



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA Twin Cities Campus Plan Update

December, 2021





The Proposed Vision for UMTC



The Campus Plan establishes a vision for a vibrant, safe, inclusive, and welcoming campus responsive to the unique sense of place that defines West Bank, East Bank, and St. Paul, and to the academic, research, innovation, service, and clinical care goals of the University. It provides guidance for the land use, public realm, mobility, and sustainability frameworks that will shape the campus of tomorrow.

Approved by the Regents of the University of Minnesota

December 16, 2021

UMTC - Interim Land Acknowledgment Statement*

The University of Minnesota Twin Cities is built within the traditional homelands of the Dakota people. It is important to acknowledge the peoples on whose land we live, learn, and work as we seek to improve and strengthen our relations with our tribal nations. We also acknowledge that words are not enough. We must ensure that our institution provides support, resources, and programs that increase access to all aspects of higher education for American Indian students, staff, faculty, and community members.

** The University is in ongoing consultation with MN Indian Affairs Council (MIAC) and our tribal community partners regarding this Interim Statement and other means of acknowledging the land upon which the University sits.*

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Introduction 1

Introduction

The 2021 University of Minnesota Twin Cities (UMTC) Campus Plan provides guidance for future investment and improvements on the Twin Cities campus. It supports the mission and strategic goals of the University and provides recommendations for the best overall use of existing land, development sites, and facilities. Most importantly, the Campus Plan establishes a near- and long-term vision for accommodating the evolving teaching, research, and service missions of the University, while ensuring that a better campus experience emerges for students, staff, faculty, patients, and visitors.

Role of the Campus Plan

The Campus Plan looks forward to the 10-year horizon and beyond by building upon the long history of the University, its resilience, and the guidance provided by previous plans, including the 2009 Master Plan.

It also takes into consideration long-standing planning principles, recent and ongoing planning studies, and the Systemwide Strategic Plan (MPact 2025), with the goal of guiding incremental change in ways that contribute to the existing campus, emerging districts, and the surrounding community's context.

The plan itself is not a rigid script or a mandate. Instead, it represents a vision for the future of the campus and the Big Ideas that comprise it. The Campus Plan serves multiple functions, including:

- Aligning with the University's Systemwide Strategic Plan, MPact 2025.
- Ensuring that daily decisions are part of a long-term vision.
- Informing the University community and public of the University's aspirations and development goals.

- Guiding the decisions of the University's administration and the Board of Regents regarding capital investments, physical improvements, and operational activities on the campus, which affects buildings, landscapes, and infrastructure.
- Providing a comprehensive planning strategy for the Twin Cities campus locations (West Bank, East Bank, and St. Paul) with the understanding that each functions as part of one University.
- Establishing frameworks for overall land use, the public realm, mobility, and sustainability with the goal of guiding incremental change across the campus.
- Providing a tool for planners and designers to evaluate all future development proposals to ensure that capital projects contribute to the achievement of the broader campus vision.
- Promoting positive relationships with adjacent neighborhoods, municipalities, and the region.
- Assisting in fundraising and the development of endowments.

The Campus Plan does not:

1. Identify all potential new building needs and specific development sites for the institution.
2. Design new buildings and landscapes, but rather illustrates clear planning principles, such as siting and urban design.
3. Define a financial plan for construction (e.g. funding sources or viable phasing).
4. Present maps, diagrams and sketches of the campus vision as fixed directives; instead these should be understood as guides for further exploration and development.

Structure of the Campus Plan

The Campus Plan report is structured as follows:

- Chapter 1 provides an overview of the purpose of the Campus Plan and the planning process.
- Chapter 2 summarizes the evolution of the Twin Cities campus.
- Chapter 3 reviews the Plan Drivers and conditions that give direction to the plan and serve as benchmarks for the recommendations.
- Chapter 4 describes the campus vision and the "Big Ideas" that align the plan's recommendations with the goals, objectives, aspirations, and strategic direction of the University, as set out in MPact 2025.
- Chapter 5 addresses campus-wide systems for land use, the public realm, mobility, and sustainability.
- Chapter 6 explores place-based detail in the various districts of the campus.
- Chapter 7 provides details for the anticipated implementation and phasing of the Campus Plan over the near- and long-term.

The Planning Process

Development of the Campus Plan coincided with the unique circumstances of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020 and 2021. In response, online consultation, discussion, surveys and presentations were utilized to carry out the planning process. The pandemic also influenced discussions on campus development and concepts for technology-enabled learning environments, potential changes to office environments, possible shifts in transportation patterns and parking demand, and opportunities for creating outdoor learning and social environments.

To facilitate the process, the planning team set up a website to provide an overview of the planning effort and to distribute progress reports and information. Updates to the website at key points in the process provided new information for review and consideration by the campus community, and opportunities for feedback to the planning team.

Working with the University's Office of Measurement Services, a representative sample of 9,000 invitations were sent to students, faculty, and staff to provide input on a range of issue and opportunities. Through the campus plan website, an invitation was extended to the broader community with targeted invitations to neighborhoods and business associations close to campus. This sample resulted in 2,800 responses – 26% students, 12% faculty, 60% staff, 2% other. The survey results informed the analysis, visioning, and recommendations of the Campus Plan.

In addition to broader consultation efforts, a Campus Plan Advisory Committee, representing a range of the campus community (students, staff and faculty), provided guidance and direction to the planning team. Staff groups with expertise in a range of topical areas further informed the process on land use, land care, accessibility, transportation, historic

preservation, and sustainability and infrastructure, among other issues. The Advisory Committee met eight times over the course of the planning process.

President Gabel and her cabinet provided overall direction and ensured that the recommendations of the Campus Plan align with broader goals for the University of Minnesota System and MPact 2025.

The Board of Regents have been actively involved in shaping the vision and recommendations of the Campus Plan, and the planning team met with the Regents multiple times as part of their regularly scheduled meetings and retreats.

In June 2021, the relaxation of physical distancing guidelines enabled in-person meetings and site reconnaissance. The team took part in a two-day, on-campus workshop to review emerging ideas and planning recommendations, and to conduct detailed site tours and field verification work.

The process included the following phases of work:

Phase 1: Analysis

Phase 1 focused on assessing existing conditions on the West Bank, East Bank, and St. Paul, and on understanding the culture of UMTC. The planning team reviewed data and information made available by the University, conducted stakeholder interviews online, and analyzed existing physical conditions.

The team reviewed MPact 2025, the capital projects list, and previous planning studies, including the 2009 Master Plan, the 2019 St. Paul Campus Strategic Facilities Plan, and plans for partnership development projects.

Phase 2: Visioning and Future Alternatives

Phase 2 built upon the findings of the Analysis Phase to inform the development of the vision and alternatives for the campus.

During this phase, the planning team, in collaboration with the President's Cabinet, Advisory Committee, subject matter experts, and other stakeholders, identified and developed the "Big Ideas" that informed the development of the Campus Plan.

Phase 3: Draft Plan

In Phase 3, the team collaborated with the University to advance the preferred direction for the Campus Plan. This included the development of additional detail for the Big Ideas, planning frameworks, and the districts of the West Bank, East Bank, and St. Paul. The team also advanced the graphic expression, diagrams, supplemental design details, and supporting data for the Campus Plan. The team reviewed the draft plan materials with the President's Cabinet, Advisory Committee, and staff groups prior to posting to the Campus Plan's recommendations to the website for additional comment and feedback from the broader campus community.

Advisory Committee Topics and Themes

At the request of President Gabel, the Campus Plan Advisory Committee was formed in January 2021. This representative group of students, faculty, and staff brought their expertise and perspectives on the future campus to the planning process, and took on the critical role of identifying themes the plan should consider and shaping the course of the plan's evolution, from the visioning stage to the recommendations.

The Advisory Committee convened six times between February 2021 and August 2021 to provide direction as the consultant and staff team worked to connect topics and recommendations. The following page summarizes key topics, themes, and questions that emerged from the Committee's conversations, and represent the values and intentions that gave form to the Big Ideas and the recommendations for each district described in Chapter 6 of the Campus Plan.

The Committee included the following members:

- Leslie Krueger - Assistant Vice President, Planning, Space, and Real Estate;
- Frank Gigler - Faculty, Carlson School of Management, and Senate Committee on Finance and Planning;
- Becky Yust - Faculty, College of Design;
- Virajita Singh - Associate Vice Provost, Office for Equity and Diversity;
- Ying Ling Fan - Professor, Humphrey School of Public Affairs;
- Joe Favour - Professor in Practice and Head of Landscape Architecture, College of Design;
- Bill Haldeman - Senior Assistant to the President, Office of the President;
- Bob McMaster - Vice Provost and Dean, Office of Undergraduate Education;
- Maggie Towle - Senior Vice President, Office for Student Affairs;
- Amy Kucera - Senior Director, Office of Human Resources;
- Erika Swant - Professional Student Government;
- Mattea Allert and Sydney Bauer - Student Senate;
- Scott Petty - Council of Graduate Students;
- Sophronia Cheung - Minnesota Student Association; and,
- Academic, professional, administrative, and civil service staff.



Student Experience

How can the Twin Cities campus plan support the student experience? Where are the opportunities to expand and enhance affordable housing choices, inclusivity and belonging, safe spaces, health and wellness, and evolving pedagogies? How should the plan prioritize reinvestment in the academic cores?



Getting To and Around Campus

What components contribute to a more welcoming, equitable, safe, and accessible campus? How can the West Bank, East Bank, and St. Paul campuses be better connected? Where are the key arrival points and what are those experiences like? How can signage and wayfinding be used to continue to make campus navigation easier?



The River

How can the University strengthen its relationship to the Mississippi River through physical and visual connections, and partnerships? Which buildings and locations could facilitate these connections to support teaching, research, and recreational opportunities? How should the urban campus complement the river corridor?



Mobility

How can transit facilities contribute to an attractive, inviting, and navigable campus? How can mobility hubs and micromobility options support “last mile” access as mode-shares shift from single-occupancy vehicles? How can the Gopher Way be improved and made more accessible across campus?



Parking

How are the University’s parking lots and ramps used today? Who is using them and how often are they used? What are the implications of relocating parking to campus peripheries? How does this impact access to key buildings in the core? How much parking should be integrated with destinations such as medical clinics and event venues?



Implementation

Which initiatives can be implemented to improve the campus experience in the near- and long-term? How should they be prioritized to respond to evolving campus needs in real-time?





Twin Cities Campus Overview **2**

Evolution of the Twin Cities Campus

Established in 1851 by the Territorial Legislature, seven years before Minnesota became a state ([U of M Twin Cities, About Us](#)), the University is located in the cities of Minneapolis (East and West Bank) and St. Paul, on the traditional homelands of indigenous peoples. The east and west banks of the Minneapolis campus span a 100-ft gorge along the Mississippi River. Four miles east of the Minneapolis campus, the agricultural experiment station, established on the edge of the city in the late 1880s transitioned over time to become the St. Paul campus.

The 23 million square feet and 1,292 acres of land that comprise the Twin Cities campus have evolved significantly since the first buildings were constructed in the 1880s. Collectively, West Bank, East Bank, and St. Paul form the learning, research, service, and clinical care environment of Minnesota's major public research and land-grant university.

Minneapolis East Bank

The Minneapolis campus sits on two sides of a 100-foot high plateau overlooking a bend in the Mississippi River, with the Washington Avenue SE Bridge connecting the West Bank and East Bank, totaling 535 acres.

The origins of the East Bank can be traced back to the 1892 H.W.S. Cleveland Master Plan which established a picturesque landscape with sinuous paths and irregularly spaced canopy trees focused on The Knoll. It is in this location that the University's oldest buildings are located - Eddy Hall, Pillsbury Hall, and Folwell Hall. (*The University of Minnesota Preservation Plan, 1998*)

In 1910, following a significant expansion in acreage, architect Cass Gilbert proposed a City Beautiful-inspired plan which formed the Northrop Mall. One

of Gilbert's most important projects, this long, open green surrounded by neo-classical buildings began to take shape with the construction of Smith Hall, Walter Library, and Northrop Auditorium between 1914 and 1929. The vision was implemented by Cass Gilbert and Clarence Johnson respectively. In 1930, additional plans for Northrop Mall were developed by Anthony Morell and Arthur Nichols.

The Knoll and Northrop Mall form the traditional heart of the Twin Cities campus, defining an iconic landscape framed by remarkable architectural landmarks that link present-day campus life to the origins of the University. Together, they constitute the historic core of the Minneapolis campus and establish a sense of place and history that have defined the Twin Cities campus for decades.

Today, the Knoll, Northrop Mall, and their associated buildings, are listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

The East Bank has traditionally housed the liberal and design arts, humanities, technology and engineering, and the Medical School. The Health Sciences district, south of Washington Avenue SE, is one of the most intensely developed areas on campus, and supports teaching, research, clinical practice, and in-patient/out-patient activity. Since the Medical School was established, growth in teaching and research functions has fueled expansion and infill development in the area, moving eastwards as resources and demands have evolved.



University of Minnesota Campus Plan, Cass Gilbert, 1908 (Source: University Archives, unai04959)

Minneapolis West Bank

Plans for the third phase of campus expansion west of the Mississippi River were first drafted in the late 1930s. By the late 1950s, land had been secured and multiple conceptual campus designs were prepared by Ralph Rapson, Winston Close, Dan Kiley, Pietro Belluschi, and Lawrence Anderson. Construction began in the early 1960s on the first West Bank buildings – Blegan Hall, Anderson Hall, Heller Hall, and the Social Science Tower – as well as the Washington Avenue Bridge. Today, the West Bank houses liberal arts programs, professional schools, and a small, residential neighborhood at Middlebrook Hall. (*The University of Minnesota Preservation Plan, 1998*)

The design of the West Bank reflects the Modern architectural and landscape concepts of the time. Grade separation of the Washington Avenue roadway from the campus protects pedestrians and cyclists from vehicles as they cross the Washington Avenue Bridge, but also makes it difficult to access transit from the upper deck of the West Bank Plaza.



West Bank campus under construction in 1965 (above) and in 2021 (below). (Source: University Archives, una103058, and Google)

St. Paul

The St. Paul campus was established several decades after the East Bank location, originally serving as a farm and agricultural experiment station. The oldest buildings date from the late 1880s. The rolling moraine topography heavily influenced the first arrangement of buildings along a ridge oriented towards the “south bowl,” which later became known as “the Lawn.” Later, 19th century buildings were sited on the remaining ridge tops circling the north bowl. Today that bowl is occupied by recreational fields and the St. Paul Gym.

The St. Paul campus is noted for its vast open spaces, agricultural fields and naturally occurring features including bluffs, wooded ravines, and the restored Sarita Wetland. Other spaces that support recreation and gathering, such as small quadrangles and plazas, bring a distinct identity to the campus. Between the 1930s and 1950s, the St. Paul campus was planned to include formal, linear, and rectangular open spaces and perimeter buildings located to reinforce public open spaces.

Commonwealth Terrace Cooperative Student and Family Housing was built in 1958, following the platting of University Grove as an architect-designed neighborhood in the 1920s. Land purchased between the 1930s and 1950s expanded the campus to the north; the lands acquired were primarily used for agricultural research and to support livestock. (*The University of Minnesota Preservation Plan, 1998*)

Today, the St. Paul campus accommodates programs in agriculture and natural resources, biological sciences, extension services, veterinary medicine, and design. It continues to serve as an agricultural experiment station, with research conducted in the fields, greenhouses, and laboratories.

Over the past decade, the St. Paul Campus has continued to grow its outreach and is an epicenter for learning and research across agricultural and natural resource-related disciplines. Extension education, youth programs, and the opening of key destinations like the Bell Museum – with more than 100,000 visitors annually – affirm the importance of the campus to the broader community.



Agricultural Experiment Station, St. Paul Campus



Aerial View, St. Paul Campus

Campus Changes: 2009-2021

The Campus Plan is informed by changes that occurred at the University and on campus following the completion of the 2009 Master Plan. These changes are addressed by geographically-focused district level plans developed by the University over the past decade - East Gateway, the Health Sciences district, the 2019 St. Paul Campus Strategic Facilities Plan, and broader campus systems level plans (Development Framework).

The following highlights the changes that shape the planning context for the 2021 Campus Plan.

Campus Livability and Safety

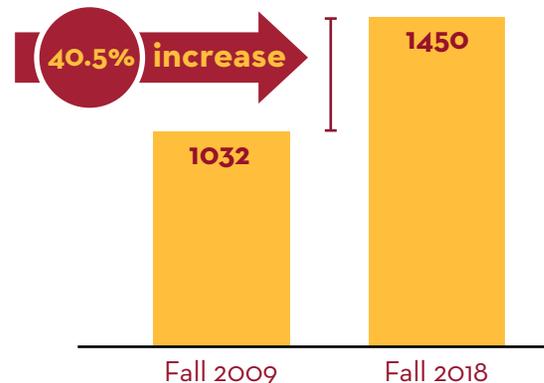
The University recognizes the opportunity to continue building positive physical, social and quality of life connections between the campus community and near-campus neighborhoods. On a daily basis, our students, staff and faculty spend time in near-campus neighborhoods. Feeling safe and secure is an important part of a shared livable experience. To do this effectively, the University works with the City and other partners to promote safe conditions whether on campus or nearby. These operational and programmatic relationships are essential to success, and the Campus Plan also includes recommendations for the design and operation of the physical environment that advance University-wide values relative to public safety and security. Details of these recommendations can be found in the Public Realm Framework (Section 5) of this plan.

Enrollment

In the fall of 2008, undergraduate enrollment stood at 29,920 students, and grew to 31,370 in fall of 2019 (pre-COVID-19). (*Office of Institutional Research, Official Enrollment Statistics*) This modest growth of 5% over the past decade has aligned with the Board of Regents' 2018 enrollment strategy targeting an undergraduate enrollment of 33,000 students by 2023. (*Office of Undergraduate Education, Undergraduate Enrollment Plan, 2018*)

Looking ahead, enrollment is expected to remain relatively stable. However, the population is projected to become more diverse, requiring a deliberate focus on creating an inclusive, welcoming, and engaging campus. As of 2018, 28% of students identified as students of color. From 2009 to 2018 incoming first year students of color increased by approximately 40%. (*Office of Institutional Research, Official Enrollment Statistics*)

Enrollment Growth of Students of Color



Source: University of Minnesota, System Undergraduate Enrollment Management Update (June 2020)

Transportation

The arrival of METRO Green Line light rail transit (LRT) service on campus in 2014 - with four stations (West Bank, East Bank, Stadium Village, and Prospect Park) - has assisted in managing parking and traffic conditions for trips to campus. However, congestion remains a challenge for some destinations, particularly on the East Bank. Solving these complex transportation challenges while maintaining optimal campus operations requires active work with partners at the city, county, and state levels.

Student Housing

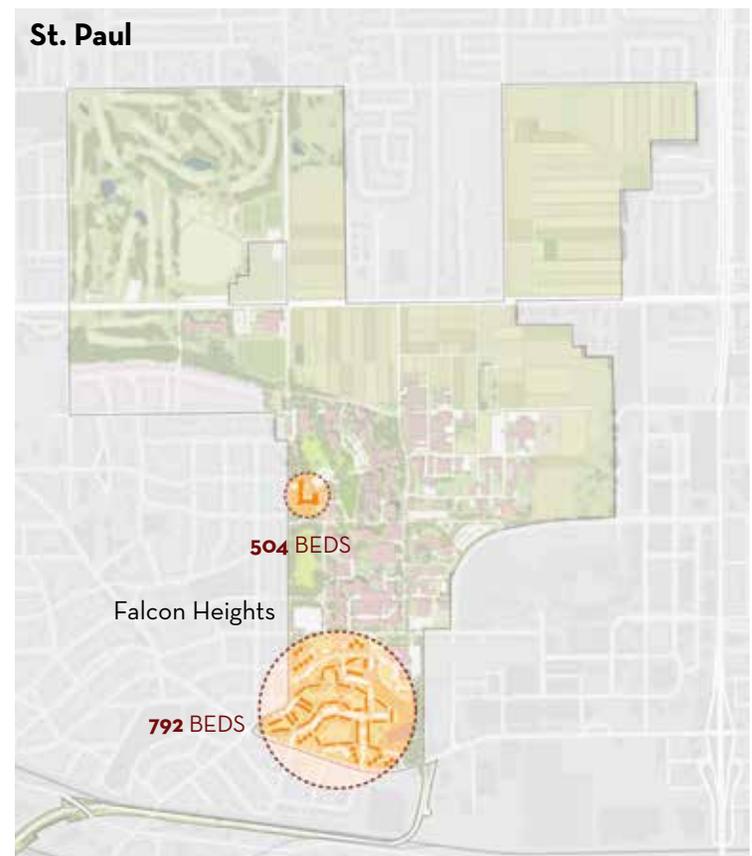
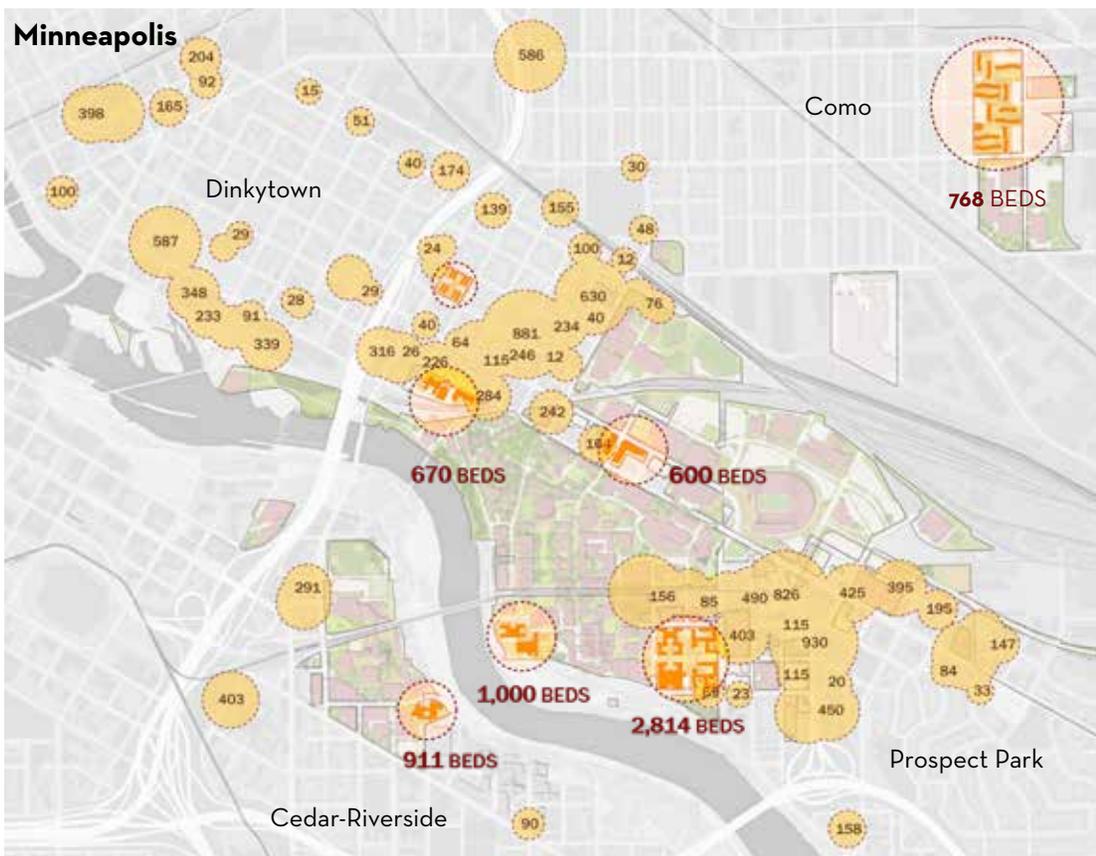
Student housing and commuting patterns have changed significantly over the past decade. The growth in apartment supply, particularly around the East Bank, has been exponential. Since the early 2000s, City data indicate that more than 15,000 beds of housing have been constructed around the East and West Banks. Approximately 7,000 of those beds were constructed between 2013 and 2016, with University students occupying a majority of the units. Recent estimates suggest that 2,500 beds are currently permitted or under construction and will come onto the market within the next two years. Current estimates of the existing supply of near-campus housing not owned or managed by the University are approaching 23,000 beds.

Today, thousands more students live on or near campus than in 2009, resulting in a significant change to commuting patterns and modal splits. The outcome is a vibrant campus, a community context that appeals to students, and a decrease in student commuter parking demand.

The on-campus residential population also has increased with the opening of the 17th Avenue Residence Hall in 2013 and the reopening of a renovated Pioneer Hall in 2019. The Board of Regents has adopted targets for the University to house 90% of first year students, 25% of returning first year students, and 10% of new transfers.

The University will continue to plan for and deliver housing that it manages sufficient to meet the Board's housing goals at its established enrollment targets. This will include a mix of residence halls, apartment buildings, and family student housing. The University will continue to monitor the development of private housing available near campus.

The University will maintain its focus as an owner and manager of residence halls, which offers a unique student experience for entering students, and has demonstrated positive benefits for academic success and retention by building a sense of belonging and community building.



- University-owned housing
- Student apartments near West Bank and East Bank

On- and Off-Campus Housing (Source: UMN GIS Services, BoR Presentation, Feb 2017)





Campus Plan Drivers **3**

Introduction

Several planning drivers identified during the consultation and analysis process serve as important considerations for the future of the University. The drivers summarize the assumptions, higher level goals and aspirations, and concepts that will inform incremental decision-making over the years ahead.

This section provides an overview of each driver and the associated planning issues.

The University of Minnesota Mission

At the most fundamental level, the Campus Plan recommendations are developed to support the University's mission activity, specific to what is happening on the Twin Cities campus.

