areas; and addressing conflicts among pedestrians, bicycles, and vehicles.**

The following strategies will guide reinvestment for the Core Campus:

- + Preserve the historic legacy
- + Maintain density and activity
- + Improve connectivity
- + Address mobility conflicts
- + Enhance the campus landscape

THE MASTER PLAN SHOULD PRESERVE THE HISTORIC INTEGRITY AND ICONIC CHARACTER OF THE CORE CAMPUS WHILE RENEWING AND RE-PURPOSING OUTDATED FACILITIES.

The **campus realm toolkit** is important for understanding which spaces in the Central Campus work well, and it serves as a guide for planning the Central Campus. The toolkit describes the elements—including **building edges, landscape "rooms," connections and pathways, surface treatment, tree canopy, and microclimate**—that compose different types of successful spaces on campus. The toolkit provides guidance to improve existing spaces and to design new spaces.





E. DEAN KEETON ST

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SAN JACINTO BLVD

ROBERT DEDMAN

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RED RIVER ST

SPEEDWAY




E. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR BLVD

SAN JACINTO BLVD

TRINITY ST

N. CONGRESS AVE

E. 15TH ST

- UT AUSTIN CAMPUS**
-  FUTURE BUILDING OPPORTUNITIES
 -  EXISTING BUILDINGS
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ENHANCE CENTRAL CAMPUS

As the Core Campus reaches its full capacity, expansion is most likely to occur on contiguous and proximate UT Austin land to the east of Waller Creek. The master plan framework for future academic expansion builds on existing assets and establishes a connected and human-scaled environment for the next era of growth. The plan can also accommodate the new medical school with a mix of academic, research, and clinical facilities.

- + The Central Campus will become **a vital, pedestrian-oriented campus district** that is connected to the Core Campus through enhanced Waller Creek/San Jacinto Boulevard corridor crossings.
- + The East Transit Mall is the primary campus space that ties together the Core Campus and Central Campus. The master plan provides a design that **minimizes conflicts among pedestrian, bicycle, and transit uses** and improves their functionality.
- + Increased density and the placement of buildings **reinforces the public realm** and reflects the campus form and character of the Core Campus. New development will be built in a compact, efficient manner with a maximum height of six stories, depending upon the surrounding context, to ensure efficient use of valuable land resources.
- + In the long-term, making the Central Campus more dense will require the **relocation of several athletic facilities**, including the football practice facility adjacent to Interstate 35, the Erwin Special Events Center south of East Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard, and the Penick-Allison Tennis Center on Trinity Street, as well as the **addition of structured parking** to replace the surface lots east of Sid Richardson Hall, west of Red River Street, and south of the Events Center. A plan for the relocation of athletic facilities will have to be developed.

THE CENTRAL CAMPUS
PROVIDES AN OPPORTUNITY
FOR THE UNIVERSITY TO
ACCOMMODATE THE NEXT
SEVERAL DECADES OF
GROWTH AND EXPANSION.



**WEST UNIVERSITY
NEIGHBORHOOD**



**EAST
CAMPUS**



**INNOVATION
DISTRICT**

**ACADEMIC
MEDICAL
CENTER**



FORGE STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS

To become the preeminent public university in the nation The University of Texas at Austin will need to continue developing additional facilities. **Increased density in the Core and Central Campus cannot accommodate all of the potential thirty-year growth based on the historic growth rate of university space.** As a medical school is developed on campus, facility growth could exceed historic rates.

There are a number of ways of accommodating university facility growth beyond the main campus on property already owned by the university. The Pickle Research Campus has the potential to accommodate appropriate research facilities as well as other support uses. East Campus also has development capacity for uses that don't require a main campus location. In addition to university-owned property, community-oriented facilities could potentially be accommodated at the Mueller mixed-use urban village.