The University's mission, carried out on multiple campuses and throughout the state, is threefold:

- **Research and Discovery** - To generate and preserve knowledge, understanding, and creativity by conducting high-quality research, scholarship, and artistic activity that benefit students, scholars, and communities across the state, the nation, and the world.
- **Teaching and Learning** - To share that knowledge, understanding, and creativity by providing a broad range of educational programs in a strong and diverse community of learners and teachers, and prepare graduate, professional, and undergraduate students, as well as non-degree seeking students interested in continuing education and lifelong learning, for active roles in a multiracial and multicultural world.
- **Outreach and Public Service** - To extend, apply, and exchange knowledge between the University and society by applying scholarly expertise to community problems, by helping organizations and individuals respond to their changing environments, and by making the knowledge and resources created and preserved at the University accessible to the citizens of the state, the nation, and the world.

(Board of Regents, Mission Statement, 2008)

Systemwide Principles for Campus Planning

In 2020, the Board of Regents approved a set of principles that guide planning efforts at each campus so that a consistent, outcome-driven approach is realized. These include:

1. Establish a sustainable vision of how the physical setting of each campus will embody its distinctive history, mission, and future.
2. Create an inclusive and welcoming experience for the increasingly diverse range of people who come to campus.
3. Optimize existing physical assets to facilitate flexible and innovative solutions toward an enduring future.
4. Consider the cost of attendance, investment and operations when planning for each campus's future.
5. Integrate each of the system campus plans with the Systemwide Strategic Plan.
6. Ensure an inclusive, accountable, and forward-looking process for developing and implementing the campus plan.

(Board of Regents, December 10, 2020)

THE PLAN

Inspired by the State of Minnesota, MPact 2025 reflects our deepened commitment to research, teaching, and service, open access to opportunity, and forward-thinking innovation to advance the University's land-grant mission and impact the world.



Commitments

Commitments represents the intersection of our values and action. They are like a spine to which all else is connected, and are intended to freely complement and interact with one another. The Commitments help us to articulate our vision at the 100,000 feet level, as well as provide direction to frame our organizational identity. The Commitments are inspiring, unifying, and impactful, but not constraining.



1: STUDENT SUCCESS

Meeting all students where they are and maximizing their skills, potential, and well-being in a rapidly changing world.



2: DISCOVERY, INNOVATION & IMPACT

Channeling curiosity, investing in discovery to cultivate possibility, and innovating solutions while elevating Minnesota and society as a whole.



3: MNTERSECTIONS

Inspired by Minnesota to improve people and places at world-class levels.

4: COMMUNITY & BELONGING

Fostering a welcoming community that values belonging, equity, diversity, and dignity in people and ideas.



5: FISCAL STEWARDSHIP

Stewarding resources to promote access, efficiency, trust, and collaboration with the state, students, faculty, staff, and partners.

Source: Office of the President, MPact 2025: Systemwide Strategic Plan

MPact 2025 - Strategic Commitments

The Campus Plan supports the Strategic Commitments of MPact 2025 in the guidance expressed in the ten Big Ideas. The following summarizes how the commitments are addressed in several ways in the Campus Plan through some of the key physical design and planning recommendations:

- Student Success is supported in new facilities proposed across the Twin Cities campus. These include: student facing programs and services envisioned for Morrill Hall on East Bank; student amenity and collaboration spaces proposed in the replacement of Anderson Hall on West Bank; and, in the renewed St. Paul Commons.
- Discovery, Innovation and Impact initiatives are supported through the Innovation Corridor and the partnership site identified on the West Bank, the clinical campus renewal, East Gateway and Joint Venture sites on the East Bank, and in the Bio-Tech District in St. Paul.
- The MNtersection commitments are supported through the new Health Science and Clinical Care facilities on East Bank and through the sustainable land use, agriculture and water management guidance provided for the St. Paul campus.
- The Community and Belonging commitment is supported in the new social and engagement spaces proposed across the Twin Cities campus and through the housing renewal strategy for East Bank and St. Paul. Another aspect of supporting community and belonging is to continue the University's active partnerships on a number of levels to create safe experiences whether on campus or nearby. These efforts include investments in programs and personnel, as well as safety, services and investments in infrastructure such as lighting and emergency call services (blue light kiosk).
- Fiscal Stewardship is supported through renewal of the core and through guidance for land use.

The Post-COVID-19 Campus

There is no template for responding to the radical changes experienced in 2020 and 2021 as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. The future of campus life, once the restrictions of a public health pandemic are lifted, is likely to be affected by many of these trends. The plan is based on the expectation that daily interactions on campus will continue to be highly desirable and sought after by members of the campus community.



Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

Place-based learning in higher education can provide opportunities for students from various backgrounds to develop a wide array of skills. In a more diverse world, how will the University adapt its campus environments to foster meaningful, engaging, and inclusive experiences among all students?



Student Support

The online experiment of 2020 may lead to new types of learning and service platforms enabled by technical advances. Will virtual approaches, combined with place-based activities, offer opportunities to rethink academic support, advising, and counseling services? What types of new services will be needed based on what the University has learned from COVID-19?



Well-being

The pandemic has placed new focus on the concept of well-being in campus environments and facilities. What are the opportunities to offer the UMTC community more access to well-being programs, health services, and counseling?



The “Blended” Campus

In 2020, the move to online learning, meetings, presentations, and services revealed the opportunities and limitations of available online delivery and engagement techniques. As more course delivery occurs online or in hybrid formats, investment will be required for both virtual and place-based learning experiences. Will this experience push higher education in a new direction that combines online and hybrid learning with carefully designed campus experiences? How will technology and new delivery techniques inform the design of learning environments? How will it provide opportunities to promote social engagement in new ways at UMTC?



The Year-Round Campus

The affordability of higher education is a concern for many students and their families, especially in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic. Will year-round utilization of the campus decrease the demand for more facilities and enable students to graduate in less time? Might this limit the need to construct more high-demand, in-person experience facilities?



Financial Resiliency

The age and condition of campus buildings places a tremendous financial and operations burden on the University. How can UMTC plan for better utilization of existing real estate assets? Can existing spaces be repurposed? To what extent can buildings be removed? Can the University rethink its current leased spaces? What role will public-private partnerships play in delivering future projects?



Optimized Work Environments

The potential for blended campuses, online programs, and remote working may change the quantity and types of spaces needed. Currently, offices can account for up to 1/4 of all space on a campus, which results in significant operational, maintenance, and energy costs. As COVID-19 has shown, some portion of the campus population can work remotely. How can existing space be better utilized to address emerging patterns of uses and needs at UMTC? How can more efficient uses reduce costs and provide for flexibility and adaptability? What type of new work and collaborative environments will be needed if traditional office environments are no longer optimal?



Mobility

Innovation in transportation technology and systems may transform mobility patterns over the next decade. How will online learning, combined with remote working, align with campus mobility mode patterns, and impact the interaction of transit and parking at UMTC? How will new mobility technology integrate into future campus development?



Sustainability

New ways of learning and working could decrease the amount of space required or change the patterns of use. How might these changes assist UMTC in managing energy consumption and associated greenhouse gas emissions? What are the potential outcomes for MEP systems? How might the focus on indoor air quality change expectations for campus buildings? What are the energy and emissions considerations?

Enrollment and Demographics

Future change on the Twin Cities campus is influenced by student enrollment. Renewing and repurposing existing buildings and destinations – housing, unions, recreational areas – in order to provide improve the student experience is called for in the Campus Plan. Pending a change in policy established by Board of Regents, the plan does not anticipate a net increase in facilities supporting student life.

The Campus Plan's recommendations align with the Board of Regents' target of 33,000 undergraduates by 2030, and assumes that the graduate student population will hold steady. Faculty and staff counts will also remain steady with minor adjustments to teaching and support services based on the needs of academic, research, and clinical programs. (*Office of Institutional Research, Official Enrollment Statistics*)

“A diverse student body greatly enhances the academic and social environment of the campus and helps prepare students to thrive in a global society. One of the University’s Student Learning Outcomes is that graduates are expected to ‘understand diverse philosophies and cultures within and across societies.’”

(*Office of Admissions - “Building on Success; Multicultural Student Recruitment”*, May 2018-2019)

Sustainability

In keeping with the values of the University, the Campus Plan promotes a sustainable approach to campus development.

- **Economic** – the Campus Plan establishes a framework for innovation and partnerships in the East Gateway area of the East Bank, the Biomedical Discovery District, and the bio-manufacturing district of St. Paul.
- **Environmental** – the Campus Plan promotes the conservation of natural features and systems, such as the Mississippi River corridor and the Sarita Wetlands. It also provides some context for the upcoming update to the University’s 2011 Climate Action Plan. It supports emissions reduction targets by focusing on transportation demand management and by considering online and hybrid learning.
- **Social** – the Campus Plan supports the University’s goal to be an inclusive and welcoming campus that serves a diverse student body. The plan considers the experience of students, staff, faculty, patients, and visitors.

Equitable Access and Universal Design

The seven principles of Universal Design have guided the approach and recommendations of the Campus Plan. These principles were developed in 1997 by a working group of architects, product designers, engineers, and environmental design researchers at North Carolina State University.

They provide a broader framework for evaluating future building, interior, and site design projects on the campus, and a wider range of considerations relative to creating a welcoming and inclusive campus.

- **Principle 1: Equitable Use** – The design is useful and marketable to people with diverse abilities.
- **Principle 2: Flexibility in Use** – The design accommodates a wide range of individual preferences and abilities.
- **Principle 3: Simple and Intuitive Use** – Use of the design is easy to understand, regardless of the user’s experience, knowledge, language skills, or current concentration level.
- **Principle 4: Perceptible Information** – The design communicates necessary information effectively to the user, regardless of ambient conditions or the user’s sensory abilities.
- **Principle 5: Tolerance for Error** – The design minimizes hazards and the adverse consequences of accidental or unintended actions.
- **Principle 6: Low Physical Effort** – The design can be used efficiently and comfortably and with a minimum of fatigue.
- **Principle 7: Size and Space for Approach and Use** – Appropriate size and space is provided for approach, reach, manipulation, and use regardless of user’s body size, posture, or mobility.

(*NC State University, The Center for Universal Design, 1997*)

The Minneapolis - St. Paul Region and the Twin Cities Campus

The University of Minnesota Twin Cities is one of few land-grant universities located in a large and diverse metropolitan area, and is one of just four campuses in the nation that has agricultural programs and a health sciences center with a major medical school.

The University's position in the Greater Minneapolis - St. Paul area and its status as a Tier-1 R1 institution result in major strategic advantages. The location provides students, and faculty and staff recruits with a host of opportunities for entrepreneurship and partnership made possible by the number of Fortune 500 companies based in the Twin Cities, the highest per capita of any city in the United States.

Talent development and exchange between multiple industries and the institution foster strong economic advantages. The cultural diversity of the metropolitan area, and the specialized facilities and lands that support University activities, can also serve as a resource for collaborative and co-creative activities between members of the University community and the broader region.

At the St. Paul campus, the close physical connections between cropland, animals, and facilities are essential for research. Access to research plots, growth chambers, and facilities for plant and animal research and preservation are often critical components of success.

Community Connections and Livability

Located adjacent to vibrant urban neighborhoods in Minneapolis and St. Paul/ Falcon Heights, the University recognizes the opportunity and interest in building positive physical, social and quality of life connections between the campus community and off-campus neighborhoods. To do this effectively, the University works with other partners on a number of levels to foster flourishing, livable and safe experiences whether on campus or nearby.





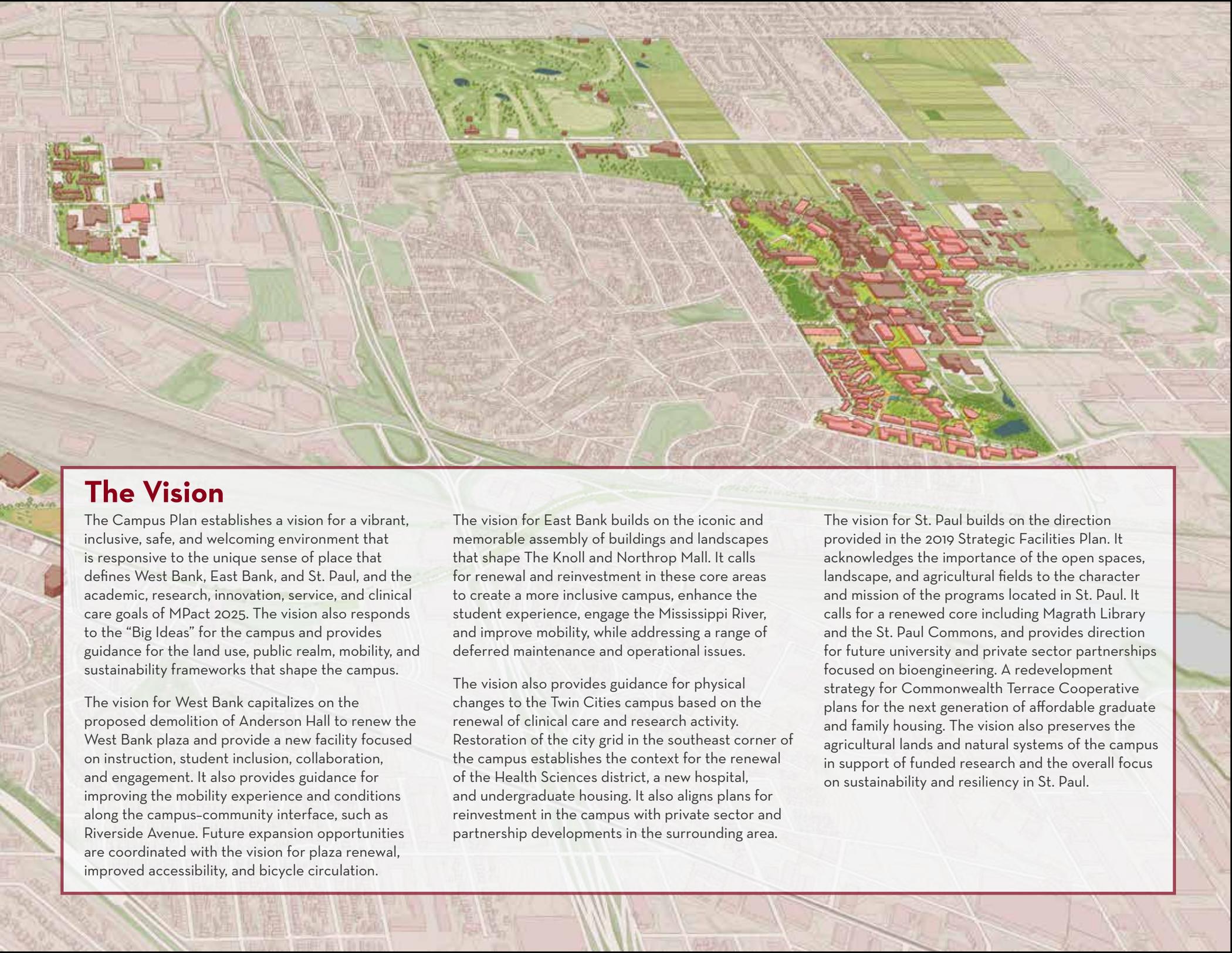


Campus Vision and Big Ideas 4



- Proposed Buildings
- Existing Buildings
- Affiliated Buildings
- Context Buildings

UMTC Illustrative Plan



The Vision

The Campus Plan establishes a vision for a vibrant, inclusive, safe, and welcoming environment that is responsive to the unique sense of place that defines West Bank, East Bank, and St. Paul, and the academic, research, innovation, service, and clinical care goals of MPact 2025. The vision also responds to the “Big Ideas” for the campus and provides guidance for the land use, public realm, mobility, and sustainability frameworks that shape the campus.

The vision for West Bank capitalizes on the proposed demolition of Anderson Hall to renew the West Bank plaza and provide a new facility focused on instruction, student inclusion, collaboration, and engagement. It also provides guidance for improving the mobility experience and conditions along the campus-community interface, such as Riverside Avenue. Future expansion opportunities are coordinated with the vision for plaza renewal, improved accessibility, and bicycle circulation.

The vision for East Bank builds on the iconic and memorable assembly of buildings and landscapes that shape The Knoll and Northrop Mall. It calls for renewal and reinvestment in these core areas to create a more inclusive campus, enhance the student experience, engage the Mississippi River, and improve mobility, while addressing a range of deferred maintenance and operational issues.

The vision also provides guidance for physical changes to the Twin Cities campus based on the renewal of clinical care and research activity. Restoration of the city grid in the southeast corner of the campus establishes the context for the renewal of the Health Sciences district, a new hospital, and undergraduate housing. It also aligns plans for reinvestment in the campus with private sector and partnership developments in the surrounding area.

The vision for St. Paul builds on the direction provided in the 2019 Strategic Facilities Plan. It acknowledges the importance of the open spaces, landscape, and agricultural fields to the character and mission of the programs located in St. Paul. It calls for a renewed core including Magrath Library and the St. Paul Commons, and provides direction for future university and private sector partnerships focused on bioengineering. A redevelopment strategy for Commonwealth Terrace Cooperative plans for the next generation of affordable graduate and family housing. The vision also preserves the agricultural lands and natural systems of the campus in support of funded research and the overall focus on sustainability and resiliency in St. Paul.

The Big Ideas

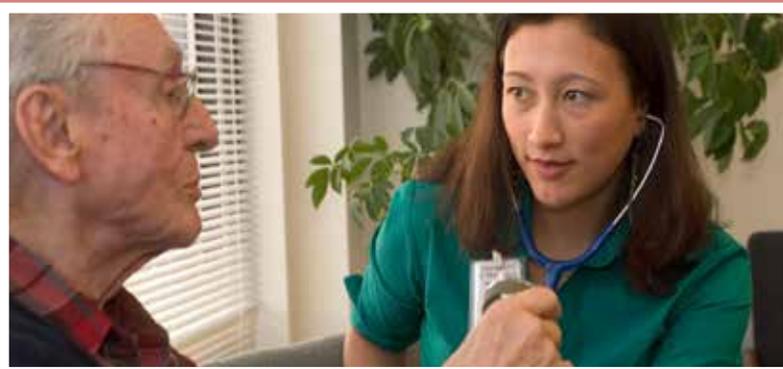
The Campus Plan is informed by ten “Big Ideas” that build on existing conditions and aspirational goals for change. The Big Ideas emerged from the consultation, surveys, and analysis carried out during the planning process. They represent goals, actions, and opportunities for enhancing the campus in response to the identified planning drivers and aspirations for the future.



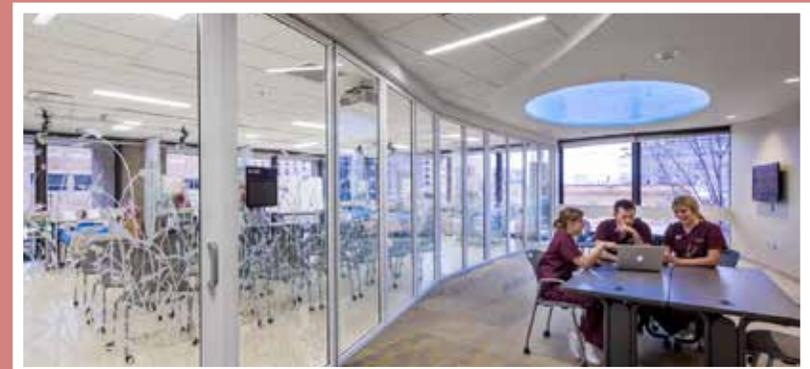
Create a More Inclusive Campus



Enrich the Student Experience



Support Patient Care and the Provider Experience in the Health Services



Promote Innovation Through Partnership Development



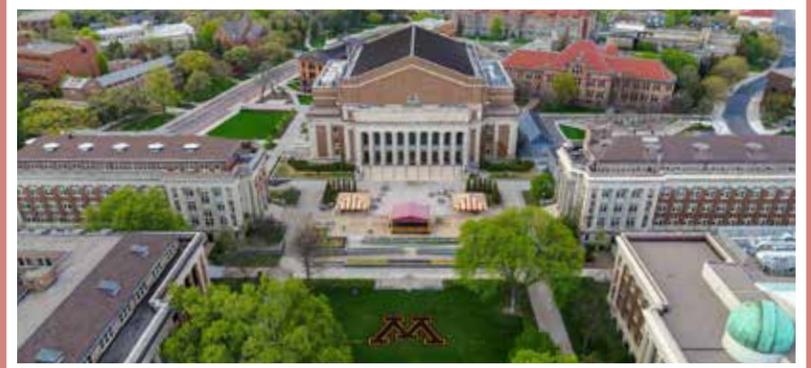
Make Campus Easier to Navigate and Prioritize Pedestrian, Bicycle, and Transit Circulation



Engage the River



Align Future Development with the Public Realm Framework



Reinvest in the Campus Core

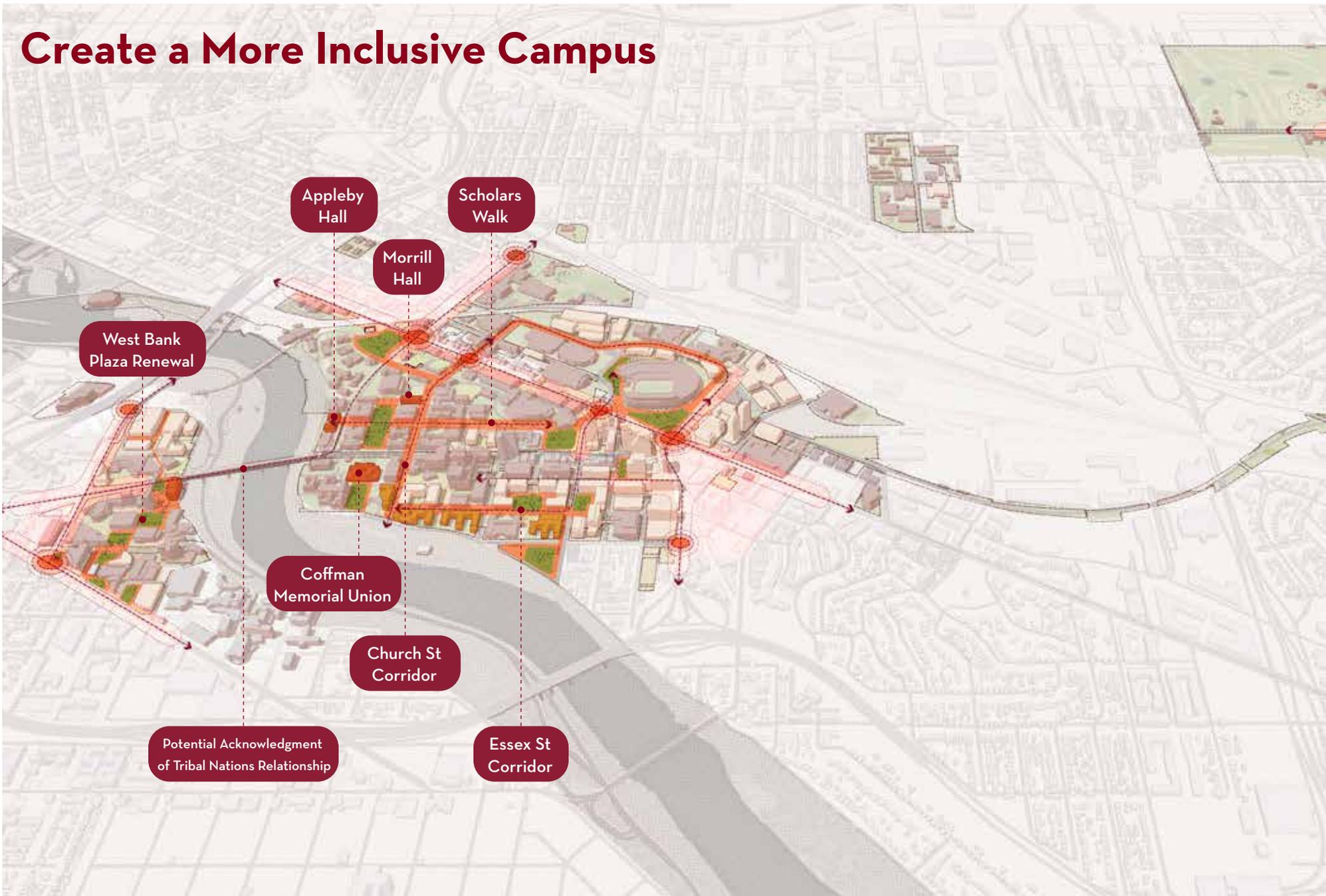


Enhance Financial Resiliency



Use Land and Resources Sustainably

Create a More Inclusive Campus



West Bank
Plaza Renewal

Appleby
Hall

Scholars
Walk

Morrill
Hall

Coffman
Memorial Union

Church St
Corridor

Potential Acknowledgment
of Tribal Nations Relationship

Essex St
Corridor



Overview

The Twin Cities campus is a gathering place for many Minnesotans, whether they have an affiliation with the University or are occasional visitors. Creating a more welcoming and inclusive campus for students, staff, faculty, and alumni is a key aim as opportunities for investment and renewal occur in response to a more diverse campus population.

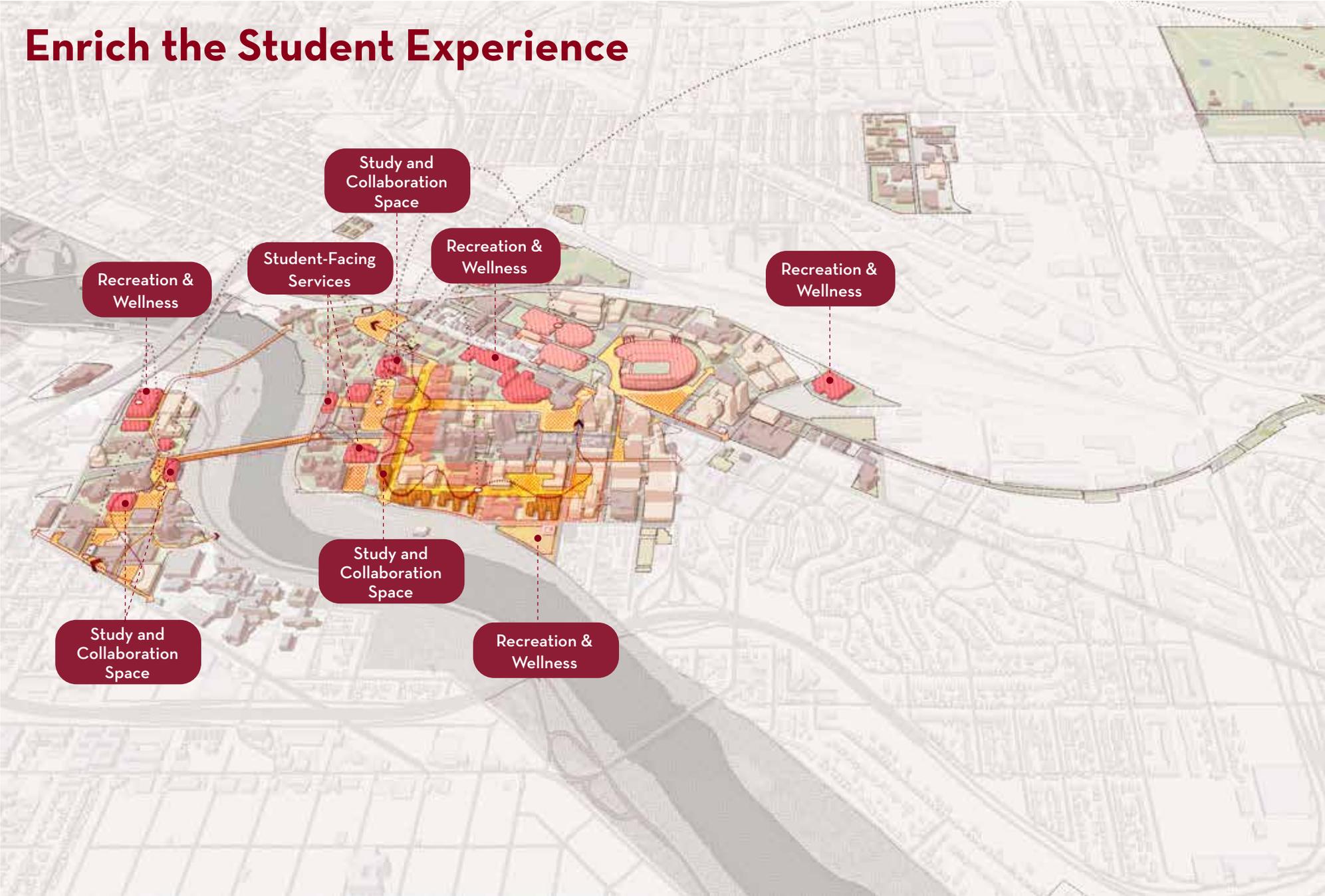
To create an inclusive campus, changes to the physical environment should consider how to provide affirmative spaces and address the varied perceptions of safety. Other important components of making campuses more welcoming are to improve representation for the underrepresented and strive for equitable and universal accessibility.

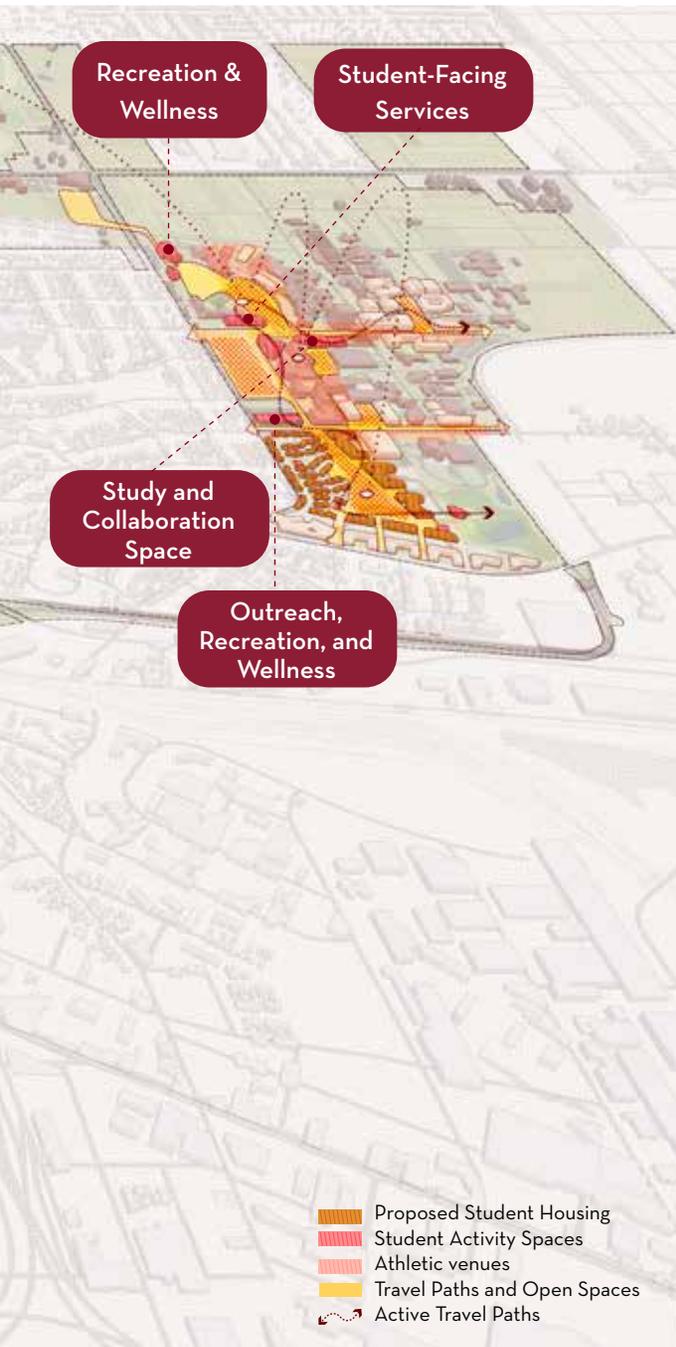
Both the Minneapolis and St. Paul campus are home to a variety of destinations, and maintaining a welcoming, pleasant experience for visitors is an important effort going forward. Some of the most critical investments in visitor experiences include wayfinding to and within highly traveled buildings, parking, and transit. These include campus sport venues, museums, and unions, and facilities unique to the St. Paul campus, especially those associated with school trips and tours.

Guidance

- Repurpose Morrill Hall for student-facing services and activities;
- Renovate Appleby Hall to provide support services for students;
- Improve Church Street to emphasize equitable access to buildings along the corridor and south of Washington Avenue SE, ultimately providing an accessible connection to East River Parkway.
- Design and build welcoming environments for indigenous students and people of color;
- Reinvest in student-focused spaces (unions, recreation, housing, student group spaces);
- Align with renaming policy as developed for campus landscapes and buildings;
- Invest in equitable access through retrofitting and new construction; and,
- Provide daily-use facilities, including lactation rooms, gender-inclusive restrooms, meditation and wellness rooms, etc.

Enrich the Student Experience





Overview

Students experience the Twin Cities campus in different ways. Survey results indicate that students living on campus feel welcomed in program and living spaces, including recreation and other student focused activities. However, there is less affiliation or affinity for other campus locations, or with faculty, advisors and staff. Consequently, the location, physical form, and staffing of student service facilities is an important component of the Campus Plan, including academic support, wellness and mental health services.

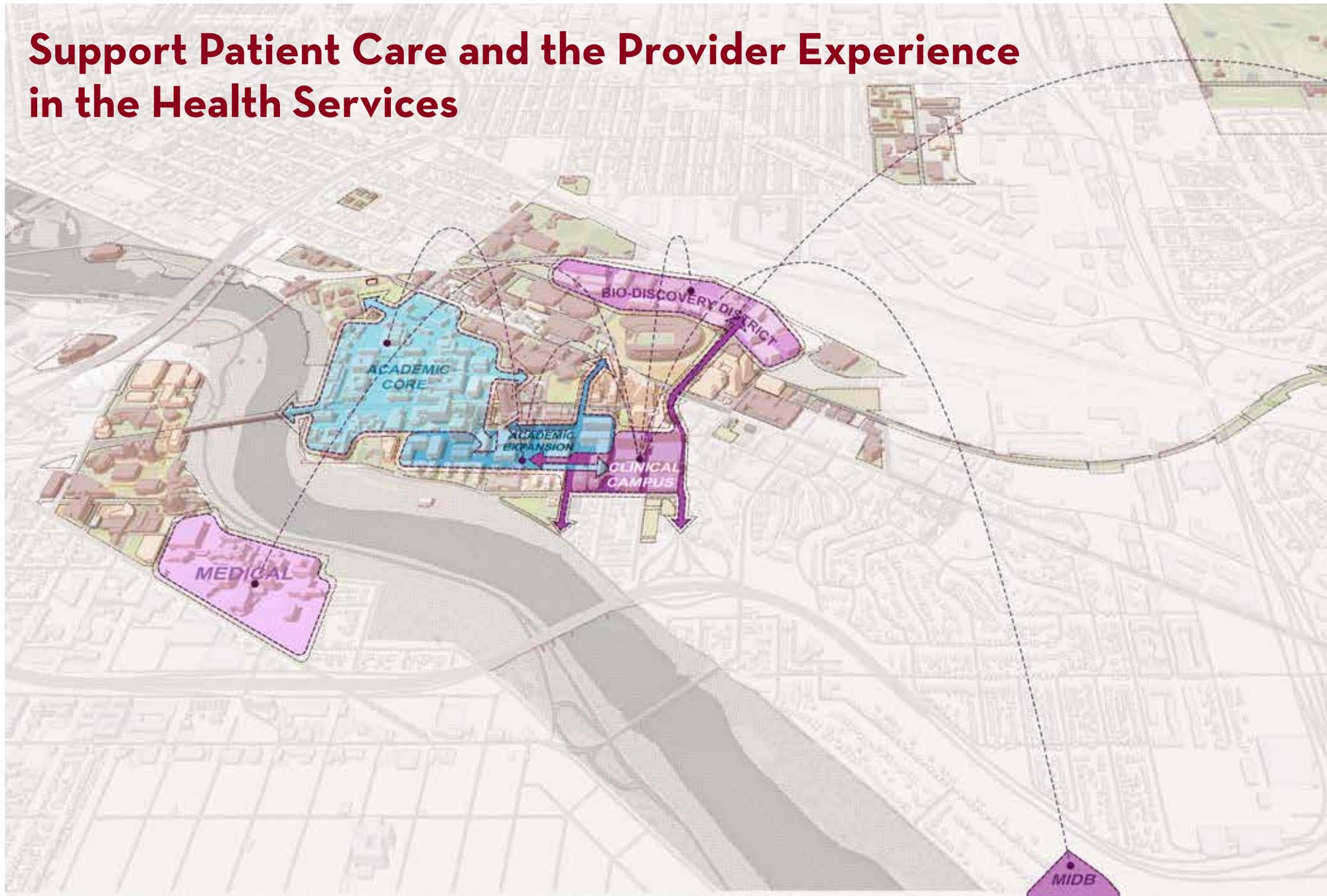
To that end, ongoing initiatives and staffing, as well as place-based access to these services, are important to creating a more welcoming community for students and others.

Biophilic design articulates the relationships between nature, human biology, and the design of the built environment with the aim of providing health and well-being benefits for building occupants and the population of a district. Moving forward, the University may explore opportunities to include biophilic design in the development of new buildings, interior spaces, and in the surrounding urban environment.

Guidance

- Expand collaborative spaces in buildings that have high student uses;
- Locate and renovate student-facing units to provide student services in prime locations such as Morrill and Appleby Halls;
- Enhance safety and manage safe routes, lighting, crime prevention through environmental design and operations actions;
- Develop engagement and active participation strategies related to physical University presence in critical locations where the campus meets the neighborhood;
- Add to student recreation fields and facilities;
- Support mental health initiatives of the PRISMH program by promoting adjacency of services to key student destinations;
- Work with the Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board to coordinate improvements and potential shared use of park lands such as East River Flats Park, Van Cleve Park and others;
- Explore hybrid models (in-person and virtual) to deliver mental health and other services currently in Boynton Health when the space is displaced;
- Renew first-year and undergraduate housing to create 'riverfront housing' along Essex Street on the East Bank and redeveloping Commonwealth Terrace Cooperative in St. Paul to provide affordable graduate and family housing;
- Enhance the mobility experience with mobility and transit hubs across Twin Cities locations; and,
- Prioritize biophilic designs to support wellness and a positive campus environment.

Support Patient Care and the Provider Experience in the Health Services





Overview

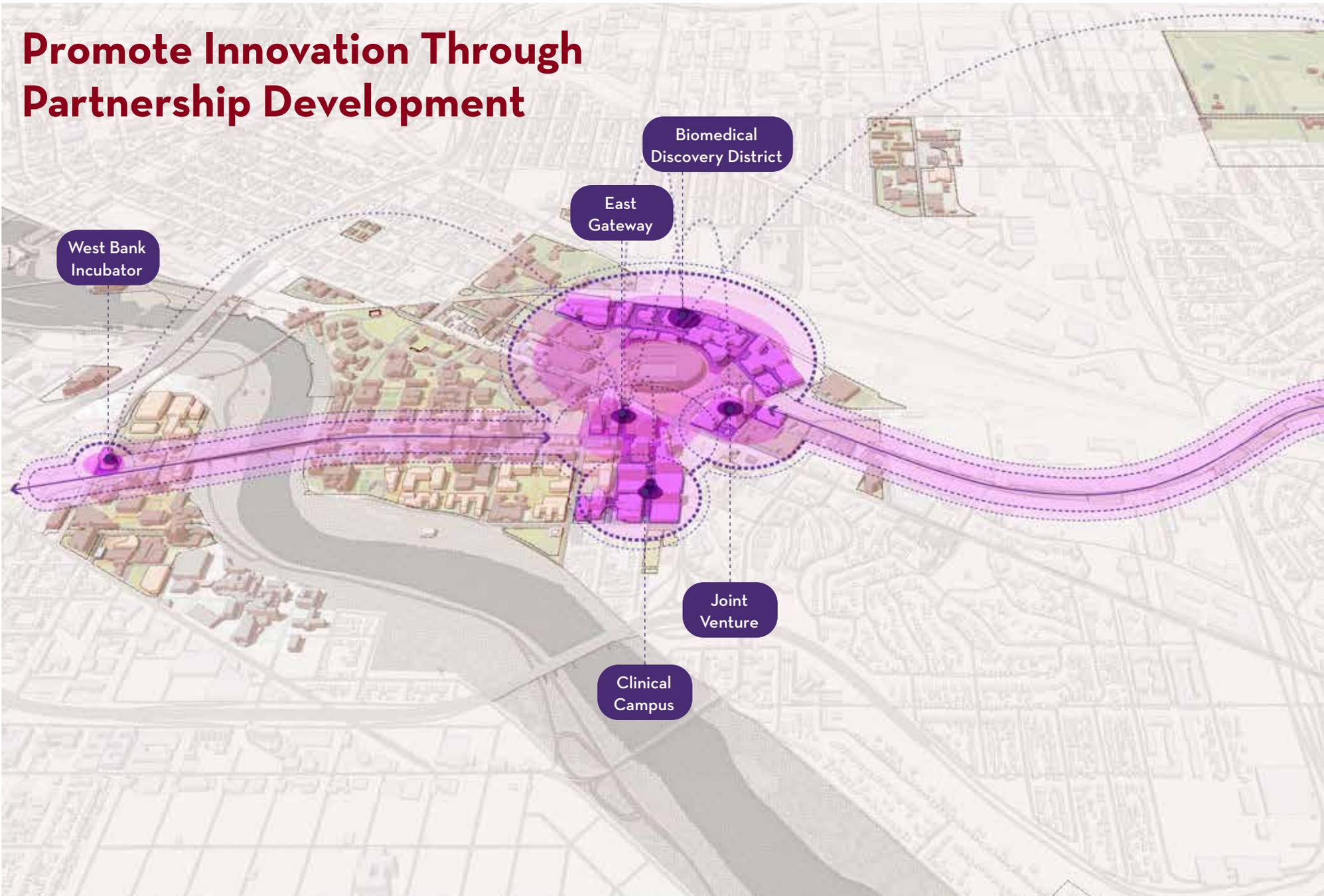
The Campus Plan sets out a vision for renewing the Health Sciences district's academic, research, and clinical facilities, including the M Health Fairview East Bank Hospital. The idea is to create a district that is responsive to the patient and provider experience and that delivers state-of-the-art facilities.

The plan for Health Sciences district represents the most significant renewal of the Twin Cities campus in over 50 years, which would come with the opportunity to create a district focused on the healing and well-being.

Guidance

- Reserve land and transportation capacity to support a future hospital on Huron Boulevard between Delaware and Essex;
- Manage the evolution of parking supply in the area related to changes resulting from renewal in the clinical campus related to the relocated hospital and housing redevelopment;
- Plan for future growth for academic and research activity between Harvard Street and Oak Street along Delaware to link the academic core to the clinical campus;
- Relocate housing to riverfront sites when the relocation of the hospital is complete;
- Use biophilic principles to shape architecture and landscape that introduce nature, landscape and gardens in the district; and,
- Create accessible paths (sidewalks, skyways and tunnels) to link existing facilities from Moos Tower to site of new hospital between academic buildings.

Promote Innovation Through Partnership Development





Overview

The intent of identifying the Innovation Corridor is to advance U of M's Systemwide Strategic Plan (MPact 2025) by connecting the private sector and other partners with University talent, research, and students. The aim is to enhance state and regional leadership in multiple innovative areas, including bio-based manufacturing, opportunities in the healthcare space (bio-tech, med-tech, clinical), and to attract world-class talent, drive innovation, and create dynamic new start-ups and jobs.

The Campus Plan supports the innovation initiatives of the University by identifying opportunities for mixed use and partnership development on the West Bank, East Bank, and in St. Paul. The plan incorporates development proposals underway concurrent with the planning process, including recommendations for the East Gateway and Joint Venture development sites on the East Bank and Bio-Tech District on the St. Paul campus.

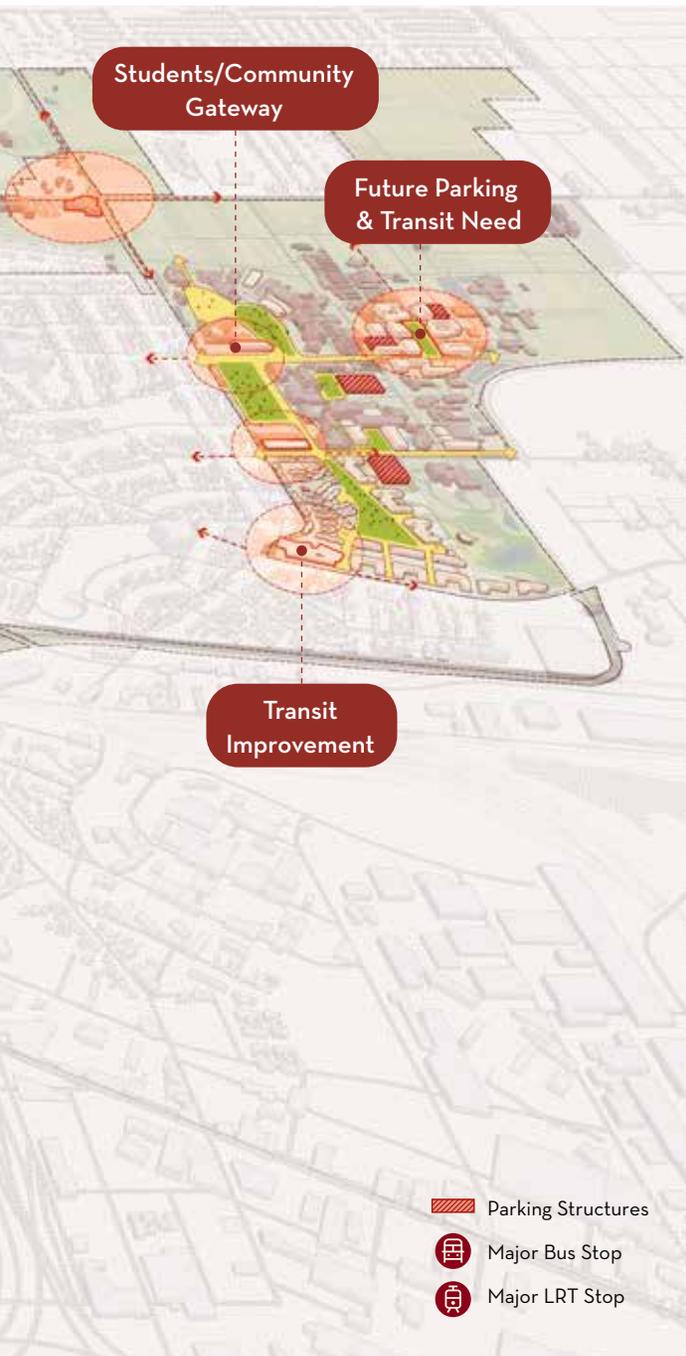
The intent is to create new facilities and compelling environments that do not currently exist in the region. It also is to facilitate interaction between researchers and entrepreneurs with the aim of commercializing ideas emerging from University research and collaboration activities. In particular, promoting innovation opportunities resulting from the University's health science research and clinical care activities is a desired outcome.

Guidance

- Plan for future growth for academic and research activity between Harvard Street and Oak Street along Delaware to link the academic core to the clinical campus;
- Focus partnership efforts to support gaps in University research infrastructure;
- Advance scholarly priorities when evaluating innovation partnership opportunities;
- Consider University participation in shared initiatives through the use of real property, financial tools, and talent/workforce alignment, depending on specific proposals; and,
- Elevate innovation efforts that engage health sciences, medical technology, neuroscience and engineering, and agriculture, food production, environment and bio-manufacturing.

Make Campus Easier to Navigate and Prioritize Pedestrian, Bicycle, and Transit Circulation





Overview

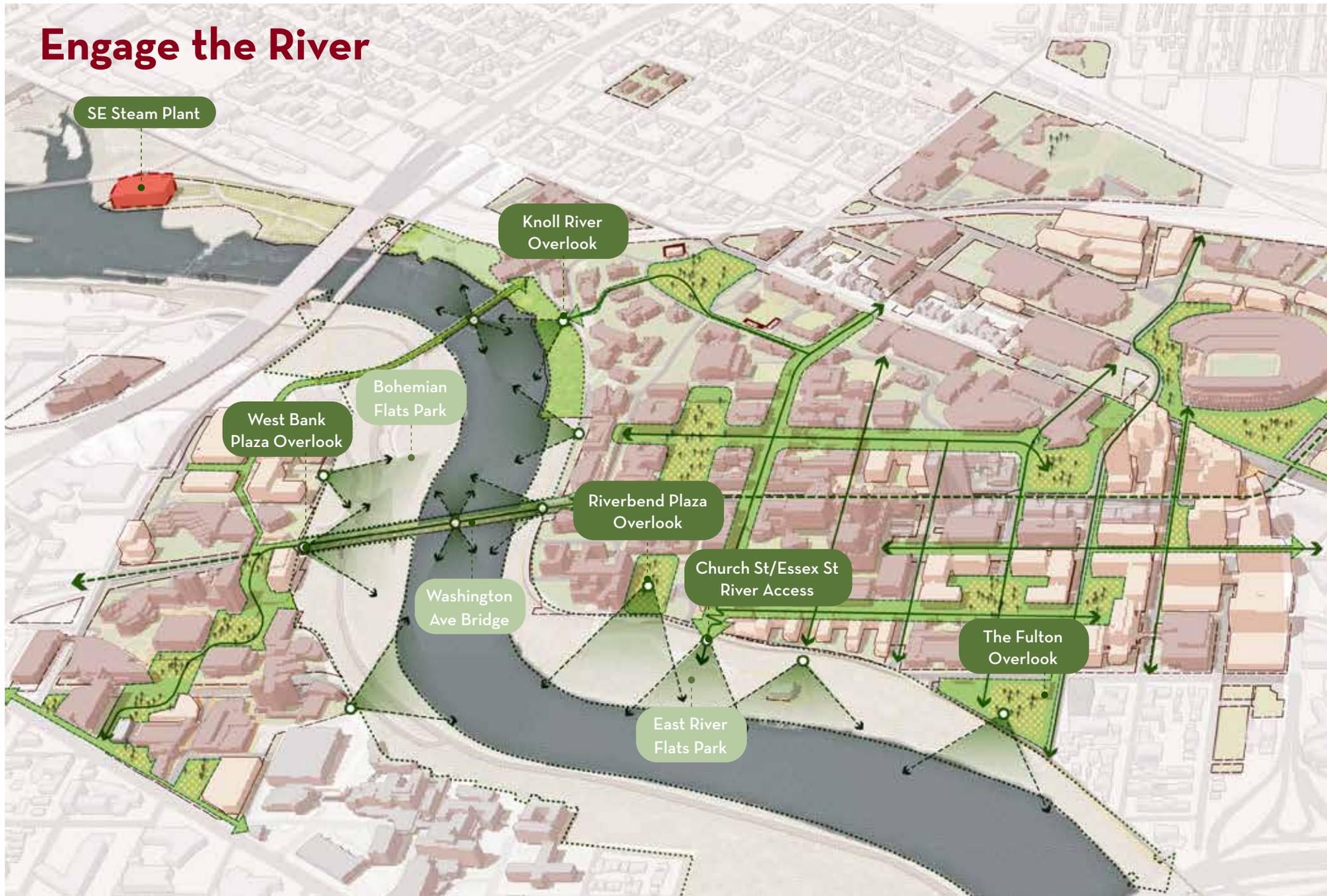
Mobility is defined broadly as the system of accessible pathways, bicycle, transit, and vehicular routes that connect destinations within and beyond the Twin Cities campus. The importance of the Gopher Way network of tunnels and skyways is also considered.