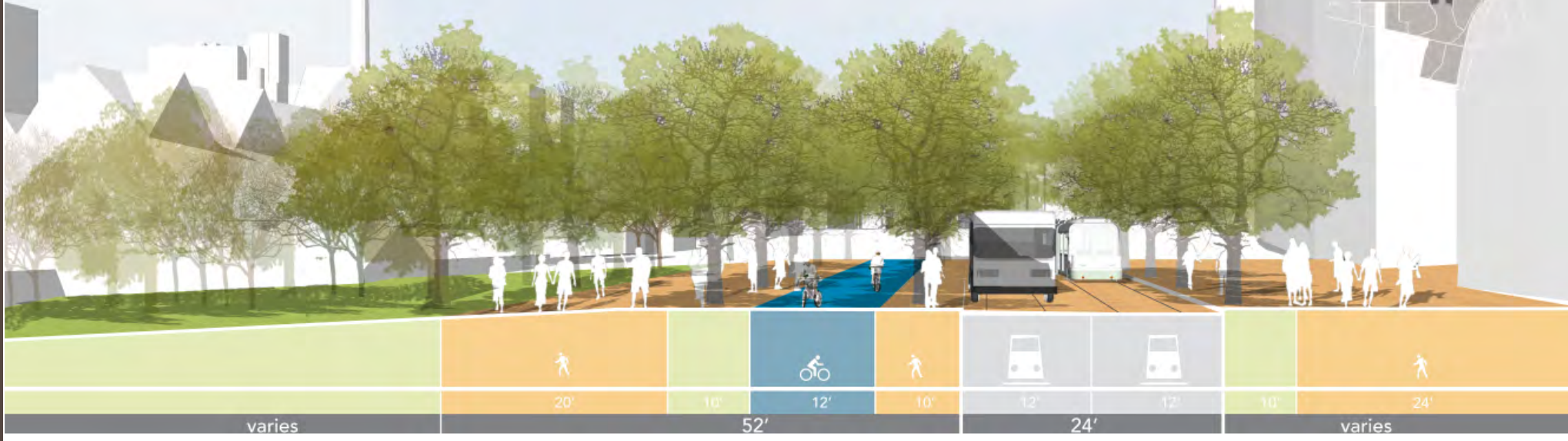
Facility growth could also be accommodated in areas adjacent to the main campus, including the **West University Neighborhood**, the **Capitol Complex**, and **East Campus**, with significant potential advantages for the university and other interested parties. Some program growth needs can be met through **partnerships with the city, state, other non-profits, and the private sector.** Institutions of higher education are increasingly

PARTNERSHIPS WITH ADJACENT STAKEHOLDERS HAVE THE POTENTIAL TO ADVANCE THE UNIVERSITY'S ACADEMIC, RESEARCH, AND STUDENT-LIFE GOALS. EXPLORING POTENTIAL CITY, STATE, AND PRIVATE SECTOR PARTNERSHIPS FOR PROMOTING AND GUIDING DEVELOPMENT ADJACENT TO THE UNIVERSITY CAMPUS IS A PRIORITY INITIATIVE.