The Campus Plan promotes a balanced approach to mobility by emphasizing equitable access and human-powered and transit connectivity, while acknowledging that automobiles will continue to be an important consideration over the next decade. The plan also prioritizes the user experience by focusing on intermodal connectivity, convenience, wayfinding, and amenities across the Twin Cities campus.

Guidance

- Focus on equitable access by taking into consideration the principles of universal design;
- Coordinate external accessible and pedestrian routes with the Gopher Way network;
- Create a network of mobility hubs, which feature pick-up and drop-off points for transportation network companies, bikeshare locations, and access to the Gopher Way system, where possible;
- Create a U of M-branded, unified, and user-friendly wayfinding system to support all modes of travel and all types of trips throughout campus, along with digital and physical signage and navigation tools;
- Enhance the transit experience by locating major hubs in association with user amenities, such as lounge and gathering spaces, and food services;
- Coordinate efforts to support a hierarchy of campus streets within the jurisdiction of the campus and plan for future needs as they emerge;
- Define future parking locations by considering daily use and visitor patterns; and,
- Work with external agencies and others to improve access to and performance of regional road systems (Huron/I-94, Hwy 280).

Engage the River





Overview

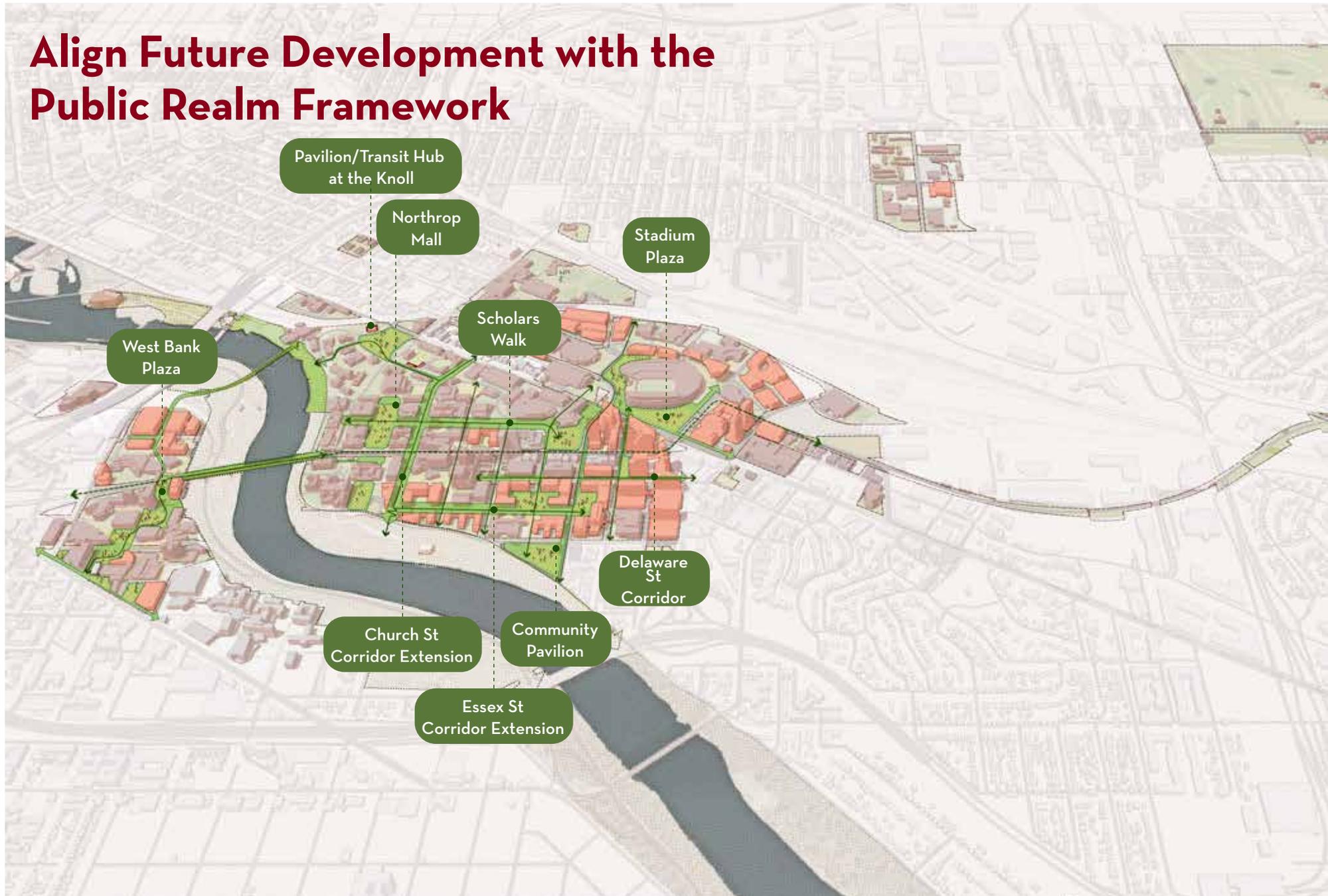
The Mississippi River is one of the great rivers of the world, with a watershed covering all or part of 31 states. It accounts for nearly 40% of the continental United States' land area and is at the heart of some of the continent's most important natural areas and migration routes. The Mississippi River corridor in the Twin Cities has been designated as the Mississippi National River and Recreation Area, a unit of the National Park System and, as such, is a local and regional destination for a range of outdoor, recreational, and social activities.

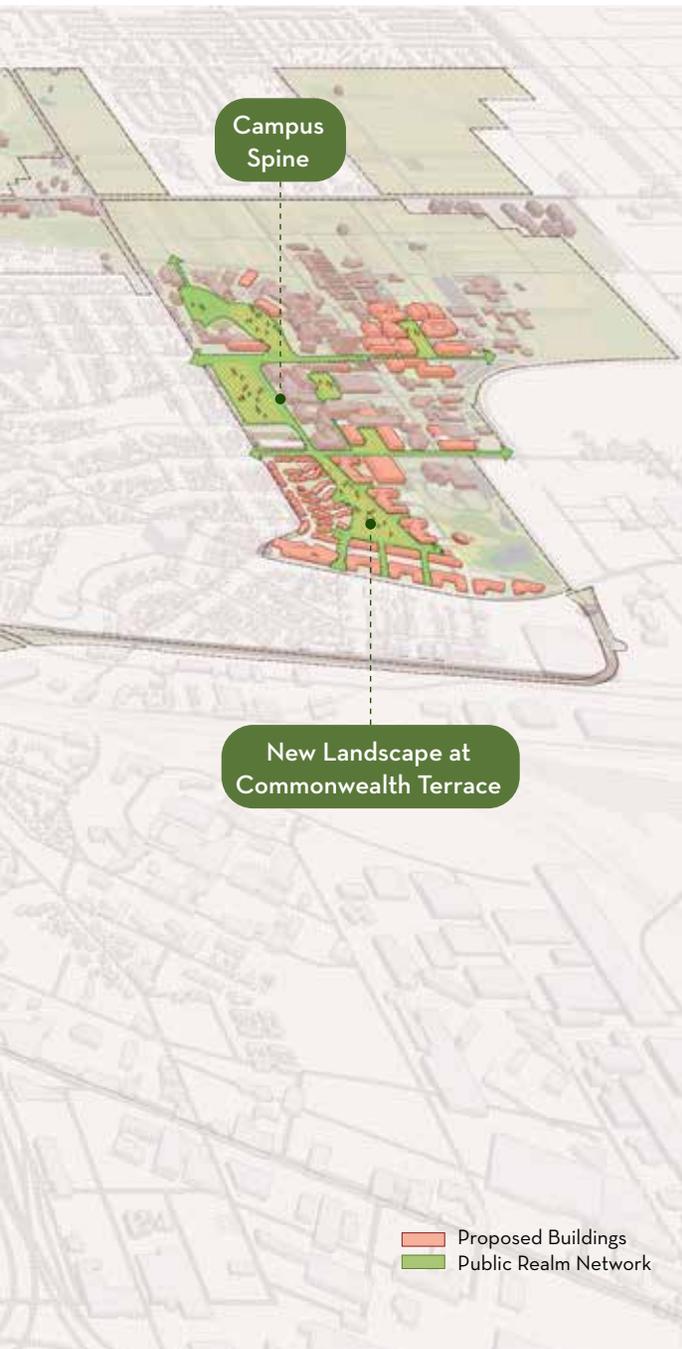
The river forms a spine of American history and culture. The lands along the Mississippi River in the Twin Cities, including the West and East Banks and surrounding neighborhoods, have also been and continue to be the ancestral home of indigenous peoples. The past heritage and future opportunities associated with the presence of the campus on the river corridor is an important feature and distinguishing factor for the University.

Guidance

- Establish stronger visual and physical connections, where possible, with the river in association with the proposed renovation of Appleby Hall, Fraser Hall, the Coffman Memorial Union, and the demolition of Mayo and surrounding buildings;
- Create accessible routes to East River Parkway from the intersection of Church St. and Essex St., in coordination with the demolition and redevelopment of buildings and sites;
- Coordinate with the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board to explore shared-use spaces in river-adjacent parks.
- Demolish and replace Anderson Hall to provide opportunities for engaging with the Washington Avenue SE Bridge, enhance transit connections, and to open up views to the river;
- Coordinate with the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board on potential access from the West Bank plaza to the West River Parkway as a Park Board initiative;
- Position future development on the north side of West Bank to offer views of the river; and,
- Consider relocation of the Southeast Steam Plant in the long-term future.

Align Future Development with the Public Realm Framework





Overview

The major open spaces, landscapes, and circulation routes of the campus define the public realm framework. Combined with streets, pathways, and pedestrian routes, these spaces shape the campus experience and mobility.

West Bank - The redevelopment of Anderson Hall creates opportunities to reimagine the West Bank Plaza, connect the plaza with the Washington Avenue SE transit mall, and extend the internal pathways and bike routes northward to the Bridge 9 bike route and other bike routes.

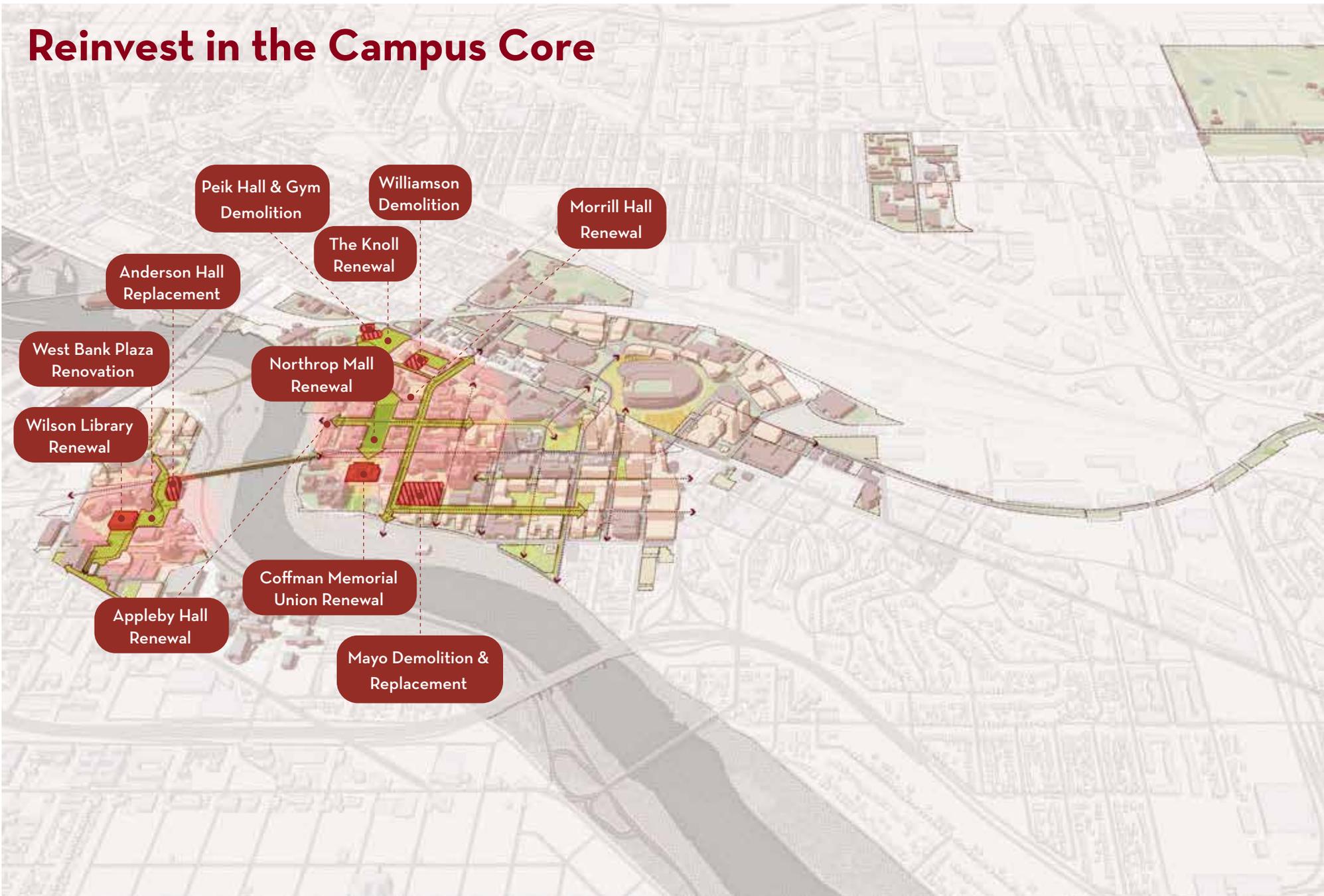
East Bank - The qualities of the Northrop Mall could be extended eastwards where major redevelopment is proposed. For example, redevelopment in the proposed Health Science district can restore the city grid and establish landscaped corridors along the streets that link the district back to the campus core.

St. Paul - A stronger north-south connection could link Commonwealth Terrace Cooperative with the St. Paul Gym towards the north, with the intent of creating a new, accessible central spine on the campus. Additionally, phased implementation of the partnership research district will include a network of streets, pathways, and open spaces that integrate with building sites.

Guidance

- Prioritize selected programs to locations that would benefit from existing iconic open spaces or connecting corridors;
- Locate new buildings on or adjacent to sites that support expanded open spaces and public realm investment in key locations (e.g. Health Science district and East Gateway);
- Provide a variety of open spaces across the Twin Cities campus for use by the campus community; and,
- Design public realm improvements to prioritize safe and accessible movement and experience.

Reinvest in the Campus Core





Overview

The campus core is where the University’s academic activity was first established in different eras of campus development, and each with a specific focus. The core of the West Bank, East Bank, and St. Paul is also where the highest concentrations of the University community gather on a daily and weekly basis for academic, social, and recreational purposes.

The renewal of the campus core aligns with the need to create a more inclusive, enhanced student experience on campus, and help the University preserve the very environments that define its sense of place. The renewal of existing spaces is recommended, given the uncertainties and changes that may emerge from the COVID-19 pandemic.

The primary goals for maintaining the vitality of the core are to:

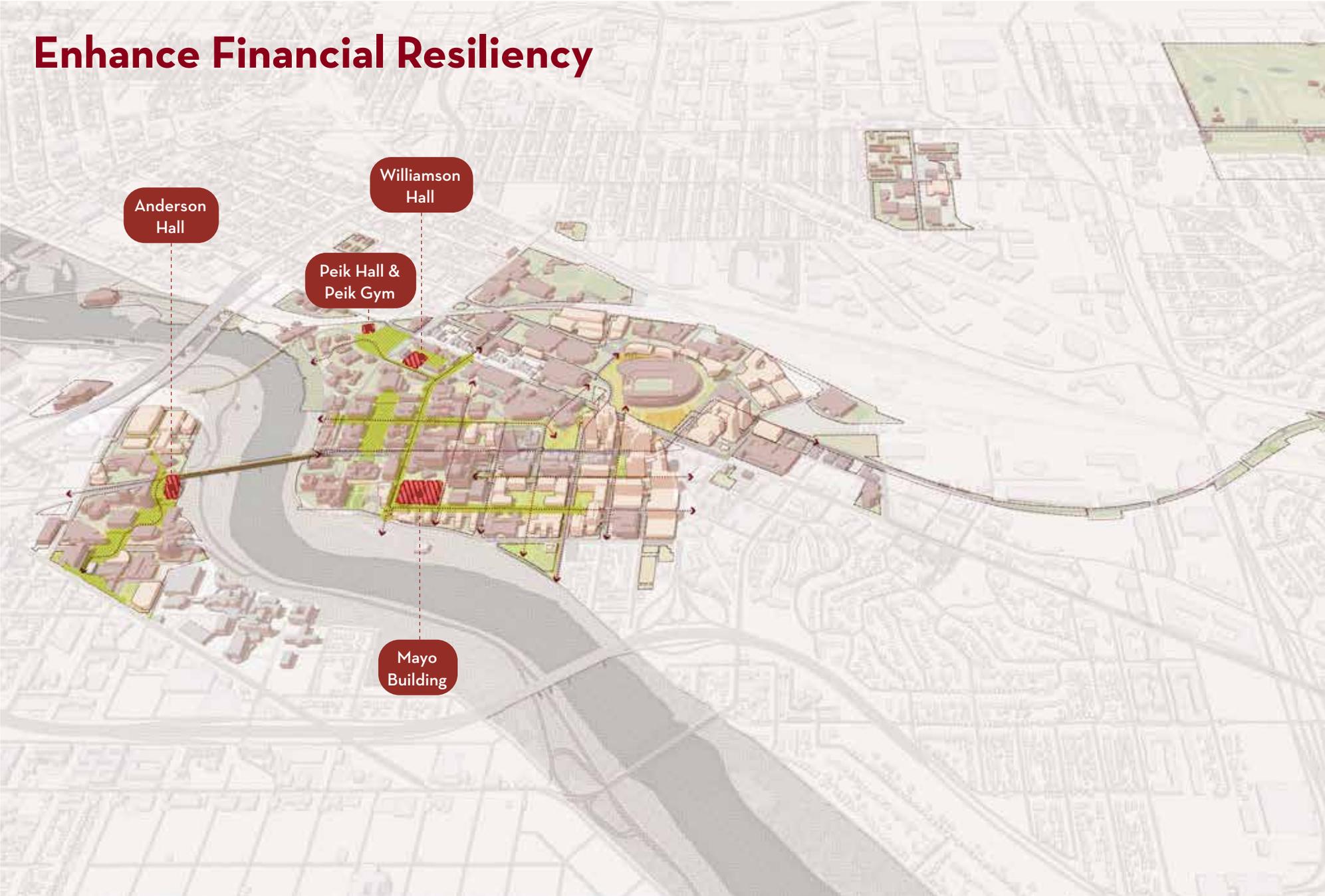
- prioritize the individual experience of getting around campus, in terms of physical access and safety;
- locate active, collaborative, and high traffic destinations within buildings at ground-floor levels to ensure a lively, people-focused core;
- maintain people and development density when redeveloping campus sites; and,
- discourage personal vehicle traffic in the high density, pedestrian-focused core.

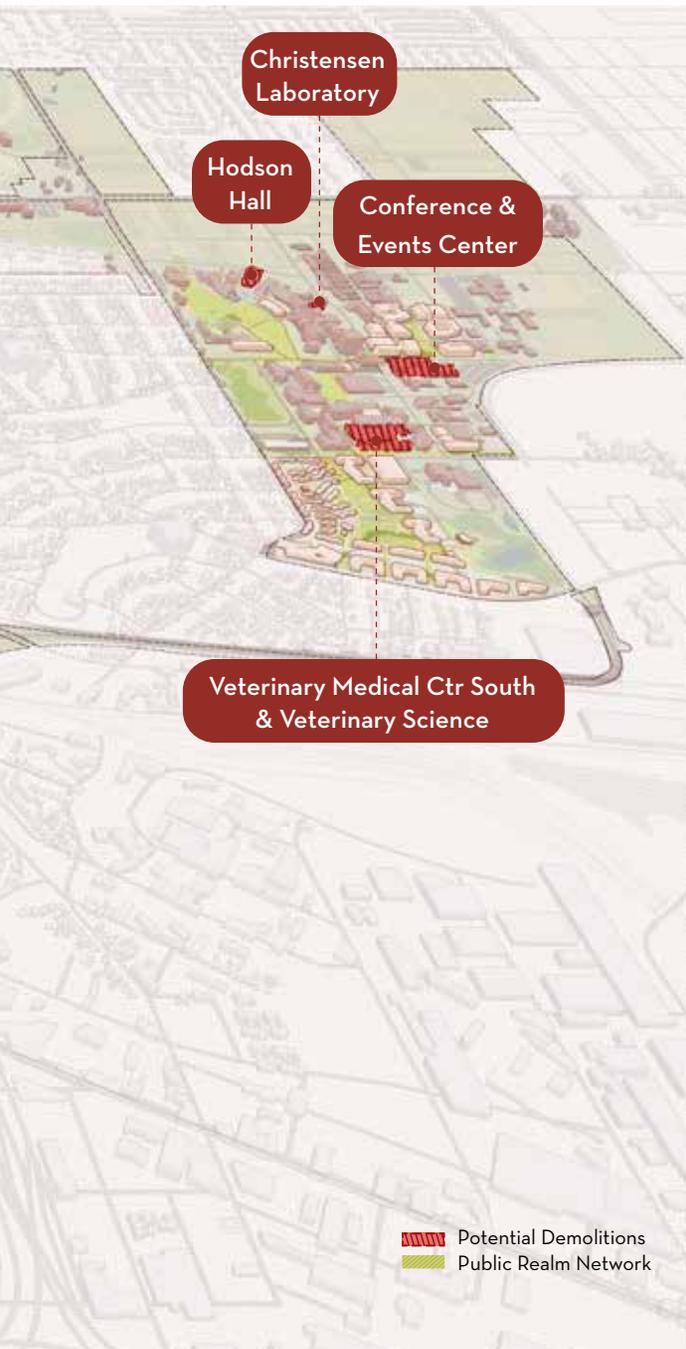
Reinvestment in the campus core describes a strategy for renewing important and iconic areas and buildings across the Twin Cities campus, while addressing critical deferred maintenance challenges. Additionally, without steady attention to selective demolitions and reinvestment in core areas of campus, it will be difficult to maintain the vitality that emerges from adjacency to facilities, faculty, and other partners critical to University activity.

Guidance

- Renew the Northrop Mall, the Knoll, and the St. Paul Lawn landscapes, with an emphasis on creating a more accessible campus;
- Demolish Williamson, Peik Hall, Peik Gym, and the Mayo block, which would allow for landscape improvements and redevelopment at desirable locations in the core;
- Reinvest in Coffman Memorial Union;
- Renovate the West Bank Plaza to address maintenance and accessibility issues, and to improve its character;
- Demolish and replace Anderson Hall to create a new, student-focused hub featuring social, collaborative, and learning spaces and amenities with views of the river;
- Reinvest in the St. Paul Student Center and Magrath Library to create a renewed, inclusive and welcoming destinations;
- Support reinvestment in student life;
- Continue capital renewal of existing facilities;
- Pursue selected demolition of research buildings and direct new investment to amplify research lab activity at Upper Buford Circle in St. Paul; and,
- Continue capital renewal of existing facilities.

Enhance Financial Resiliency





Overview

The ability for the University to adapt existing resources to meet its obligations during uncertain and financially challenging times is important for its long term resilience. Given the campus's size and the age and condition of its buildings, real estate acquisition, selective demolitions, and alternative models for the use of space will be prioritized.

These activities have a significant impact on the future of the University and, as a result, the University must be circumspect in its decision-making. Based on the Board of Regents' review, and the anticipated approval of the following strategies, the University will be guided by the following as it undertakes real estate transactions in the future:

1. Support the University's teaching, research, and service mission and align with the Systemwide Strategic Plan.
2. Align with campus master plans.
3. Provide strategic value when balanced against scarce resources and minimize financial liability.
4. Positively impact areas adjacent to the University or limit negative impact.

Guidance

- Reduce renewal backlogs by using comprehensive assessment tools to actively manage the University's building stock;
- Prioritize opportunities to reduce the total need for space through hybrid education, work and service delivery models and changes in occupancy of space;
- Pursue demolition sites for the financial benefits related to removing capital renewal needs as well as the campus design and development opportunities
- Design new buildings and open spaces with maintenance practices and Facilities Management staff capacity in mind.
- Strategically dispose of properties that no longer serve the University's mission, in alignment with Board-reviewed real estate principles.

Use Land and Resources Sustainably

Decommission and Replace
SE Steam Plant
(Location TBD)

Potential Renewable
District Energy





Overview

The third commitment of MPact 2025, also known as “MNtersections”, establishes the goal of building a fully sustainable future, a longstanding aim of the University as evidenced by the decision to sign Second Nature’s Carbon Commitment in 2008. The Campus Plan supports this commitment and includes recommendations that will inform the forthcoming update of the Twin Cities Climate Action Plan.

As an urban campus established for more than 160 years, the Twin Cities campus is not a location with options to expand its footprint without constraints. Since 2015, recent development by private sector interests have contributed significantly to the cost of land around the East Bank. This has made the University’s task of ensuring adequate land resources more economically burdensome.

For this reason, finding flexible and adaptable approaches to use of existing land is essential to the future success of the campus. Examples of future actions that will be needed include selective demolitions, and multi-purpose development that supports academic, research, and service activity, making on-campus operations more cost efficient or climate neutral.

The Campus Plan also includes recommendations for reserving, managing and expanding resilient infrastructure corridors in perpetuity in support of mobility and sustainability goals. The plan also reserves land for sustainable infrastructure such as energy plants, geothermal fields, solar arrays etc.

Guidance

- Continue to manage mobility and mode choices, and flexible work schedules to minimize increases in the use of single-occupant vehicles;
- Manage and expand resilient infrastructure corridors to be reserved in perpetuity;
- Identify land that should be reserved for sustainable infrastructure, such as energy plants, geothermal fields, solar arrays, electric vehicle charging stations, etc.;
- Continue to meet state SB 2030 standards for building/facility design, siting, and operations to reduce carbon emissions; and,
- Combine land uses when possible to support sustainability goals, such as renewable infrastructure with new construction or renovation, and stormwater management landscapes that are aesthetically appealing and that anchor new open space features.



An aerial photograph of a modern architectural complex, featuring a large, multi-story building with a grid-like facade and several smaller, interconnected structures. The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent orange filter. A large, white, bold number '5' is positioned on the right side of the image, partially overlapping the text.

Planning Frameworks 5

Introduction

A series of interrelated and coordinated frameworks structure the Campus Plan. The frameworks function together to facilitate the planning and operation of the campus. These “systems frameworks” include: 1) land use; 2) public realm; 3) mobility; and, 4) sustainability. Collectively, the frameworks provide the overarching structure for future development. This section provides an overview of each framework.

Land Use Framework

The land use framework organizes development according to existing and recommended changes to the utilization and activity patterns of West Bank, East Bank, and St. Paul. Natural systems such as the Mississippi River and the Sarita Wetlands, along with the circulation corridors, streetscapes and important open spaces define the public realm framework and inform the land use framework.

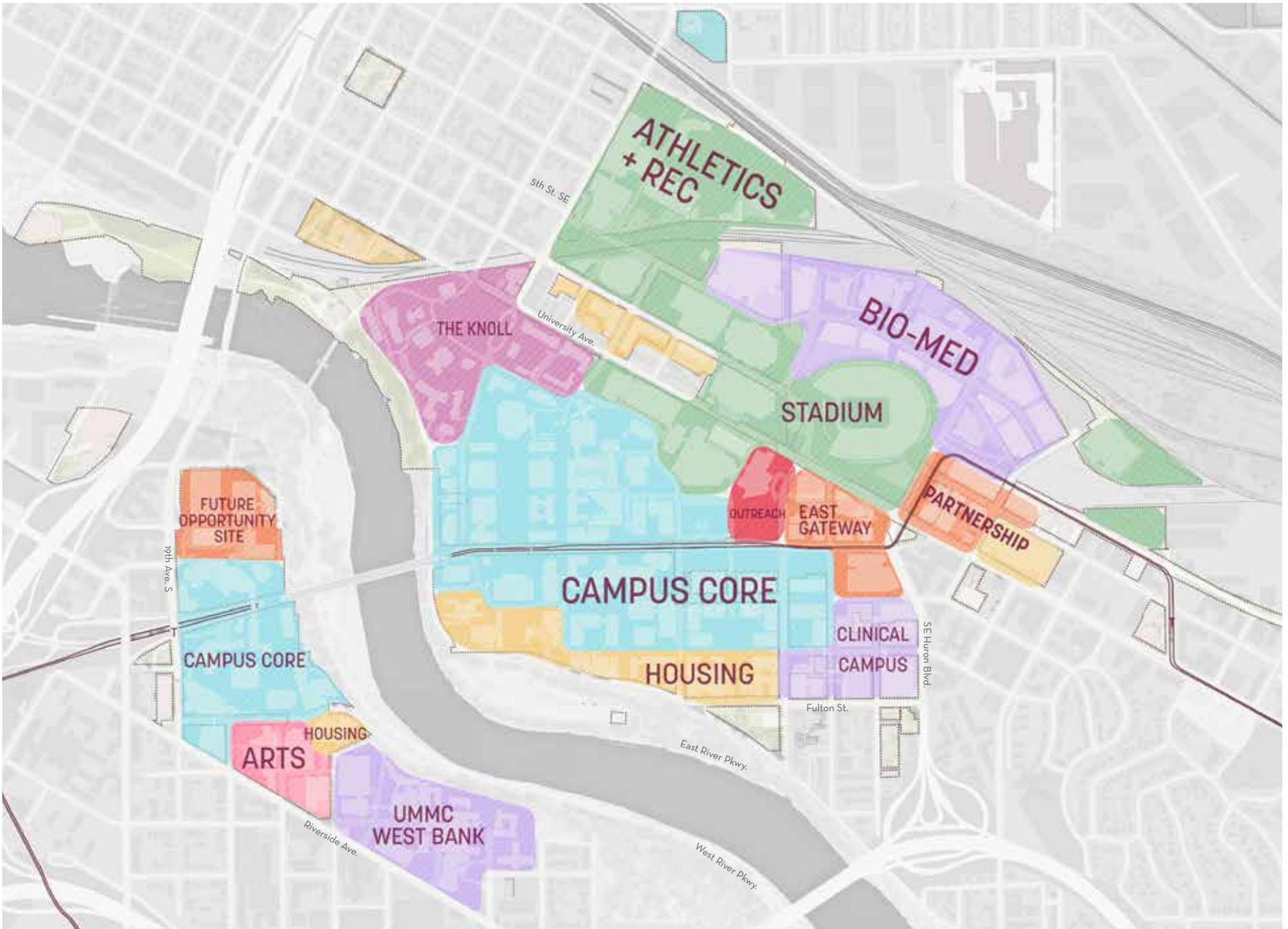
West Bank

On the West Bank, a number of projects support innovation and academic expansion. The opportunity site identified on the north side of the West Bank campus may provide for student recreation needs and academic expansion. The Washington Avenue Bridge and related sites, like Anderson Hall, are important sites to support the student experience. Other long-term changes to land use include the relocation of the 21st Avenue Parking Ramp to the Riverside Avenue edge of the campus.

East Bank

The Campus Plan reinforces existing land use patterns on the East Bank, especially in the established core defined by the Knoll and Northrop Mall. The proposed Health Sciences and housing renewal districts illustrate a reorganization of land use patterns between Church Street and Huron Boulevard, south of Washington Avenue SE. The land use framework reflects proposals for the partnership and mixed-use districts at East Gateway and the Joint Venture site.

The most significant change in land use pattern envisioned on the East Bank is anticipated between the Health Sciences district and the relocation of the hospital on Huron Boulevard. Clinical research, as well as outpatient care, are part of the planned renewal. Replacement of Centennial and Territorial Halls is planned along East River Parkway with access from Essex St. Academic renewal connects the existing hub for Health Sciences (between the Mayo building and PWB/ Moos) to clinical research and care sites to the east along Delaware Street. This evolution of campus prioritizes land uses, activity and functional requirements (access to regional roadway, parking capacity). It also establishes important adjacencies for student housing and health sciences.

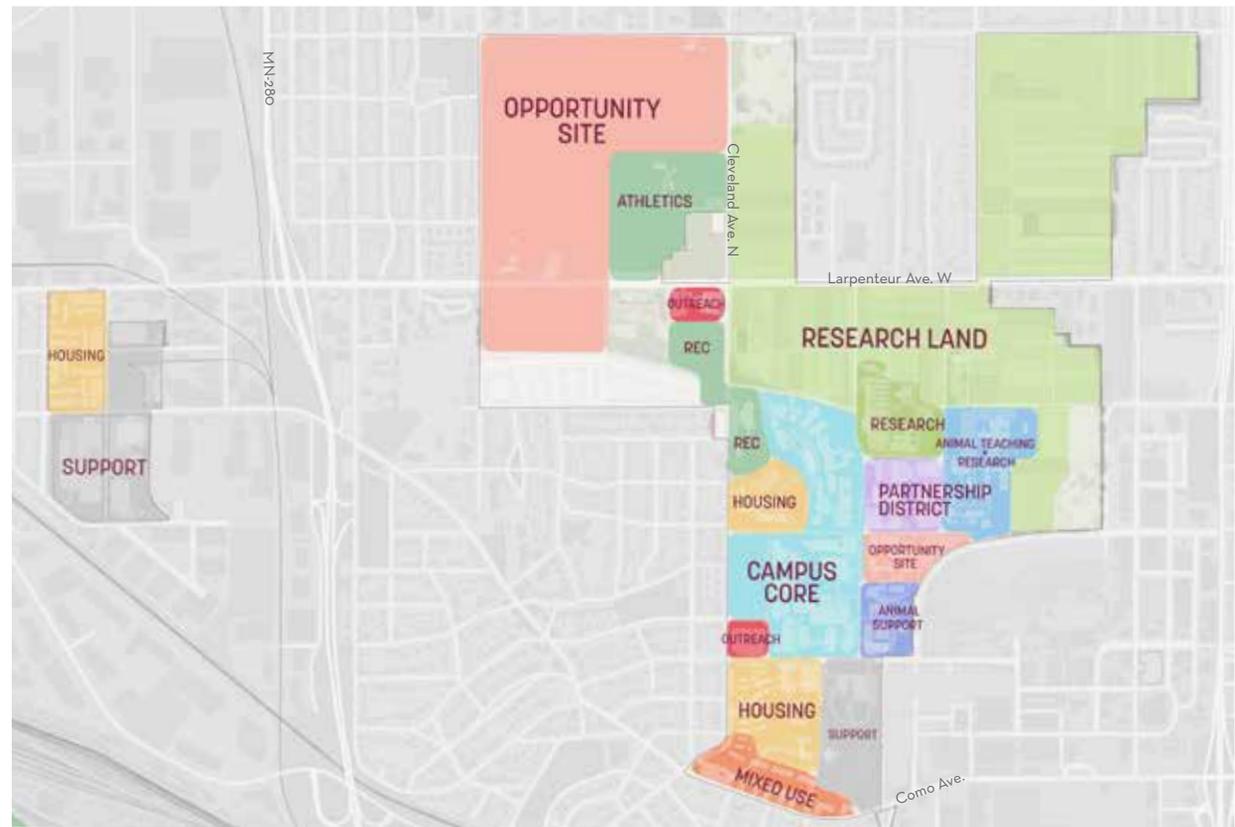


West and East Bank Land Use Framework

St. Paul

On the St Paul campus, the relationship of research lands to buildings and spaces that support campus life is unchanged in the Campus Plan.

- The golf course use may change over the course of the 10-year plan horizon of the Campus Plan and is considered an “opportunity site”.
- As learning and event space needs change, another redevelopment opportunity may arise at the Continuing Education Center, south of Buford and east of Gortner.
- Housing redevelopment at the Commonwealth Terrace Cooperative is anticipated in the horizon of this plan. The current housing, built between 1945 and 1976 consisting of 1, 2 and 3 bedroom units has reached the end of its useful life. Providing affordable housing in a welcoming environment as well as supporting a mix of uses, perhaps including retail and service, is the future goal for this area.
- Along the community-campus edge on Cleveland Avenue, an outreach facility utilizes part of the current parking lot to support seasonal, outdoor-oriented community events.
- The Bio-Tech District is emerging as an active innovation site. The first proposed facility, currently in planning, is a bio-manufacturing facility.



St. Paul Land Use Framework



Aerial View, East Bank

Public Realm Framework

The Public Realm Framework for the Twin Cities campus considers existing conditions, current and former planning efforts and studies, and the major circulation routes and corridors identified in the Mobility Framework.

First, the public realm of the campus is defined by various underlying natural conditions in each location – the river corridor on East and West Banks, the Sarita Wetland on St. Paul, and the topographic conditions found throughout. Overlaying these natural conditions are major open spaces such as the Knoll and Northrop Mall, the West Bank plaza, and the Lawn and Bowl in St. Paul.

Additionally, the public realm is framed differently in each location: the plaza anchors the West Bank from the Washington Avenue Bridge and through the arts district; the city grid of Minneapolis structures the campus layout on the East Bank; and, the St. Paul campus is defined by a combination of city streets, internal circulation routes, and a generous open space network.

Safety in the Public Realm

The Campus Plan provides recommendations for promoting a safe and secure environment. The goal is to plan and design buildings, landscapes, and infrastructure to facilitate security operations and foster a safe experience. This will be done in a manner that supports the collaboration and engagement objectives of the University’s mission and in a manner that results in an open, inviting campus environment.

These recommendations, which build upon ongoing initiatives, are summarized below:

Campus Perimeter – Address the campus perimeter with physical design elements that characterize the Twin Cities campus and signal entrance to the University environment.

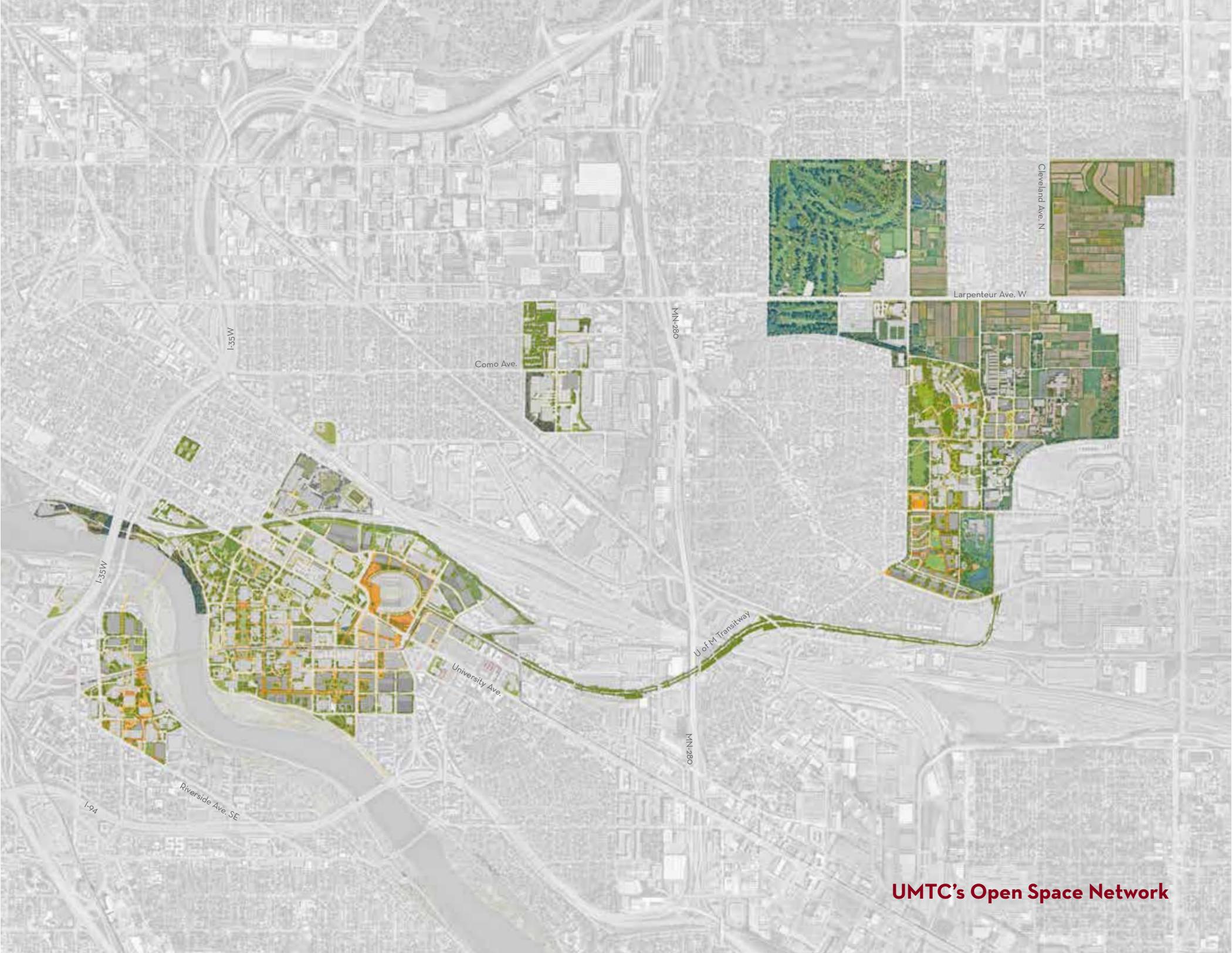
Nighttime Mobility Services and Support – Maintain and expand as needed existing education and preventative services (safe walking information, late night walk/ride home) to near campus locations, as well as education programs to support security and personal safety near campus.

Lighting – Assess lighting conditions on campus and make use of established standards as a guideline for maintaining illumination levels for streets, pathways, open spaces and parking facilities.

Visibility – Select, organize, and maintain planted areas to promote a general feeling of openness and visibility, while retaining the attractive, space-defining qualities and environmental benefits of the campus landscape.

Maintenance – Plan and maintain landscapes so as not to obstruct lighting and physical observation, including views from security camera equipment.

Blue Light Emergency Phones – Working in partnership with neighboring police services, locate and maintain emergency phones on campus. Specific location decisions will be made based on field conditions, generally placing each phone within view of the next, especially along major pathways, in open spaces, at transit stops, and in parking facilities.



I-35W

W-351

Como Ave.

MN-280

Cleveland Ave. N

Larpenteur Ave. W

University Ave.

U of M Transitway

MN-280

I-94

Riverside Ave. SE

UMTC's Open Space Network

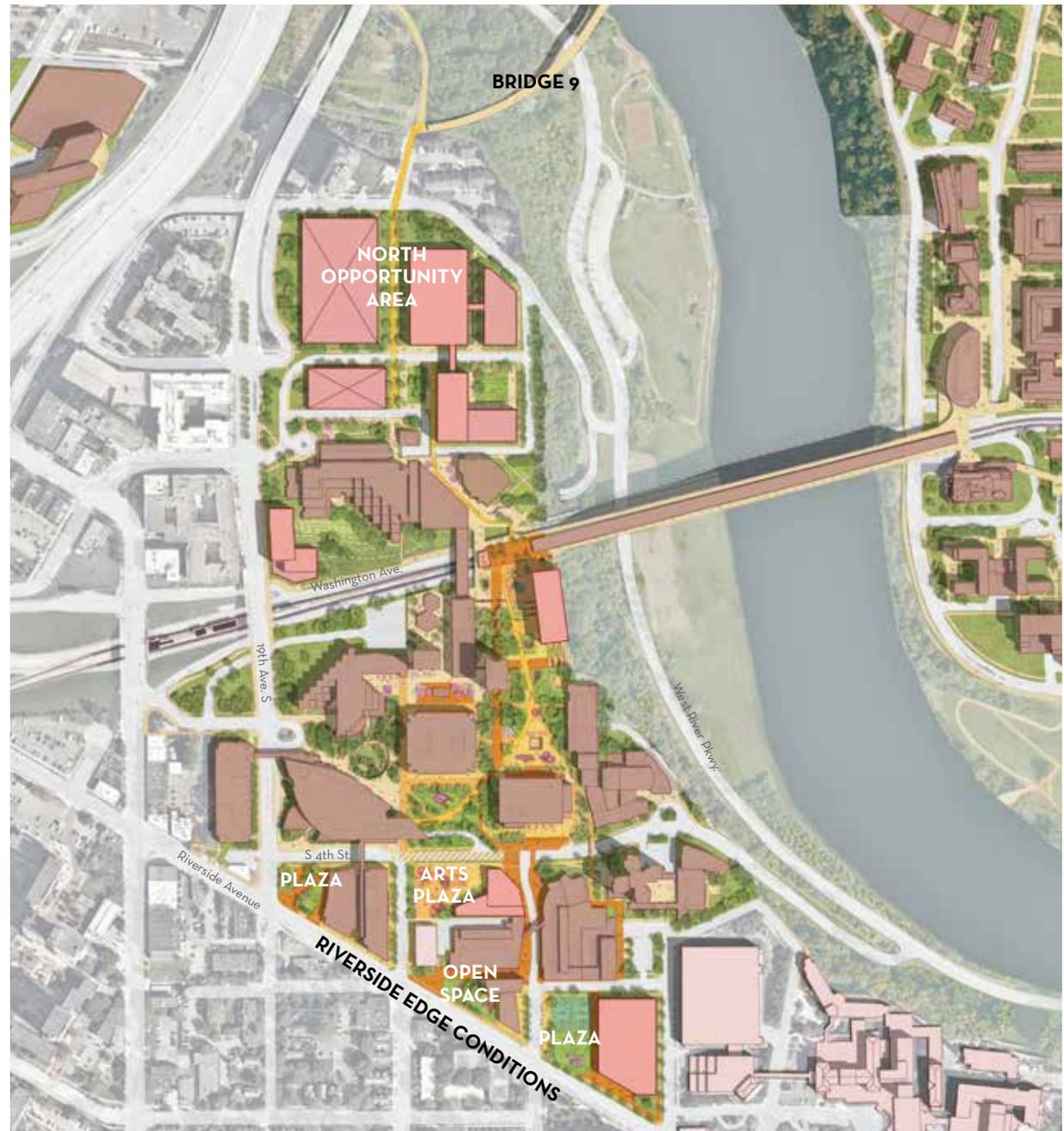
West Bank

The West Bank Plaza provides pedestrian and bicycle pathways, transit connections, gathering spaces, and planted areas.

Arts Plaza - Long-term improvements to the public realm include a new arts plaza at the location of the existing 21st Avenue Ramp. A site for a replacement ramp is identified on Riverside Avenue campus edge. The idea is to create a “center” for the arts district where outdoor programming and events can be held in support of the performing and visual arts. A new academic building on the site provides future expansion capacity for the arts programs.

North Opportunity Area - Other recommendations include creating an accessible route connecting the plaza level to ground level, north of Andersen Library and Willey Hall. This route extends the public realm of the plaza, linking potential development and sports facilities. This area is designated for long-term development, which includes future academic, structured parking, and land for recreational uses. The intent is to provide a ramping system that takes the circulation to ground level and provides connections northward to the Bridge 9 bike route.

Riverside Avenue Edge Conditions - Landscape and public realm improvements are recommended along the Riverside Avenue edge with the intent of engaging the community in a more meaningful manner. Proposed interventions could include: 1) a food court plaza, events lawn, and sports park (the site of the proposed parking ramp at the corner of 21st and Riverside); 2) a sculpture park west of Barbara Barker Center for Dance; and 3) the existing plaza at the corner of 19th and Riverside.



West Bank



East Bank - West of Harvard Street SE

East Bank

The design concepts presented here are meant to illustrate the Campus Plan's principles. The final design of future facilities will depend on future project scoping.

The Knoll - The origins of the campus can be traced to the Knoll area. The relationship between buildings and landscapes is essential to the character of the Knoll. Selective demolitions will support this iconic character, which can create opportunities for more relevant, active uses.

Northrop Mall - The Mall shapes the memorable center of the East Bank and organizes buildings and circulation north to south. Originally envisioned as a connection from the campus to the Mississippi River, Northrop Mall is divided into two areas: the area north of Washington Avenue SE; and the area south of Washington Avenue SE. Recent improvements south of Coffman Memorial Union include the Riverbend Plaza and the monumental stairs leading down to East River Parkway.

Jones-Folwell Quad - The proposed demolition of Williamson provides the opportunity to reimagine the quad defined by Folwell Hall, 10 Church, Nolte Center, and Jones Hall. Conceptually, the quad consists of two spaces: a new, multi-modal hub and a pavilion. Together, these spaces can define the quad and maintain vertical connections to delivery and pedestrian routes in the Gopher Way that connect to Williamson. Additionally, the symmetry of major buildings, such as Folwell, can inform the placement of new walkways and planting patterns.

Scholars Walk - A westward extension of Scholars Walk is proposed in conjunction with the renovation of Appleby Hall, the current western terminus. Looking to the west, there may be opportunities to extend the walk and open up views of the river as part of future building and site improvements. Scholars Walk could also extend eastward in the area of Alumni Park to connect with the proposed East Gateway Development.

Gateway Plaza - The Plaza provides much needed green and open spaces on the east side of campus. Proposed changes on Oak Street and the future East Gateway development will be coordinated.

Huntington Bank Stadium & Biomedical Discovery District (BDD) - Public realm improvements in the Stadium / BDD area focus on 6th Street SE, a U of M roadway, and the creation of new open spaces and plazas surrounding the stadium. As future development occurs, the intent is to provide open spaces and plazas for day-to-day use, and game day events and activities.

New open spaces include the “north green”, a linear landscape defined by the stadium and proposed BDD facilities, and the south plaza, an open space replacing the existing University Office plaza building. The intent of both open spaces is to provide a location where tents and other temporary structures can be utilized for the 6-8 home games hosted by the University each year and associated game day events.

Health Sciences District - The Campus Plan restores the grid pattern in the Health Sciences district, which has been disrupted by buildings and parking structures over time. The intent is to utilize the city grid to optimize circulation and provide landscaped corridors along all east-west and north-south streets in the Health Sciences district.