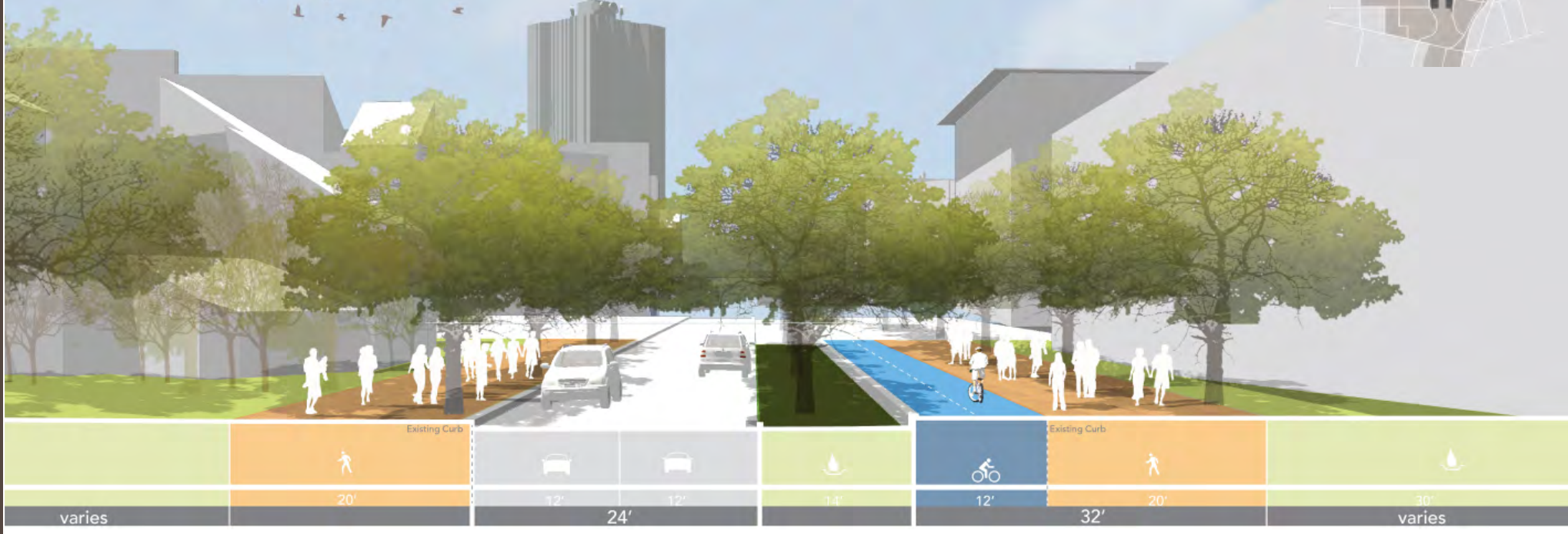
becoming aware of the importance of an economically vital and active community adjacent to their campuses and have created many successful projects to foster them.

Strategic partnerships can have a benefit beyond university programs and facilities. Proposed Waller Creek improvements within the campus limits should seek to leverage work already begun by The Waller Creek Conservancy, through its partnership with the City of Austin. The Conservancy partnership holds tremendous promise for transforming Waller Creek, from East 15th Street south to Lady Bird Lake, into a series of great public spaces interlaced with a restored creek ecology.