While improvements are proposed along all streets, the following provides an overview of the corridors subject to the greatest transformation:



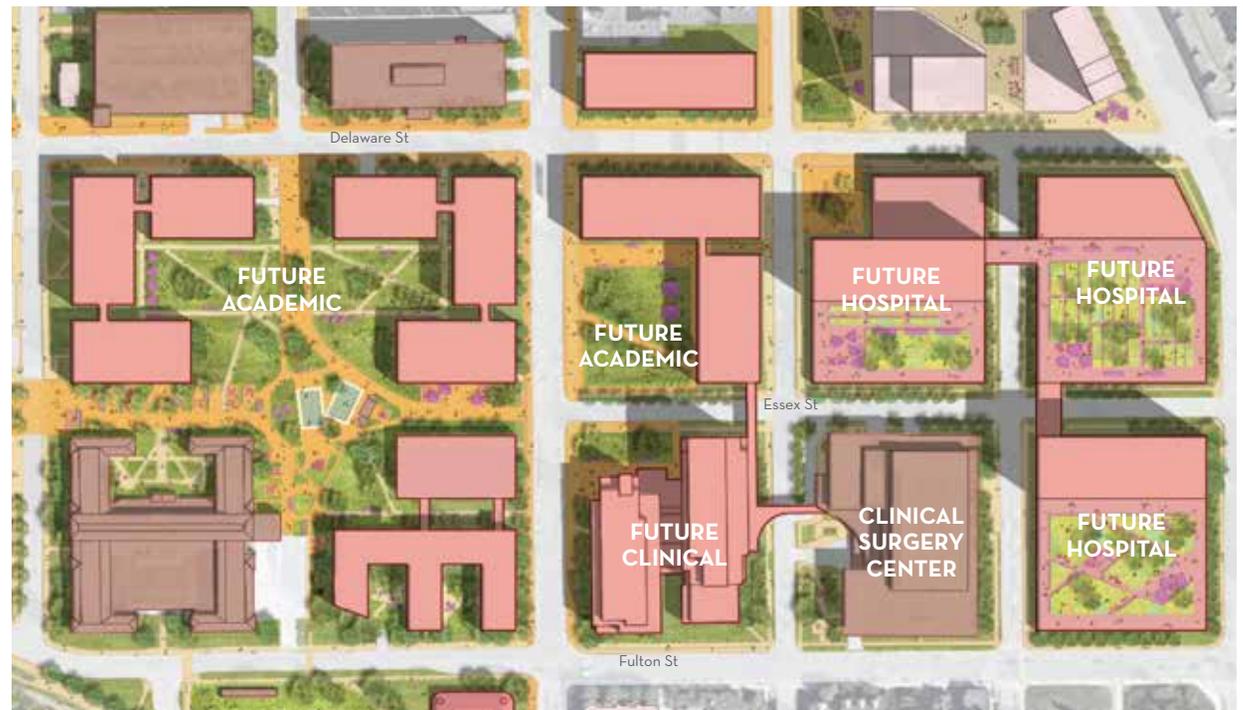
East Bank - East of Harvard St SE

Church Street: This north-south pedestrian and service corridor is reimagined in the Campus Plan to connect University Avenue to the East River Parkway Level. The recommendations build on the recent hardscape and accessibility improvements made north of Washington Avenue SE. The Campus Plan extends these improvements southward and coordinates them with the redevelopment of the Mayo, Boynton, and other sites. The opening up of the Church St. and Essex St. intersection provides the opportunity to create an accessible connection to East River Parkway and offer views of the Mississippi River.

River Overlook: The demolition of buildings at the intersection of Church and Essex will provide the opportunity to create a river overlook and an accessible route down the bluff from the elevation of Church and Essex to East River Parkway. The overlook is envisioned as a landscaped area that features accessible paths, ADA compliant slopes, and seating with viewing areas of the river. The sweeping vision for the River Overlook also offers the opportunity to integrate land acknowledgment markers and monuments with views of the Mississippi River, which symbolically links the river – an important cultural and historical area for the indigenous population – to the present.

Delaware Street: Future redevelopment and demolition along Delaware Street provides the opportunity to create a renewed east-west route, which can restore the city grid. Delaware St. is reimagined as a complete street connecting the existing Health Science facilities in the Moos Towers to new academic, research, and clinical facilities in the Health Science district to the east. A renewed street design will include bike and pedestrian routes on the north side of the street, and pedestrian routes on the south. It will include street trees and layered plantings to improve the pedestrian experience of moving along the street.

Essex Street: Future redevelopment will enable the Essex Street corridor to extend from Church Street eastward to Huron Boulevard. Envisioned as a critical pathway to connect Church to Oak, Essex Street will link proposed housing redevelopment to the core of the campus and will intersect with the River Overlook. West of Harvard, the Essex corridor is envisioned as a space reserved only for pedestrians, and service and emergency vehicles.



East Bank - East of Harvard St SE, Health Sciences District

St. Paul

The public realm of the St. Paul campus consists of a series of landscape and circulation spines that build upon the generous open space structure of the campus, which includes three, north-south corridors:

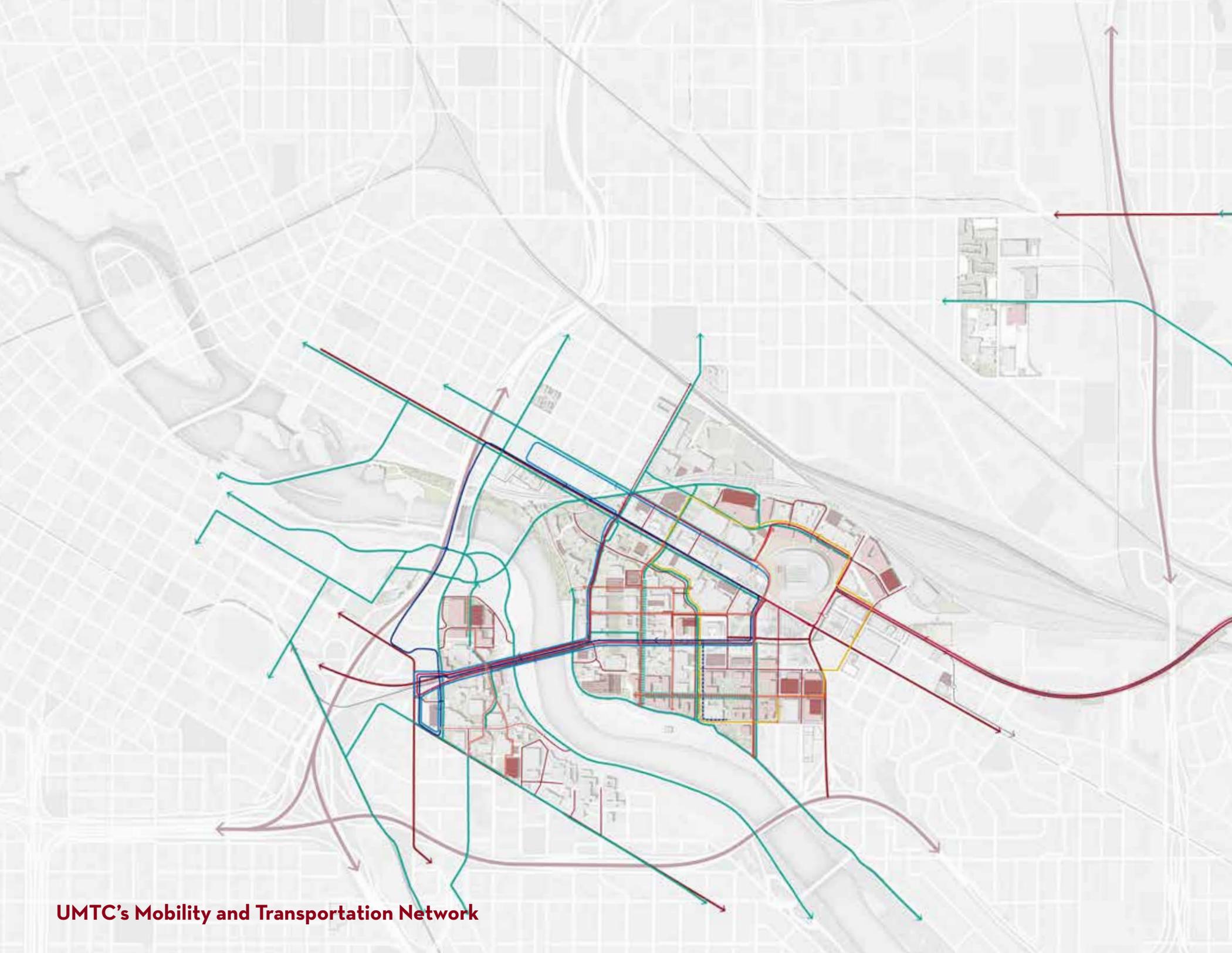
- The Cleveland Avenue **community spine** links the Bell Museum to The Lawn, and a potential community outreach pavilion located at the northeast corner of Cleveland Ave and Commonwealth Ave.
- The **research spine** follows Gortner Avenue extending from Larpenteur to Commonwealth. New gateway features and an enhanced streetscape are imagined along this corridor.
- The central **academic spine** consists of two, parallel pedestrian routes to provide north-south connectivity between the Veterinary Medicine Complex towards the south and research areas north of Buford Avenue. The idea is to enliven the central spine as an arts walk by including sculpture and amenities related to the mission of the St. Paul campus.

St. Paul Public Realm Framework – These snapshots highlight potential public realm changes at the Buford Avenue Civic Spine and Buford Circle (right) and The Lawn and Commonwealth Terrace Cooperative (left).

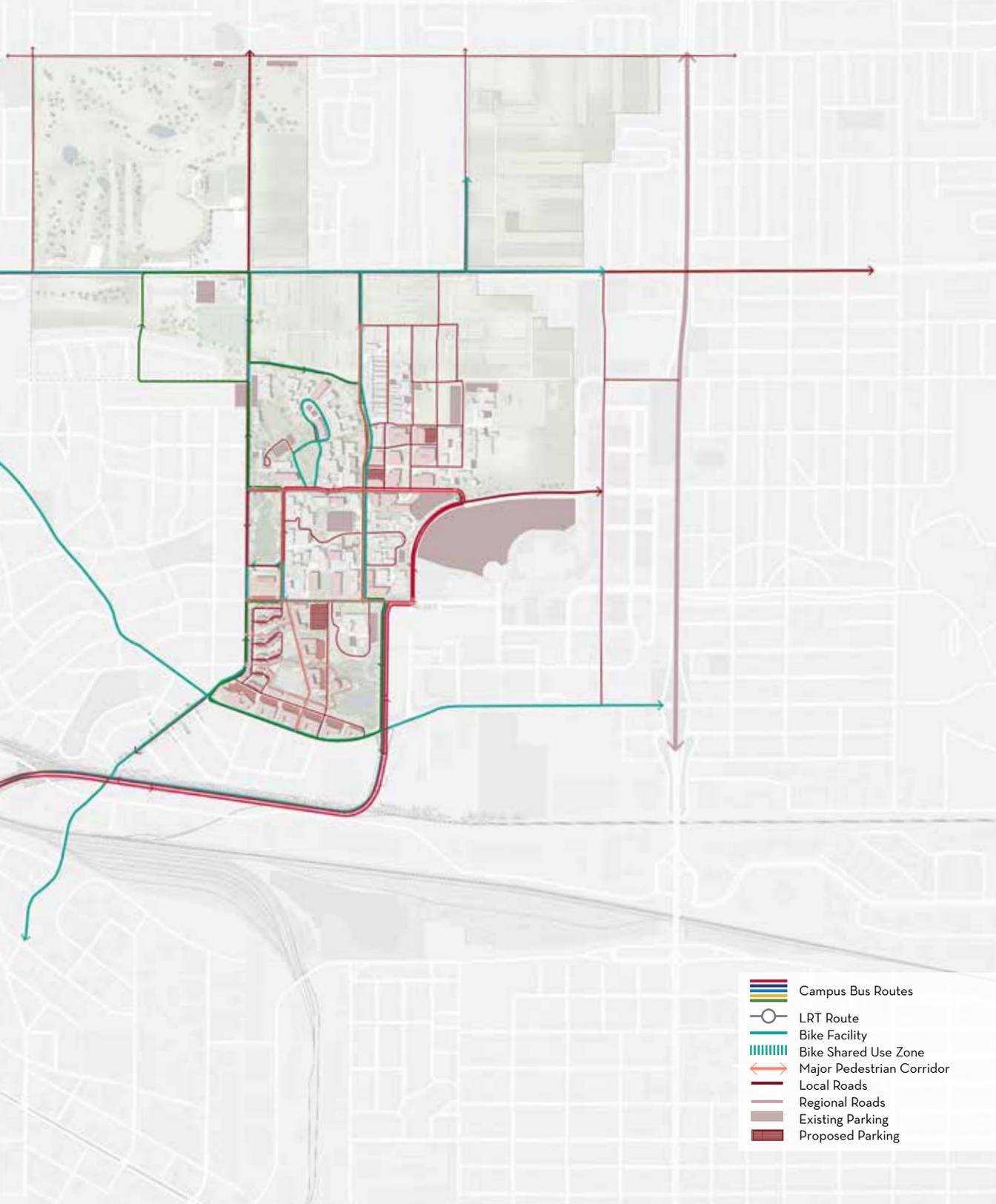




- The eastern pathway of the central spine alignment connects the Veterinary Medicine Complex with McNeal Hall. It follows existing pedestrian routes and, where needed, moves through buildings to facilitate north-to-south and exterior-to-interior movement. It includes concepts for moving north to south through the Veterinary Medicine Complex and through the Magrath Library. In both instances, interior reconfiguration of the buildings will accommodate circulation and introduce new spaces in response to objectives related to academic, research, and collaboration.
- The western pathway of the academic spine connects the Bell Museum and the St. Paul Gymnasium to Como Avenue. It is primarily an exterior route with one internal segment passing through the Animal Science/Veterinary Medicine Building.
- Buford Avenue, the main east-west route at the midpoint of the campus, is reimagined as a main street or civic spine of the campus featuring new development and streetscape improvements. The Buford Avenue civic spine will support vehicle, transit, bicycle, and pedestrian traffic. Its location at the midpoint of campus, when combined with a different physical character, will enhance the pedestrian experience and unify the campus. It connects the Cleveland Avenue gateway to the Bio-Tech District on the east side of campus, and will remain as the key transit corridor through the campus. An enhanced transit node near the central spine (Magrath Library/McNeal Hall area) will provide passenger waiting and student amenity spaces.



UMTC's Mobility and Transportation Network



Mobility Framework

The Mobility Framework integrates and coordinates all modes of movement on the Twin Cities campus including accessible pathways, pedestrian routes, and bicycle, transit, and vehicular networks. While some areas of the Twin Cities campus are well served by transportation choices, other areas are negatively affected by inconvenient streets and paths, depending on how people choose to navigate the campus.

The primary mobility challenges affecting the campus include: high vehicle use and congestion in specific locations; competition for street space and time of day for travel; managing for safe facilities and operations for all modes of travel; and the need for continued investment in the reconstruction and regular upkeep of connecting segments in the Gopher Way network, pathways, and campus streets.

The Mobility Framework promotes multi-modal connectivity and features mobility and transit hubs. At the campus level, continued enhancement of pathway and bicycle networks is critical to improving the overall transit experience. Since access to information is an important feature of a predictable travel experience, transit schedules and other real-time technologies are essential for ensuring better commutes in and around campus. The GopherTrip mobile app currently provides real-time information about U of M transit.

In support of the sustainability goals of the University, the overarching mobility goal is to continue decreasing greenhouse gas emissions from transportation-related uses and infrastructure. This has a direct relationship on mode of travel, with biking and pedestrian modes holding great potential. The future Southwest LRT and the ELine on University Avenue will support goals to decrease emissions. Finally, reduced use of vehicles powered by fossil fuels will contribute robustly to the campus effort to reduce its climate footprint.

Pedestrian Pathway Network

The Twin Cities campus has approximately 46 miles of pedestrian pathways (sidewalks and plazas), and 6 miles of Gopher Way tunnels and skyways. This is the campus's primary mobility network, facilitating a significant number of trips each day.

While the University's pathway system generally serves all campus destinations, some accessibility concerns exist in the form of stairs or steep slopes that can make it difficult for those with different mobility needs. The Mobility Framework plan supports the goal of establishing an accessible campus, and highlights opportunities for creating a more comprehensive pathway network over time. To ensure ease of access by a variety of users, recommendations for the improvement of the University's pathway network includes adherence to the criteria of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), and the principles of universal design.

Additionally, with a campus that spans over 1,290 acres and over 40 miles of pathways, wayfinding is imperative in facilitating movement around campus for daily users, new students, and visitors alike. Improvements to the wayfinding system on campus should provide intuitive instructions between parking facilities, major campus destinations, and entrances to the Gopher Way, to name a few.

Ongoing capital improvement programs to make campus safer and easier to navigate include pavement repair and replacement, campus-wide wayfinding signage renewal, and Gopher Way extensions in coordination with major building projects. Additionally, online campus maps provide Safe Walking Resources and other information for students, faculty, staff, and visitors. The University continues to make investments in infrastructure to support safe movement around campus and also includes lighting and emergency call services (blue light kiosks)



Pathway Network and Gopher Way Connectivity - These diagrams suggest potential improvements for Gopher Way, which would require further exploration, starting with a detailed study of existing conditions and a gaps analysis.



Gopher Way Connectivity

The Gopher Way is a unique and well-utilized component of the campus mobility system that connects pedestrians to key buildings, and facilitates delivery services around the campus. This weather-protected network is especially useful in providing safe connections and an improved pedestrian experience, particularly during the winter months. However, the aging system can be difficult to navigate due to a lack of consistent wayfinding, accessibility barriers, and missing connections that, if present, would extend the Gopher Way's utility and reach.

A future Gopher Way comprehensive plan is recommended with the goal of improving the accessibility, wayfinding, and connectivity of the network. This comprehensive study of the system should include a gap analysis, and identify short- and long-term improvements to ensure the system remains viable for the next several decades. Since many Gopher Way segments span non-University roadways, an important consideration must be the jurisdiction of right-of-ways. The adjacent diagrams suggests potential Gopher Way extensions for further study.

Major extensions of new tunnels and skyways generally are associated with major capital building projects. However, some improvements, such as the addition of wayfinding signage, should be pursued in the very near term in locations where planning is already underway.

Mobility Hubs

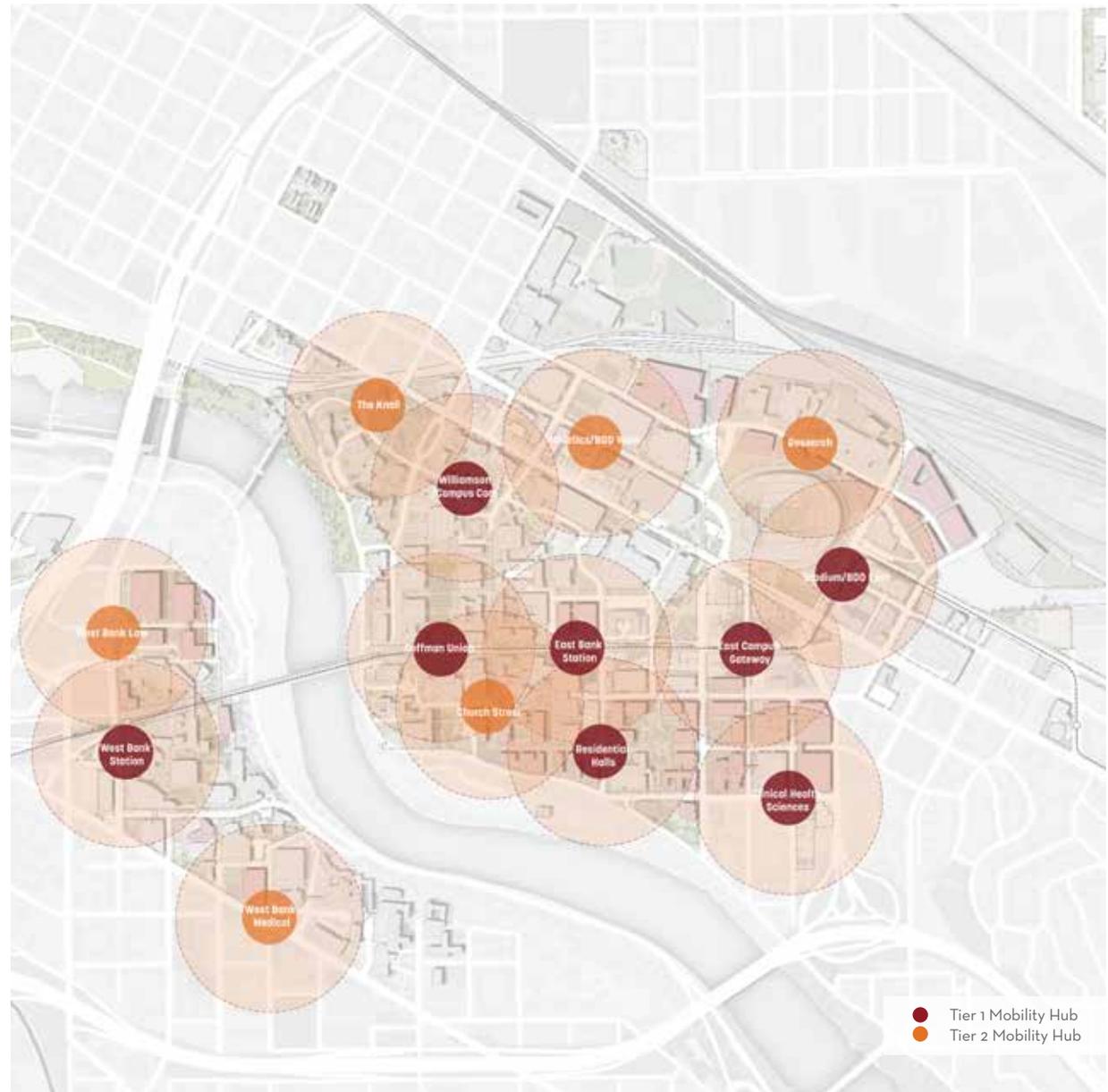
To improve the transit user experience, mobility hubs are proposed on each campus. Mobility hubs are designated locations that support transition between travel modes, facilitating safer and easier connections to main arrival point on campus. They can also serve as intermediate travel centers to and from the University and provide convenient access to key amenities offered in West Bank, East Bank, and St. Paul.

The Campus Plan promotes partnership between the University and regional transit providers and other partners to develop a system of mobility hubs that facilitate connections on campus and link to the larger regional transportation system through a “tiered” system – mobility hubs that can serve different locations with varying transportation needs.

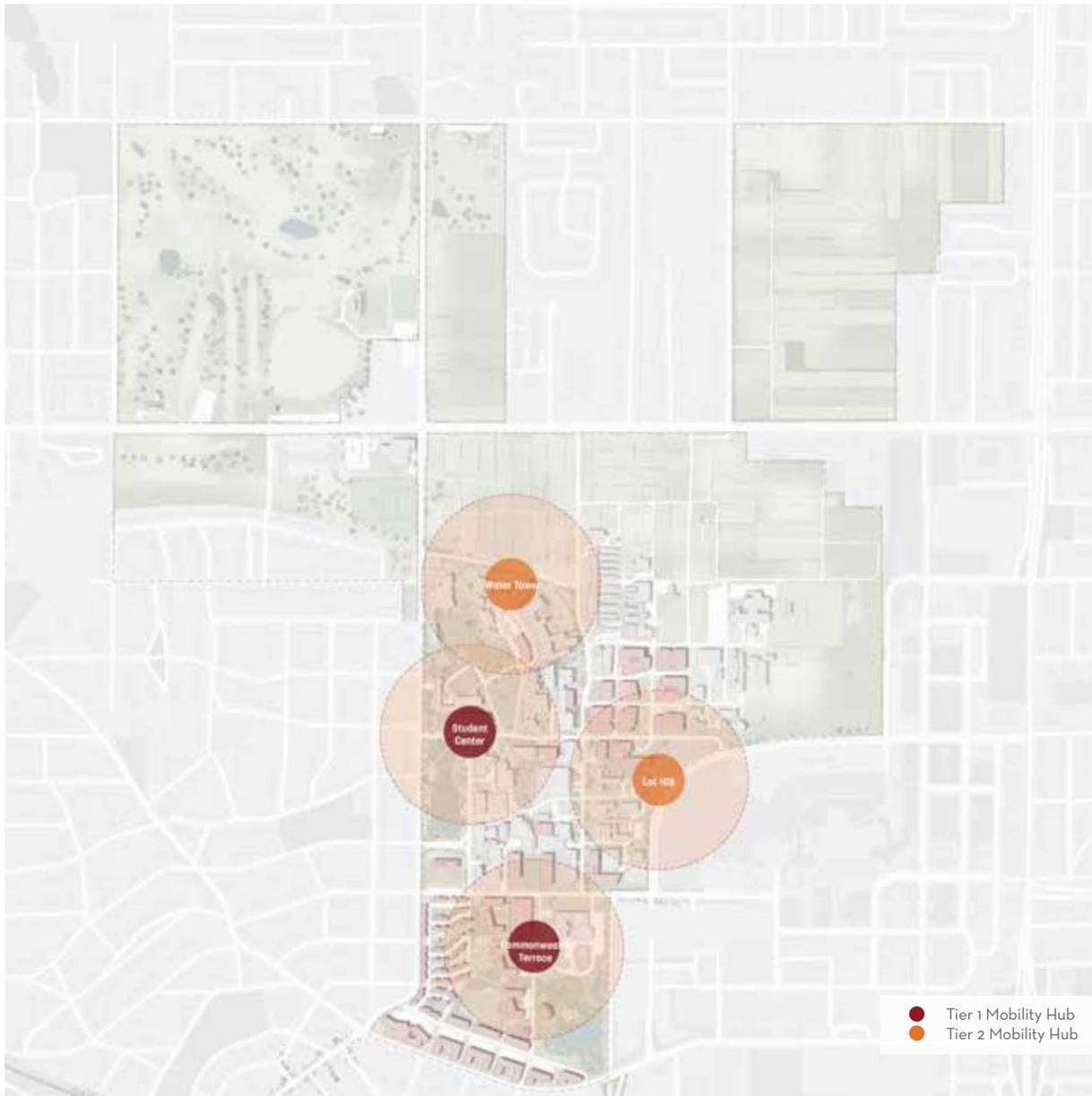
Tier 1 Hubs may provide indoor waiting areas or other placemaking opportunities to incentivize their use and promote user comfort. Tier 2 Hubs may not provide formal seating or waiting areas, but should accommodate a variety of shared mobility modes, bicycle parking, and wayfinding.

Potential mobility hubs could be explored at the following locations:

- Washington Avenue SE – a new transit lounge, waiting area, and amenity space is recommended in the underground bookstore of Coffman Memorial Union where access is directly possible.
- Anderson Hall – the redeveloped Anderson Hall includes recommendations for a transit hub at the lower plaza level with improved connections to West Bank destinations and amenities to improve the experience of transit users.
- St. Paul Commons – a transit hub is recommended in coordination with the proposed renewal of the St. Paul Student Center.



Mobility Hubs – These diagrams suggest potential locations for mobility hubs across UMTC. Further study is needed to identify the ideal locations, the appropriate mix of transportation modes and providers at each location, and the scale of potential mobility hubs.



Micromobility

Emerging transportation technologies, such as ride-hailing services (e.g. Uber and Lyft) and shared mobility systems (e.g. bike sharing and e-scooters) provide more flexible commuting options than traditional transit services and create new and different demands for curb spaces. These services can also create conflict with other vehicles, bicyclists, or pedestrians through illegal parking when loading or unloading passengers, or through sidewalk clutter, as seen by dockless shared mobility systems.

In response to emerging micromobility patterns and the conflicts created by them, mobility hubs could serve as designated locations for transportation network companies. By implementing dedicated pick-up/drop-off zones through geo-fencing, the University can better manage curbside demand and conflicts, and ensure a safe environment that accommodates users across transportation modes. Additionally, the concept of Mobility-as-a-Service (MaaS) allows users to plan, book and pay for multiple types of mobility services in a single location.

Campus staff will develop curbside management strategies and manage operations of these services, and work in coordination with adjacent municipalities to ensure consistency.

Further study of potential mobility hubs is needed to identify appropriate locations, mix of transportation modes and providers, and the scale of future facilities. Major capital building projects can be leveraged to include mobility improvements.

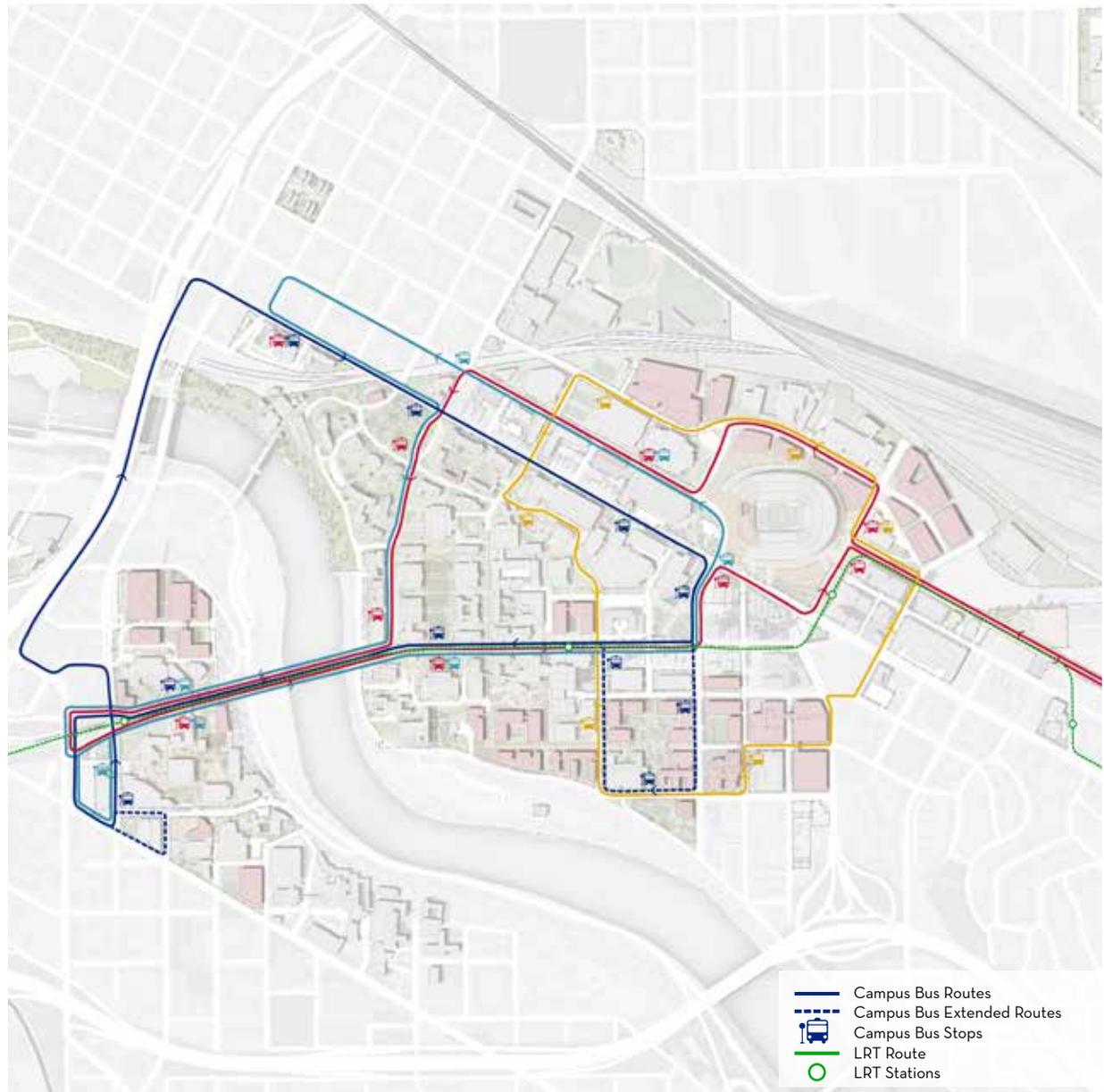
Public Transportation

The Twin Cities campus is fortunate to be served by a far-reaching and high-frequency transit service. Metro Transit is the primary operator, with smaller transit operators (SW Transit, MN Valley, etc) servicing other parts of the metropolitan area, covering limited geographies but highly valued direct express service to campus.

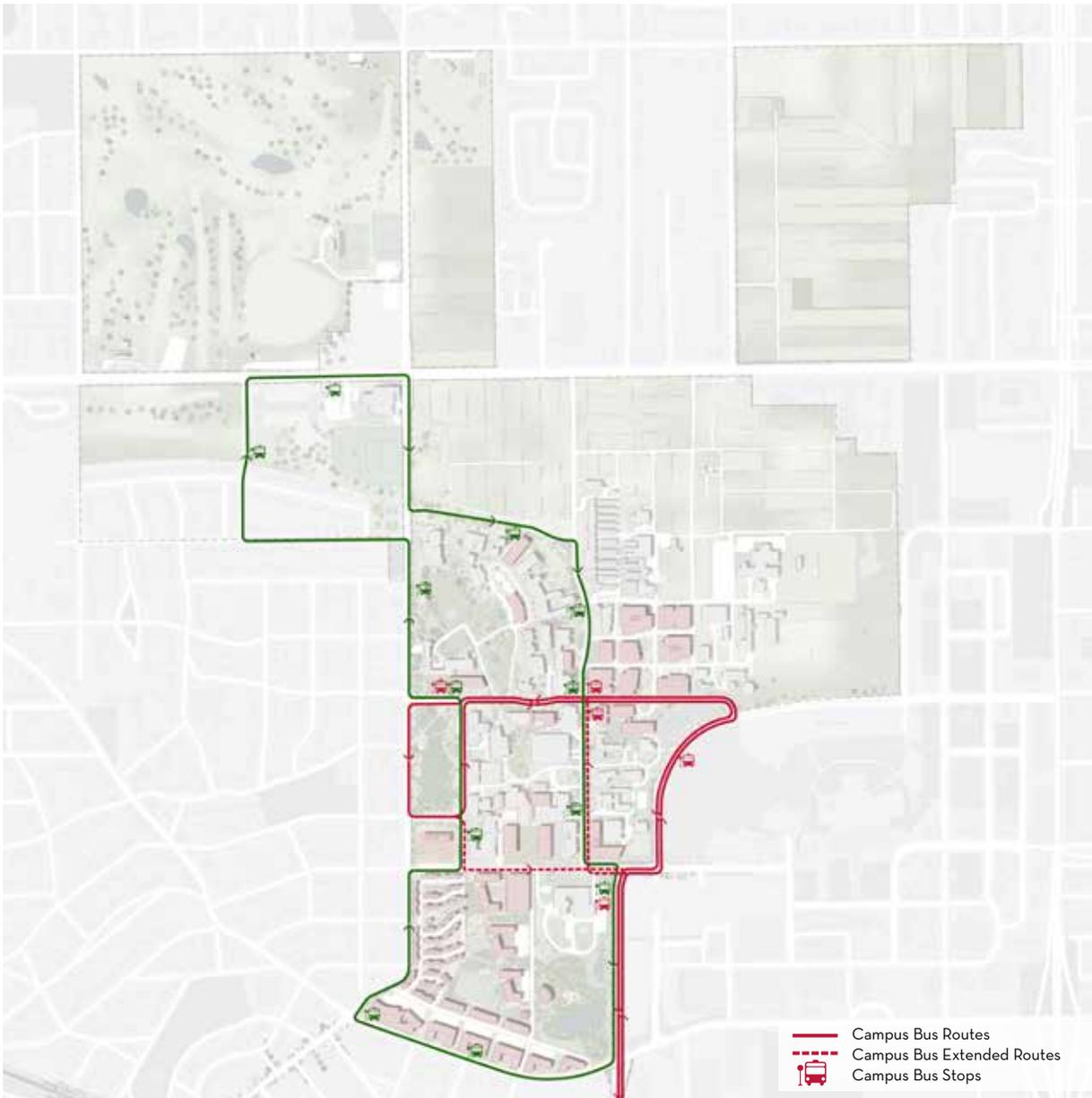
Public transit is a popular travel mode to and from campus, with approximately 40% of faculty and 23-32% of students and staff commuting via transit. Since opening in 2014, the METRO Green Line LRT has seen increased ridership every year, and its four stops on campus are the transit stations with the highest ridership. Highly subsidized transit passes for students have contributed to this trend, as well as recent development, particularly along the Washington Avenue corridor.

For those with different mobility needs, the University's Paratransit Service and Metro Transit's Metro Mobility program provide curb-to-curb transportation services around campus. In 2019 the University's Paratransit Service provided 8,500 trips with over 32,000 passenger service miles.

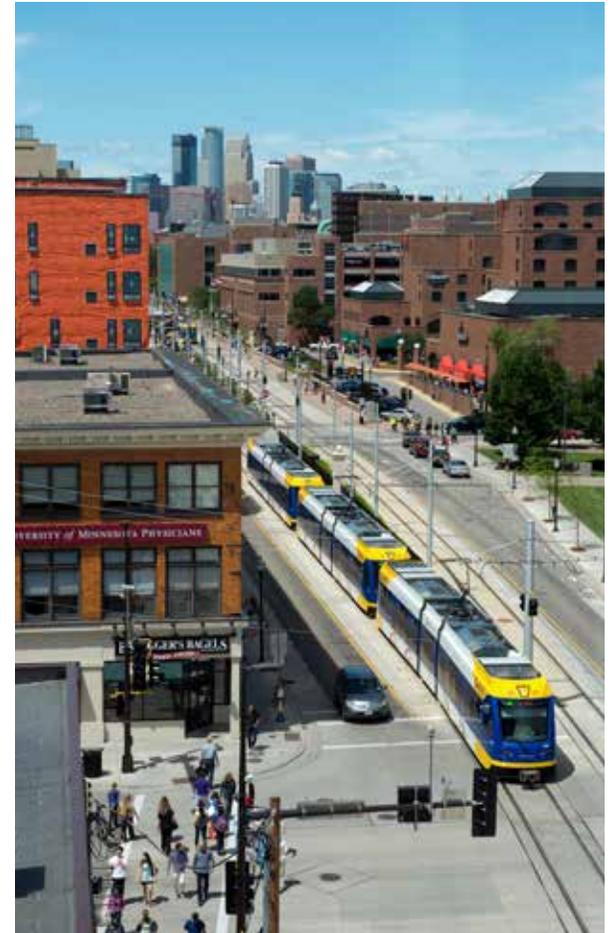
The University can continue to increase transit ridership through incentives - reduced passes, parking pricing adjustments, enhanced last-mile connections - and through design interventions that enhance the passenger experience, such as waiting areas that prioritize safety and comfort.



Existing U of M Transit Service & METRO Green Line LRT



Existing U of M Transit Service



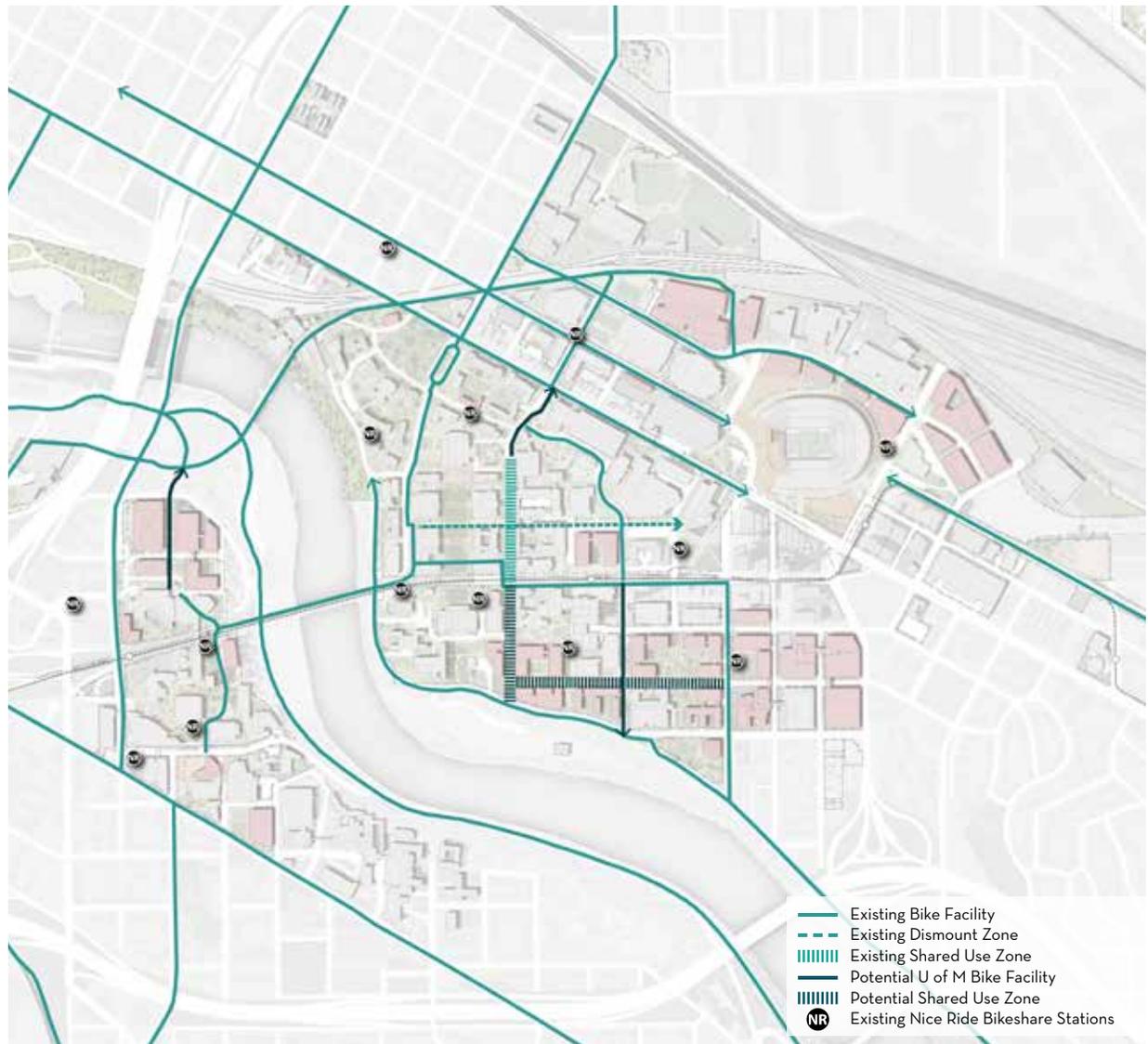
The METRO Green Line LRT on Washington Ave

Bicycle Network

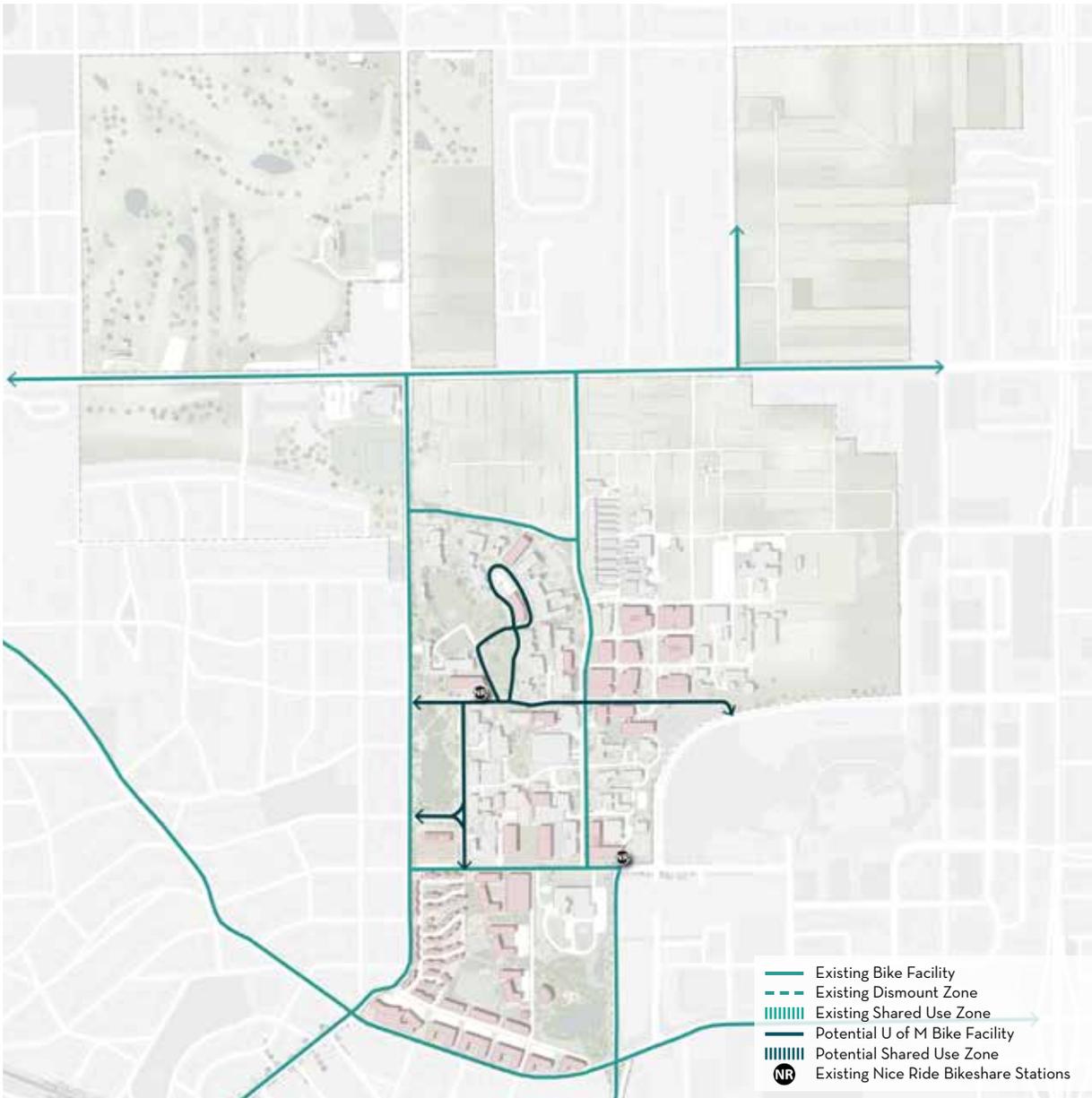
The Twin Cities campus has an extensive network of bicycle facilities, including those maintained by the University, and those maintained as part of the regional roadway network. The network comprises approximately 43 miles of dedicated bike lanes and 11 miles of connecting routes, and includes off-street and on-street paths. Some segments are among the most heavily used bicycling facilities in the state, for example 15th Avenue SE.

While approximately 25% of students, faculty, and staff use bikes to travel to and from campus, only about 10% use bikes to get around while on campus. Neighboring cities, such as Minneapolis, have committed to a concerted focus on making streets safer, part of a nationwide movement to design, build, and monitor street conditions to reduce accidents, injuries, and deaths. Over the last five years, cyclists and pedestrians coming to the Minneapolis and St. Paul locations have experienced better protected pathway and bike facility options on multiple routes. More facilities like this are planned in the near future to improve conditions for non-drivers traveling on city and county streets to get to campus. To complement these efforts, high-traffic areas on campus - where multiple modes of travel share space - will continue to be designed for the safety and convenience of all users.

As a result, the Campus Plan recommends design strategies and interventions that effectively communicate the separation of modes, or where appropriate the mixing of modes, maintain safe and comfortable connections around campus and to the surrounding neighborhoods, and provide high quality bike parking options on campus.



Bicycle Network - This diagram shows existing bicycle facilities operated by the University and by external partners, such as the City of Minneapolis, and suggests potential system improvements that require further exploration and study.



Dedicated bicycle facilities should be provided where feasible. In other areas, shared-use facilities may be appropriate.

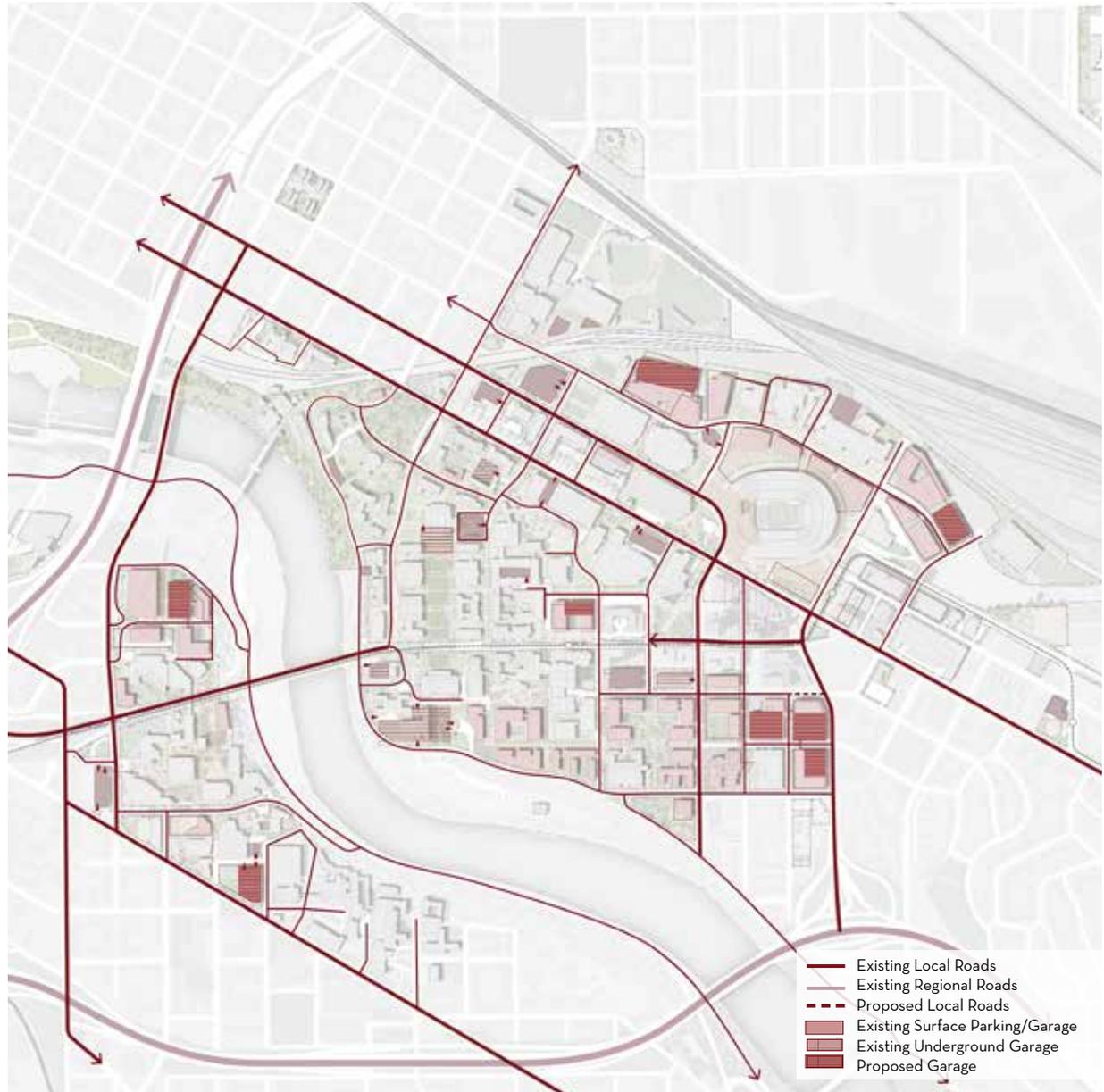
Vehicular Circulation

The Twin Cities campus is well served by a network of interstate highways that provide direct access between the campus, surrounding communities, and the region. In recent years, traffic volume around the University has declined which may, in part, be due to the introduction of the METRO Green Line on University Avenue in 2014. However, there are still key roads that currently operate near or at capacity, and witness congestion during peak hours. Future development around the campus is likely to also have an effect on traffic volumes.