SAN JACINTO BOULEVARD (CENTRAL) PROPOSED STREET SECTION DESIGN



EAST 21ST STREET PROPOSED STREET SECTION DESIGN

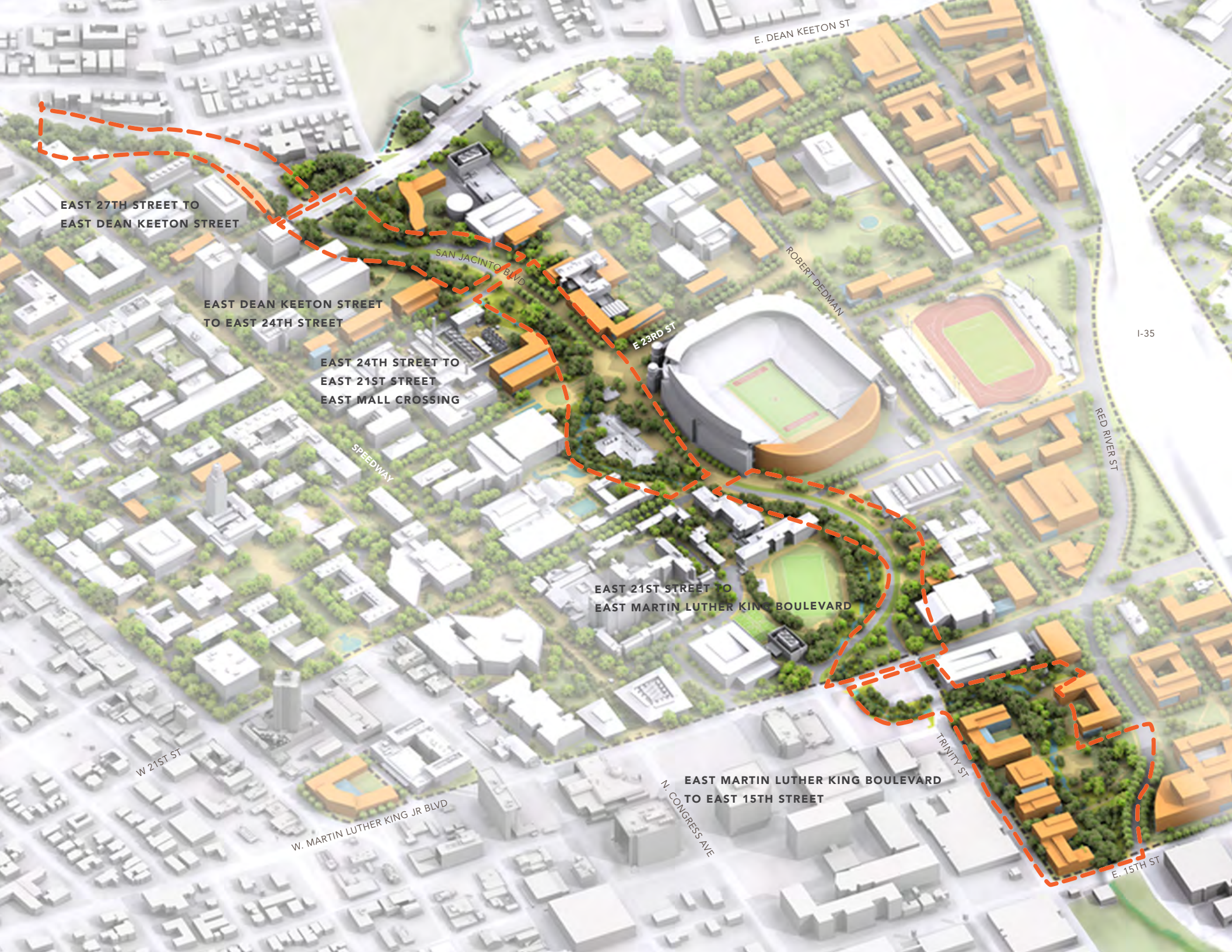


FACILITATE SAFER, MORE EFFICIENT MOBILITY

The UT Austin campus is large, dense, and complex, ordered by a grid of streets and overlaid with separate but interacting systems of mobility by foot, bicycle, vehicles of all sorts, and potentially light rail. Under these circumstances it is critical to harmonize the modes of travel to, within, and across the campus. This means designing paths and spaces to ensure that people in motion know what to expect and how to behave. The best transportation system is one that comports with people's natural inclinations while providing clear and authoritative guidance and protocols. A campus traffic management plan must accommodate all modes as appropriate, taking into account safety, campus quality, convenience, sustainability, cost, wellness, connections to the regional network, and of course parking.

- + Parking should be removed from Speedway quickly and conclusively, as a prelude to the creation of a great linear open space. Redesign of 21st Street should also be a priority.
- + A unified design concept approach to the Waller Creek/San Jacinto Boulevard corridor—transportation, landscape, stormwater management and architecture—should be adopted and shared with agencies responsible for the light rail and creek restoration projects.
- + The UT Austin Shuttle system's services and funding should be coordinated with land use planning.
- + The university should make a positive statement about the role and contributions of bicycling in the campus transportation system. Bicycles should be taken into account in the design and management of open space. Standards of bicyclist behavior should be promulgated.

THE STRONGEST IMMEDIATE STEPS THAT CAN BE TAKEN TO DEVELOP A MORE **FUNCTIONAL, SUSTAINABLE, AND EFFECTIVE TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM** INVOLVE REMOVING ON-STREET PARKING, PEDESTRIANIZING CORRIDORS, FACILITATING TRANSIT, AND INTEGRATING BICYCLES.



EAST 27TH STREET TO
EAST DEAN KEETON STREET

EAST DEAN KEETON STREET
TO EAST 24TH STREET

EAST 24TH STREET TO
EAST 21ST STREET
EAST MALL CROSSING

EAST 21ST STREET TO
EAST MARTIN LUTHER KING BOULEVARD

EAST MARTIN LUTHER KING BOULEVARD
TO EAST 15TH STREET

E. DEAN KEETON ST

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TRINITY ST

E. 15TH ST

TRANSFORM THE WALLER CREEK/SAN JACINTO BOULEVARD CORRIDOR

Waller Creek and San Jacinto Boulevard currently form parallel barriers between the Core Campus and the Central Campus. Rethinking how both the creek and the roadway can enhance the campus environment is essential to the successful improvement of the Central Campus. The master plan proposes a transit corridor along San Jacinto Boulevard that integrates a potential light rail alignment and enhanced bus service. San Jacinto Boulevard will be closed to private vehicular traffic between East 21st Street and East 24th Street. San Jacinto Boulevard will also have generous, shaded pedestrian walkways and a bicycle path that will provide efficient crosstown bicycle travel.

The master plan considers Waller Creek and San Jacinto Boulevard together as a single integrated linear space that accommodates pedestrians in both the natural setting of the creek and the urban setting of the street.

By combining the two corridors, the master plan blurs the boundaries between them, and makes more space available along the creek.

The potential **introduction of light rail on San Jacinto Boulevard reinforces the need for a comprehensive design strategy that addresses all mobility modes.**

- + A redesigned Waller Creek/San Jacinto Boulevard corridor will integrate the Core Campus and the Central Campus.
- + Waller Creek will be restored as a natural environment and developed as a campus amenity.
- + San Jacinto Boulevard will be redesigned as a complete street that integrates the Core Campus and the Central Campus.

THE WALLER CREEK AND SAN JACINTO CORRIDOR WILL BE TRANSFORMED FROM A MAJOR NORTH-SOUTH BARRIER BETWEEN THE CORE AND CENTRAL CAMPUSES TO **A CONNECTIVE SEAM** THAT BALANCES THE NATURAL ECOLOGY OF WALLER CREEK WITH AN EFFICIENT AND CONVENIENT TRANSIT CORRIDOR.

CREATE IMPROVED LEARNING AND RESEARCH ENVIRONMENTS

Improvement in the learning environment and in the quality and quantity of research space will be critical to meeting the university's goal **to become the leading public research university in the nation**. While assessment of needs in learning and research environments has not been included in this phase of the master plan, analytical tools have been developed to support the next phase of planning when this issue will be addressed. Feedback from the Advisory Committee suggests there is a clear need to study the quality and adequacy of teaching and research space.

Assessment of needs in teaching, learning, and research is frequently a bottom-up process in large universities, initiated at the school or college level. The context for these studies is an acknowledgment that investment in existing facilities has not kept up with the need for updating building systems and modernizing teaching and research environments.

Studies by individual schools must be coordinated and integrated into an overall strategy for capital improvement, as recommended by the Commission of 125. Coordination will have a number of benefits:

- + Leverage limited available capital by combining overlapping needs
- + Arbitrate competing expectations for land and building use by promoting an institutional rather than a school or college perspective
- + Ensure optimum exploitation of the potential for collaboration among different schools
- + Provide an integrated overall learning environment, especially for undergraduates, whose studies span multiple disciplines
- + Support the campus as a whole as a community of scholars

IF THE UNIVERSITY IS TO ACHIEVE ITS GOAL OF BEING THE PREEMINENT PUBLIC RESEARCH UNIVERSITY IN THE NATION, IT MUST PROVIDE FACILITIES THAT SUPPORT TODAY'S CHANGING NEEDS AND ATTRACT THE NATION'S BEST SCHOLARS AND GRADUATE STUDENTS.

INTEGRATE ACADEMIC AND RESIDENTIAL LIFE

Student success has become an increasingly important goal for The University of Texas at Austin.

As acknowledged in the February 2012 Report on the Task Force on Undergraduate Graduation Rates, the quality of campus life and the campus environment

IMPROVEMENT IN FOUR-YEAR GRADUATION RATES IS A MAJOR DETERMINANT OF COST PER DEGREE. A STRONG UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT-LIFE AND RESIDENTIAL PROGRAM IS A MAJOR CONTRIBUTOR TO STUDENT SUCCESS.

have significant impact on graduation rates. Currently, only eighteen percent of students live in campus housing. **Many of UT Austin's competitors exceed UT Austin's percentage, and many of the others are increasing their investment in on-campus housing.**

While the February 2012 report does not specifically address the character of the physical campus, it does recommend that all first-year students live in university housing, and that residential communities be more fully integrated with social and academic life on campus. Ample research on the impact of living in campus housing on student success supports this recommendation.

With a relatively low percentage of students housed on campus, the West University Neighborhood is becoming a de facto university housing precinct.

Changes in zoning have encouraged speculative development, and the result today is a densely populated student neighborhood. Since this neighborhood and its residential stock are not controlled by the university, the neighborhood does not provide the kind of managed and supportive environment that leads to increased student success. **It will be important for the university to develop strategies to incorporate the West University Neighborhood into its planning.**

If the West University Neighborhood is to be thought of as an extension of the campus core, Guadalupe Street becomes critical as the glue that binds the campus to the neighborhood. Currently, the street serves more as a barrier than a connection. A revitalization plan could transform the street, enhancing its attractiveness and functionality for both the university and the neighborhood.

Since the majority of UT Austin students are and will remain commuters, campus facilities supporting the development of a campus community are critical. These facilities should recognize the vanishing boundary between academic and social life. An initial review of these student life facilities, including dining, recreation space, and informal spaces, suggests that they should be better distributed across campus.

SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGIES

In Fall 2011 the university began an update of its campus master plan, and a sustainability analysis was integrated with the first stage of the campus master plan.

The resulting chapter presents recommendations related to sustainability that are integrated into the campus master plan and build upon recommendations in the Pelli master plan. These recommendations, for example, involve campus hydrology, natural areas, and guidelines for future buildings. Other recommendations relate to broad policies and strategies that the university may develop related to sustainability, for example, meeting goals for renewable energy purchase and establishing baseline data related to the use of various resources.

The focus of the sustainability planning was the integration of The University of Texas at Austin's *Natural Resource Management and Conservation Strategic Plan* within the overall master plan, and to make recommendations regarding how the university might make its activities more sustainable.

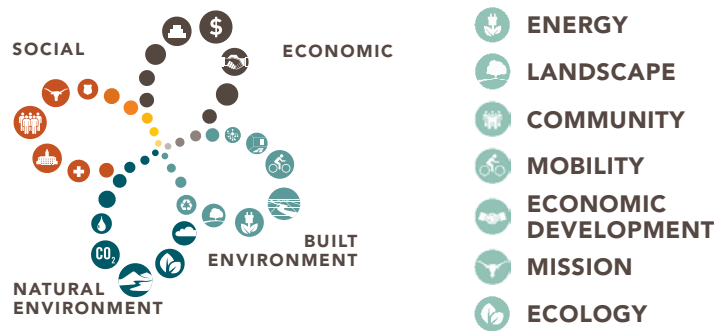
UT Austin uses the following definition of sustainability:

Sustainability refers to societal efforts that meet the needs of present users without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. Sustainability presumes that the planet's resources are finite, and should be used conservatively, wisely, and equitably. Decisions and investments aimed to promote sustainability will simultaneously advance economic vitality, ecological integrity, and social welfare.

— Campus Sustainability Policy,
<http://www.utexas.edu/policies/hoppm/01.A.03.html>

The university can achieve sustainability over the long term only if it addresses competing demands on three fronts—environmental, economic, and social. The recommendations attempt to balance human health, well-being, and the economic costs and benefits associated with sustainable practices and with environmental concerns.

SUSTAINABILITY IS INTERTWINED WITH EVERY ASPECT OF THE MASTER PLAN. THE PROJECTED SUSTAINABILITY OUTCOMES OF THIS APPROACH APPLY TO THE OVERARCHING STRATEGIES FOR NEW AND OLD BUILDINGS, DEVELOPMENT, AND LANDSCAPE THROUGHOUT THE CAMPUS AND ADJACENT COMMUNITIES.



The recommendations are intended to be realistic and combine environmental responsibility with economic practicality, but also to encourage innovation and inspire a broad change in thinking. Changes are intended to parallel the increased awareness of sustainability in society at large.

UT Austin has already taken significant steps towards sustainability, notably in the realm of campus community, energy, and water. The overarching sustainability goal of this master planning process is to contribute to the resilience of the campus's built environment, natural environment, society, and economy. This approach stems from the belief that **the most creative and enduring solutions across the full spectrum of design challenges will emerge from a strong foundation in sustainability**—the “triple bottom line” of the social, environmental, and economic conditions unique to each project.

The master plan articulates UT Austin's existing and aspirational goals, recommended sustainability strategies, and proposed metrics for seven themes: **energy, landscape, community, mobility, economic development, mission, and ecology.**

BROAD MASTER PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS

Build the Core Campus, the Central Campus, and other developed areas in a **compact, efficient manner** with an average height of four to five stories

Develop at urban densities in existing developed areas in order to save energy through use of more **efficient central plants, application of eco-district strategies (e.g. committing to district sustainability goals and coordinating investments and actions), and more efficient use of existing utility infrastructure**

Adhere to **sustainable siting recommendations** in order to minimize heat gain and energy consumption and achieve more **efficient use of valuable land and of other resources, including energy, water, and other utilities**

Design landscapes and place buildings to **create human-scaled, well-shaded campus spaces that improve human comfort**

Implement landscape design strategies to **improve the resiliency of the campus** setting by preserving precious water resources and fostering the overall ecology of the campus

Incorporate more **drought-tolerant planting materials**, increase the use of **heat-dispersing ground treatments, preserve existing trees**, and **plant new trees** to increase the amount of shade and lower the ambient temperature of outdoor spaces

Develop a more **human scale and welcoming environment** ties the campus together to create **better connections among different student groups**, including those involved in academics, research, arts and culture, and athletics

Improve student life and **build a stronger sense of community** in order to improve academic performance and student success

Develop an efficient and **well-coordinated mobility strategy** improves accessibility for all and reduces carbon emissions

FUTURE FOCUS

The current phase of the master plan has laid the groundwork for the integration of elements such as academic, student life, infrastructure and landscape. The process for working with the University has accentuated the importance of developing plans in a variety of areas not included in Phase 1, to support the university's ambition to be a catalyst for economic success in Texas.

The area north of 15th Street shown in the campus master plan reflects the initial thinking for increasing density in the Central Campus. Subsequent planning for the Medical District has resulted in a new concept for this area.

ACADEMIC PLAN COORDINATION

- + Coordinate individual academic plans, identifying overlaps and synergies
- + Develop a template for integrating plans of individual colleges and schools
- + Develop a comprehensive learning-environment strategy, including assessment of emerging learning trends and all learning space typologies, both indoors and outdoors
- + Create an integrated strategy to support growth in research activity and interdisciplinary collaboration

LANDSCAPE MASTER PLAN

- + Develop a comprehensive landscape master plan

EAST CAMPUS PLAN

- + Include the East Campus in Phase 2 master planning and engage the Blackland and Upper Boggy Creek neighborhoods

A GOAL OF THIS STUDY IS TO CREATE A FRAMEWORK FOR ORDERLY UNIVERSITY DEVELOPMENT AND TO GIVE THE UNIVERSITY INTEGRATED ACCESS TO THE MULTIPLE DATA SOURCES IT NEEDS TO EFFECTIVELY SET PRIORITIES FOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS.

A SECOND GOAL IS TO LAY THE GROUNDWORK FOR FUTURE PLANNING.

STUDENT AND RESIDENTIAL LIFE PLAN

- + Develop a student and residential life plan
- + Develop a strategy around engagement and investment in the West University Neighborhood as a major university housing village
- + Develop a program-driven plan for the redevelopment of the Central Campus
- + Ensure implementation of a plan for the revitalization of Guadalupe Street, and invest in providing student services in the West University Neighborhood to make it a genuine extension of the campus residential experience

ATHLETICS MASTER PLAN

- + Develop an athletics master plan

CITY COORDINATION

- + Coordinate transportation and mobility plans with outside agencies
- + Explore the potential to develop a revitalization plan for Guadalupe Street and for university investment
- + Explore opportunities to create an innovation district in central Austin in collaboration with the city and the state

LEADERSHIP TEAM

Pat Clubb	<i>Vice President for University Operations</i>
Fritz Steiner	<i>Dean, School of Architecture</i>
Steve Kraal	<i>Senior Associate Vice President, Campus Planning & Facilities Management</i>
David Rea	<i>Director, Office of Campus Planning</i>
Sam Wilson	<i>Department Chair, Department of Anthropology</i>
Sharon Wood	<i>Department Chair, Department of Civil, Architectural, and Environmental Engineering</i>

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Pat Clubb, Co-Chair	<i>Vice President for University Operations</i>
Fritz Steiner, Co-Chair	<i>Dean, School of Architecture</i>
Dean Almy	<i>Associate Professor, School of Architecture</i>
Tom Dison	<i>Director of Recreational Sports and Associate Vice President for Student Affairs</i>
Greg Fenves	<i>Dean, Cockrell School of Engineering</i>
Tom Gilligan	<i>Dean, Red McCombs School of Business</i>
Ted Gordon	<i>Department Chair, Department of African and African Diaspora Studies, College of Liberal Arts</i>
Bob (G. Robert) Harkins	<i>Associate Vice President, Campus Safety and Security</i>
Julie Hooper	<i>Executive Director for Development, University Development Office</i>
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Steve Kraal	<i>Senior Associate Vice President, Campus Planning and Facilities Management</i>
Chris Plonsky	<i>Athletic Director, Intercollegiate Athletics</i>
David Rea	<i>Director, Office of Campus Planning</i>
Dan Slesnick	<i>Vice Provost for Resource Management, Provost Office</i>
Jim Walker	<i>Director, Office of Sustainability</i>
Simone Wicha	<i>Director, Jack S. Blanton Museum of Art</i>
Sam Wilson	<i>Department Chair, Department of Anthropology, College of Liberal Arts; Former Chair of the Faculty Building Advisory Committee</i>
Sharon Wood	<i>Department Chair, Department of Civil, Architectural, and Environmental Engineering, Cockrell School of Engineering; Current Chair of the Faculty Building Advisory Committee</i>
Sean Kennaugh	<i>Undergraduate student with a dual major in Architectural Studies and Architectural Engineering</i>
Philip Ladeau	<i>Graduate student in Art and Art History</i>

TASK GROUPS

The Leadership Team has also created several task groups to provide technical input and direction on central master planning initiatives.

HISTORICAL RESOURCES ASSESSMENT

Sam Wilson, Chair	<i>Department Chair, Department of Anthropology</i>
Michael Holleran	<i>Associate Professor, School of Architecture</i>
Fran Gale	<i>Senior Lecturer, School of Architecture</i>
Richard Cleary	<i>Professor, School of Architecture</i>

MOBILITY

Bob Harkins, Chair	<i>Associate Vice President, Campus Safety and Security</i>
Bobby Stone	<i>Director, Parking and Transportation Services</i>
Randy Machemehl	<i>Professor, Department of Civil, Architectural and Environmental Engineering</i>
Talia McCray	<i>Assistant Professor, School of Architecture</i>
Beth Rosenbarger	<i>Graduate student in Community and Regional Planning</i>
Kate Bedford	<i>Graduate student in Architecture</i>

SUSTAINABILITY AND ENERGY CONSERVATION FUNDING STRATEGIES

Steve Kraal, Chair	<i>Senior Associate Vice President, Campus Planning & Facilities Management</i>
Juan Ontiveros	<i>Executive Director, Utilities and Energy Management</i>
Dan Costello	<i>Associate Director for Facilities Maintenance</i>
Mike Miller	<i>Director, Facilities Services</i>

DECISION SUPPORT TOOLS

Steve Kraal, Chair	<i>Senior Associate Vice President, Campus Planning & Facilities Management</i>
Liz Beaman Keene	<i>Assistant Director, Technology Resources</i>
Christine Roquet	<i>Space Information Manager, Technology Resources</i>
Daniel de Oliveira	<i>Project Manager, Office of Campus Planning</i>
Roy Ruiz	<i>Director, Technology Resources</i>

THE PRESIDENT'S SUSTAINABILITY STEERING COMMITTEE

Jim Walker, Chair	<i>Director, Office of Sustainability</i>
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