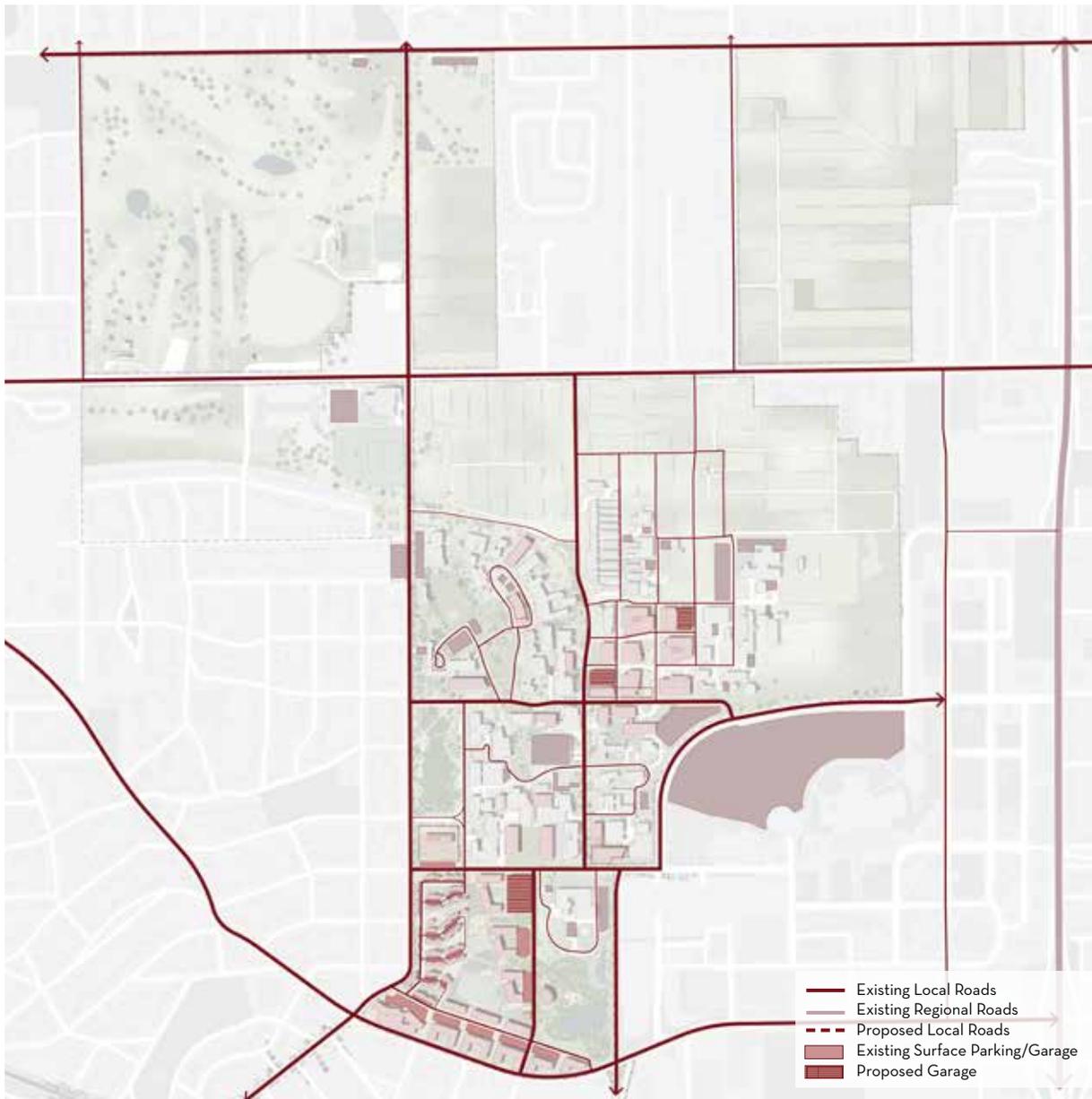
It is important to note that many of the roads within and around campus are not controlled by the University. As a result, the University must continue to cultivate good working partnerships and collaboration with local cities, counties, and the state in order to respond to the growing and dynamic transportation needs of the campus.

The Campus Plan recommends a number of strategies to address vehicular access and circulation, including the development of a street hierarchy system, reestablishing a street grid to better facilitate pedestrian, active transportation, and vehicular traffic, and traffic studies in advance of future developments on campus.

The University will continue to prioritize pedestrian and bicycle circulation over single-occupancy vehicles, and continue to provide the majority of vehicle parking outside of the campus core.



Vehicle Circulation & Parking Facilities - These diagrams highlight key roadways on and adjacent to campus, and parking facilities. The suggested future roadway connections and parking facilities - which would be integrated with major capital building projects on campus - are intended for further exploration and study to better understand needs, design contexts, and potential phasing strategies.



Parking Demand and Management

The University employs a “right-sized” approach to efficiently manage its parking supply. The Parking and Transportation Services Department manages 18 structured parking facilities and 135 surface lots across the Twin Cities campus, totaling over 20,000 parking spaces. Based on data collected during Fall '19, roughly 79% of campus parking spaces are occupied during peak occupancy on a daily basis. Notably, a percentage of the parking spaces owned by the University are also used by employees, staff, visitors, and patients of the hospital and clinics, which creates another level of demand even when the University is not in session.

Naturally, in 2020 and 2021, COVID-19 disrupted prevailing trends, patterns, and demands associated with parking. As demand slowly begins to return to pre-pandemic levels, it is likely that there will be long-term effects on pre-pandemic trends and patterns. These may include fully remote and/or hybrid learning and working, or a decrease in carpooling and increase in single-occupancy commuters.

As the University continues to grow and develop, the careful monitoring of internal and external trends will be critical in responding to parking demands in real time. These strategies should include partnership with the public and private sectors, phased parking plans, and the reduction of single-occupancy vehicles where appropriate.

Where the Campus Plan calls for demolition of existing parking structures, for example in the Health Sciences district, new building projects may include structured parking to maintain adequate supply.

Sustainability Framework

A holistic approach is required to guide the sustainable evolution of an urban campus as large as the Twin Cities campus. This approach should not only consider the buildings and energy sources on campus, but also operational practices, land areas, and the natural systems within which the campus functions. To achieve its sustainability goals, the University must continue to embrace new technologies and adapt its practices even while continuing to steward legacy systems.

Achieving net-zero carbon goals is extremely challenging for any facility in this region's cold climate, but even more so for the energy intensive research campus that is UMTC. As noted in the Regents' Sustainability and Energy Efficiency policy, the goal of carbon neutrality demands:

“...continuous effort [to integrate] environmental, social, and economic goals through design, planning, and operational organization to meet current needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. Sustainability requires the collective actions of the University community and shall be guided by the balanced use of all resources, within budgetary constraints. The University is committed to incorporating sustainability into its teaching, research, and outreach, and the operations that support them.” – [*Board of Regents Policy: Sustainability and Energy Efficiency \(July 9, 2004\)*](#)

A key strategy to accomplish this ambitious goal is to ensure that early scoping on capital projects remains open to emerging technologies, and allocates budgets to include investments in sustainability measures as essential, not optional, project components.

The Campus Plan discusses sustainability issues at a strategic, high level, and focuses primarily on how these issues apply to the physical campus. Furthermore, the plan acknowledges that additional policy tools to support sustainable thinking and actions in much greater detail are forthcoming in the anticipated update to the Twin Cities Climate Action Plan and Twin Cities Utilities Energy Master Plan. More explanation of the objectives of each planning effort is provided below.

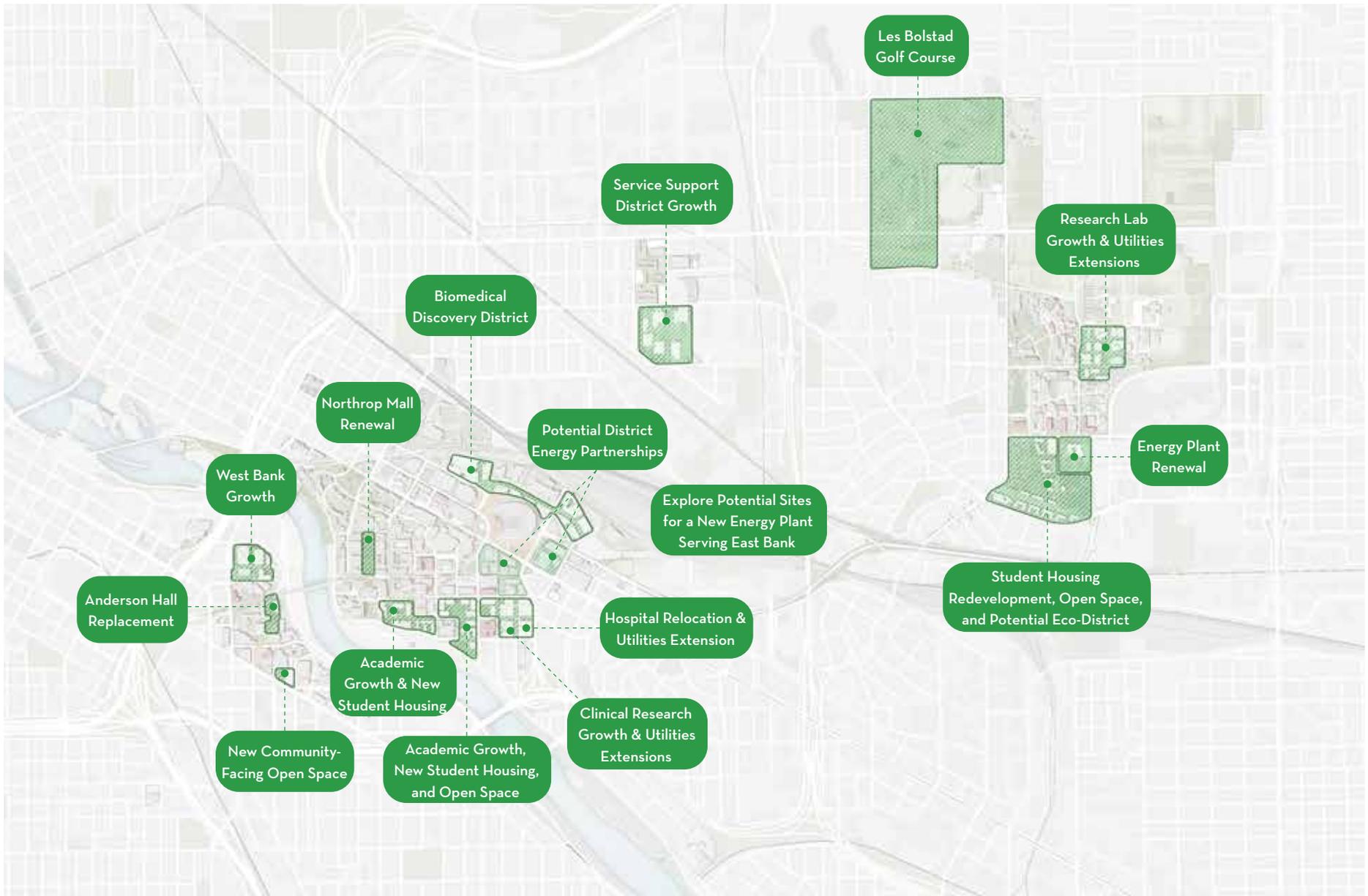
For the purpose of preliminary guidance, this sustainability framework discusses urban development and redevelopment; management of natural resources including stormwater, land cover, and air quality; and mobility through the lens of net-zero emissions goals consistent with the University's signature in 2008 of the American College and University Presidents' Second Nature Climate Commitment and with MPact 2025.

The Campus Plan, the Climate Action Plan, and the Utilities Energy Master Plan

This Campus Plan envisions both reinvestment in the existing campus and growth in new areas. It recommends types of activity and intensity of use, defines areas that will remain as open spaces and corridors, and guides decisions about managing campus design, construction, and impacts to existing resource systems.

The Climate Action Plan will affirm specific sustainability goals and identify strategies so that the University may achieve its commitment as described in the 2011 Climate Action Plan.

The Utilities Energy Master Plan will provide a detailed analysis of anticipated future energy demand compared with existing capacities and will recommend options for future infrastructure systems and energy sources to support campus operations while meeting the Climate Action Plan's commitments.



Opportunities for Sustainable Interventions - Areas of major anticipated campus growth or renewal present opportunities to implement district strategies, functional landscapes, renewable energy sources, and new generating facilities to meet campus energy demands. These will be explored in a forthcoming Utilities Energy Master Plan and a Climate Action Plan.

Climate Action Planning

The third commitment of MPact 2025, known as “MNtersections”, establishes the goal of building a fully sustainable future, which has been a longstanding aim of the University. The Campus Plan supports this commitment and includes recommendations to inform the forthcoming update of the Twin Cities Climate Action Plan.

The scope of the Climate Action Plan will consider the University’s comprehensive efforts – from design and operations of buildings, to energy supply and use patterns, to commuting patterns of University employees and students, to the nature and performance of the University’s vehicle fleet. It will address actions at multiple scales and the result will produce two fundamental components:

1. priorities and principles for reducing greenhouse gas emissions, including specific targets based on climate science and multi-factor modeling analysis; and,
2. strategies to achieve reduced emissions goals that rely on adaptive and resilient actions (capital, operations, mission activity).

Climate action planning is grounded in stakeholder engagement, reliance on climate science, and engineering design and operations thinking. It is guided by the values and principles of the institution and will direct a multitude of investments and activities as the plan is developed and presented for approval. With the direction of MPact 2025, the established alignment between the Campus Plan and the Climate Action Plan links these future-thinking efforts of the Twin Cities campus to the University’s Systemwide Strategic Plan.

Energy Planning

As awareness grows of the urgency surrounding climate change impacts, institutions of the scale and longevity of the University have a massive challenge of changing their complex energy sources and utilities systems. The traditional model of sourcing energy to optimize first capital cost savings and convenient access – typically focused on building power plants on the outskirts of primary campus activities and feeding buildings developed over time – is not viable given the climate commitments needed for a resilient future. While this is the legacy of the Twin Cities campus and will continue to be part of the future given the scale of these facilities, one of the more significant changes for the future of energy planning is to require that each building, site, and system achieve better performance targets and begin to contribute to net-zero carbon emissions goals.

To do this, capital project budgets must be defined to accommodate the full cost of such investments. This is an important addition to past practices and must be integrated in the earliest stages of project scoping.

The Utilities Energy Master Plan will use the campus growth envisioned in this Campus Plan and the commitments and targets in the updated Climate Action Plan as a basis to model future energy demand, explore potential new energy sources and generating facilities, expand utilities districts, and invest in infrastructure corridors and other distribution networks. The plan will also consider factors including life-cycle, first-cost economics, and land use impacts and aesthetics.

The Utilities Energy Master Plan will consider an adaptive and flexible approach to producing and consuming energy, including potential renewable sources such as solar PV, geothermal, thermal storage and waste heat recovery. The plan may include a series of centralized generation plants, and smaller scale sources and systems that support individual buildings or clusters of buildings. This combined approach will allow for the adaptive use of emergent technologies. Also, given the age, low adaptability, and capacity limitations of existing conditions in buildings, plants, and distribution networks -- as well as the sheer scale and complexity of this transformation – this approach can help the University achieve its performance, conservation, and financial targets.

Development and Redevelopment

The Campus Plan envisions significant reinvestment in existing buildings in the campus cores. However, when campus needs cannot be accommodated through renovation, critical decisions about growth must consider resilience and mitigation, land use impacts, and the capacities of supporting utilities and infrastructure (energy, water, waste, vegetation, etc.). Some of the University’s energy and utilities systems are currently at capacity under existing conditions, so growth will require significant investment in expanded and/or new systems. As projects are implemented at the site and district scale, scoping and budgets must consider not only proposed buildings and sites, but also supporting energy and utility infrastructures. The Utilities Energy Master Plan will consider this in greater detail.

As hybrid models of campus use take root, whether for teaching and learning, research, or service, it may be possible to slow the rate of new development by shifting how and where such activities occur, and focus capital investment on demolition and redevelopment of existing land and infrastructure in the campus cores. This is reinforced on the Twin Cities campus by the land cost associated with development, which has climbed significantly in recent years, especially around East Bank.

Another consideration when planning for a sustainable future campus is to balance energy demand sources through “ceilings” – or, an institutional energy budget – for demand as decisions

are made about siting and servicing campus growth through redevelopment of existing facilities. Campus buildings with high energy use intensity ratings (EUI) typically are research labs, clinical spaces, and hospitals, all of which feature prominently in the Campus Plan. Clusters of buildings with high EUIs such as these will drive acute demand and, in some cases, mandate costly energy infrastructure. Recognizing the benefits of adjacency and interactions between researchers, providers, and patients, the mix and balance of high through low energy demand uses within a proximate set of blocks may be crucial to climate resilience for the Twin Cities, particularly on the East Bank.



Natural Resources

As a large urban campus adjacent to one of the world's great river corridors, the Mississippi River, UMTC holds an equally great responsibility to steward natural resources as campus development and operations intensify.

Water

UMTC will continue to manage water resources through strategies that integrate water conservation measures in capital projects and operations, preserve surface water quality, protect groundwater from contamination or over-use, and implement water re-use systems. Domestic (potable) water is supplied to the Minneapolis campus by the City of Minneapolis, which draws from the Mississippi River, while the St. Paul campus is supplied by a University-owned groundwater well. To increase resiliency, investment is needed to build out the water distribution system in St. Paul, especially as the partnership research district is developed. The Utilities Energy Master Plan will explore water management goals and strategies in greater detail.

Stormwater

The University must build and maintain stormwater management infrastructure and vegetation on campus as a requirement of federal and state laws and regulations (e.g. the Buildings, Benchmarks, and Beyond Program (B3) and the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System). Such investments contribute to a more resilient future as the campus is anticipated to experience appreciably warmer temperatures and more frequent heavy rainfall events.

Much of the stormwater infrastructure on Twin Cities is below ground, and includes sewer pipes and other facilities that slow, store, and re-use stormwater runoff. There are several recognizable and valued

surface stormwater features as well, particularly on East Bank and St Paul. For some locations, such as at the Sarita Wetland in St Paul, increased storm events and underserved conditions may require a remedy that would commit additional land to managing water quantity and quality at peak events.

At other locations on the Twin Cities campus, a deliberate and intentional approach to integrating design and construction with other redevelopment goals has already brought improvements to managing surface water, while also improving the quality and appeal of the campus's public realm and specific open spaces. The Twin Cities campus has developed a variety of innovative and multi-purpose landscapes that incorporate stormwater management and provide functional and aesthetic value.

Finally, the impact that campus development and operation can have on natural resource systems is further managed through capital project scopes, in adherence to the requirements of SB2030, the State of Minnesota's standard for building design and construction which addresses siting, massing, site impacts, and energy use.

Land Cover

Monitoring change to land cover across the Twin Cities campus can indicate the capacity of the campus to maintain resilience over time. Impervious (paved) surfaces contribute to heat-island effect and stormwater management challenges. Heat island can increase urban temperatures several degrees above the less developed areas around them, and can affect campus communities by increasing summertime peak energy demand, air conditioning costs, air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions, heat-related illnesses and mortality, and water quality. In recent years, capital projects have increasingly sought to

minimize impervious areas by design, a strategy that will continue in areas of major campus renewal and growth such as the West Bank, the Health Sciences district on the East Bank, and the partnership Innovation District at the St. Paul campus.

Additionally, campus plantings must go beyond aesthetic appeal to function as regenerative landscapes that sequester carbon, mitigate heat island effect, and help manage stormwater runoff. The resulting maintenance of these plantings must not increase greenhouse gas emissions or create disproportionate operational costs. The Campus Plan identifies opportunities to protect and expand existing planted and natural landscapes, particularly areas of tree canopy, and continues to support resilient, regionally, and historically appropriate

plantings in areas such as the Knoll, Northrop Mall, Commonwealth Terrace Cooperative, and the Les Bolstad Golf Course opportunity site.

Air Quality

Air emissions from buildings, generators, and other sources are permitted and regulated by the State of Minnesota. As campus buildings are replaced or renewed in accordance to SB2030 guidelines, and as major capital investments are made in alternative energy sources, net emissions will continue to decrease. Vehicle emissions also are a major source of air quality issues for the urban campus, so the University will continue to invest in infrastructure and programs that encourage individual decisions to use lower-impact transportation options.



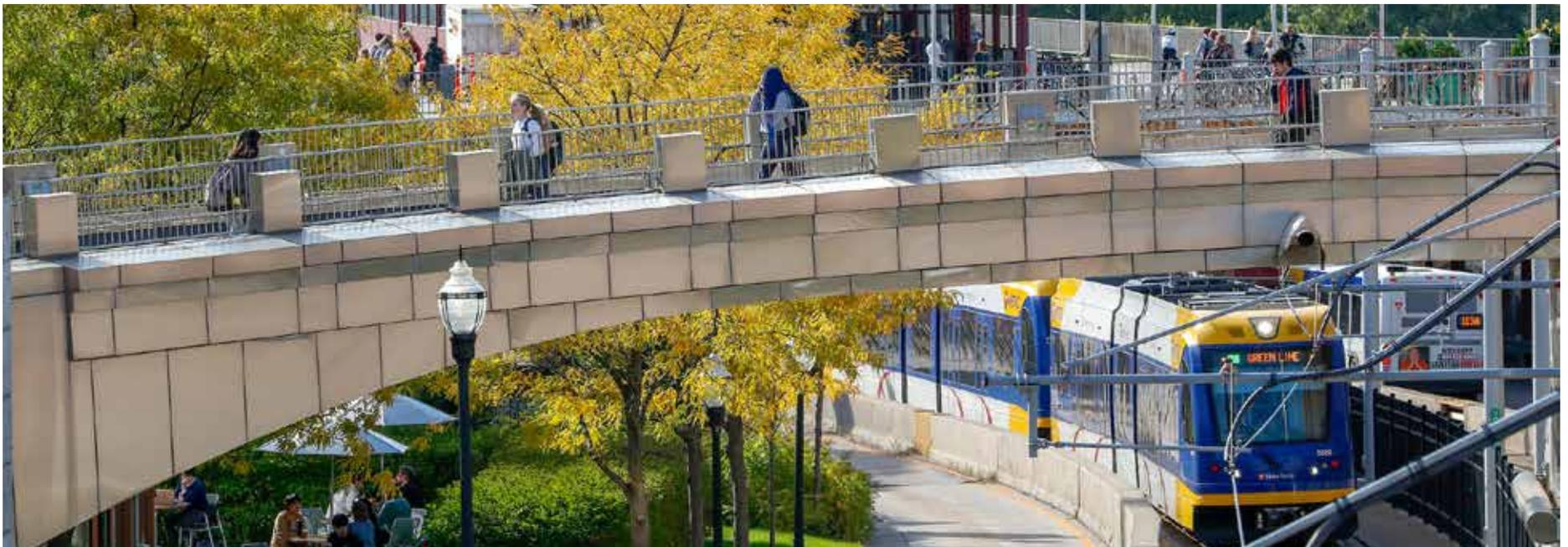
Mobility

Continued investment in multi-modal transportation infrastructure will help offset transportation-related emissions. To decrease reliance on single-occupancy auto use, the recommendations of the Campus Plan recommends continued investment to expand the network of accessible pathways, safe year-round bicycle facilities, and appealing transit options.

Familiar mobility modes, such as transit (regional or campus-based), ridesharing (carpooling and vanpooling), taxicabs, and rental car fleets will remain important components of our campus's transportation systems. Additionally, emerging shared mobility services will be important as the Twin Cities campus seeks to increase local transportation options, mitigate greenhouse gas emissions, and

reduce congestion. In recent years, changes in use of mobile technologies have led to a proliferation of shared mobility services that complement or compete with more traditional services. Shared mobility services most viable for Twin Cities includes shuttle services, bikesharing and scooter-sharing, carsharing, and ridesourcing (i.e. ride-hailing, e-hailing, and transportation network companies). Though shared mobility services could contribute to reduced demand for surface parking over time, they will require land area for staging and use of University roadways to serve clients. Close study of parking supply and demand, and an adaptive curb-management policy, will be important to ongoing efforts that seek to rebalance mobility-related land uses.

Mobility hubs support connections among transportation modes by creating convenient places where users can access scooters, ride-sharing services, and other modes. The Campus Plan recommends the integration of mobility hubs as campus renewal and development occurs. The mobility hub diagram in the Mobility Framework of the Campus Plan is conceptual and suggests several potential locations, scales, and mode mixes for further exploration in coordination with the City of Minneapolis, Metro Transit, and other partners.







Districts 6

Introduction

The Campus Plan establishes the planning and urban design vision for the Twin Cities campus. The vision for each site responds to existing conditions, programmatic needs, and the Big Ideas with the goal of contributing to a more inclusive, welcoming, and engaging environment for an increasingly diverse population.

This chapter describes the comprehensive vision for each geographic location.

West Bank

The West Bank is the location of the University's third Minneapolis campus expansion - following the Old Campus District and Northrop Mall - whose form and aesthetics were defined by enrollment growth and the programmatic needs of the 1960s.

Initial land acquisition began in the mid-1950s with construction on the current West Bank beginning in the early 1960's. Development continued following the construction of the current Washington Avenue SE Bridge in 1965-67. The bridge features two levels of circulation: the lower level is dedicated to vehicular and light rail, and the upper level is dedicated to bike circulation and pedestrian circulation, including an enclosed "corridor" extending the full length of the bridge. The University of Minnesota is the only major university to "bridge" the Mississippi River.

This two-level configuration informed the layout and development of the West Bank. The two halves of the West Bank divided by Washington Avenue SE are connected by an elevated plaza and a skyway. Considerable areas of occupied space are below the upper plaza connecting the buildings, which drives continued needs to repair water infiltration problems and to replace deteriorated paving materials.

Planning for the West Bank reflects the modernist planning principles and architecture of the time. The outcome is a campus defined by clustered modernist buildings, weather-protected circulation and limited vehicular access. Today, the West Bank, and many of its major structures, are a unique resource indicative of campus planning and design of the 1960s and 1970s. The initial academic programs located on West Bank include the social sciences, professional schools, liberal arts, and fine and studio arts.

The West Bank Context

The West Bank development pattern focuses on connected buildings, integrated hardscape and landscaped open spaces, and paths oriented towards the Washington Avenue Bridge, the Cedar-Riverside neighborhood along 19th Avenue South on the West, and Riverside Avenue on the south. Adjacent land uses include the Cedar-Riverside high-rise housing complex to the west, Augsburg University to the south, and University of Minnesota Medical Center - West Bank Campus to the east (affiliated with but not owned by the University).

Vision

The Campus Plan calls for the renewal of select West Bank buildings and the public realm while respecting the modernist planning and design principles that define its character and image. The intent is to renew and enhance the West Bank in support of the campus experience and to support the needs of the academic and research programs in the social sciences, the professional schools and the arts. This includes introducing elements of the arts throughout the West Bank. With top ranked professional programs and arts, the vision is to create an environment that puts more of the activities on display making a center for Law, Management and Public Affairs to assemble for cross-disciplinary events and activities.



The Rarig Center, West Bank

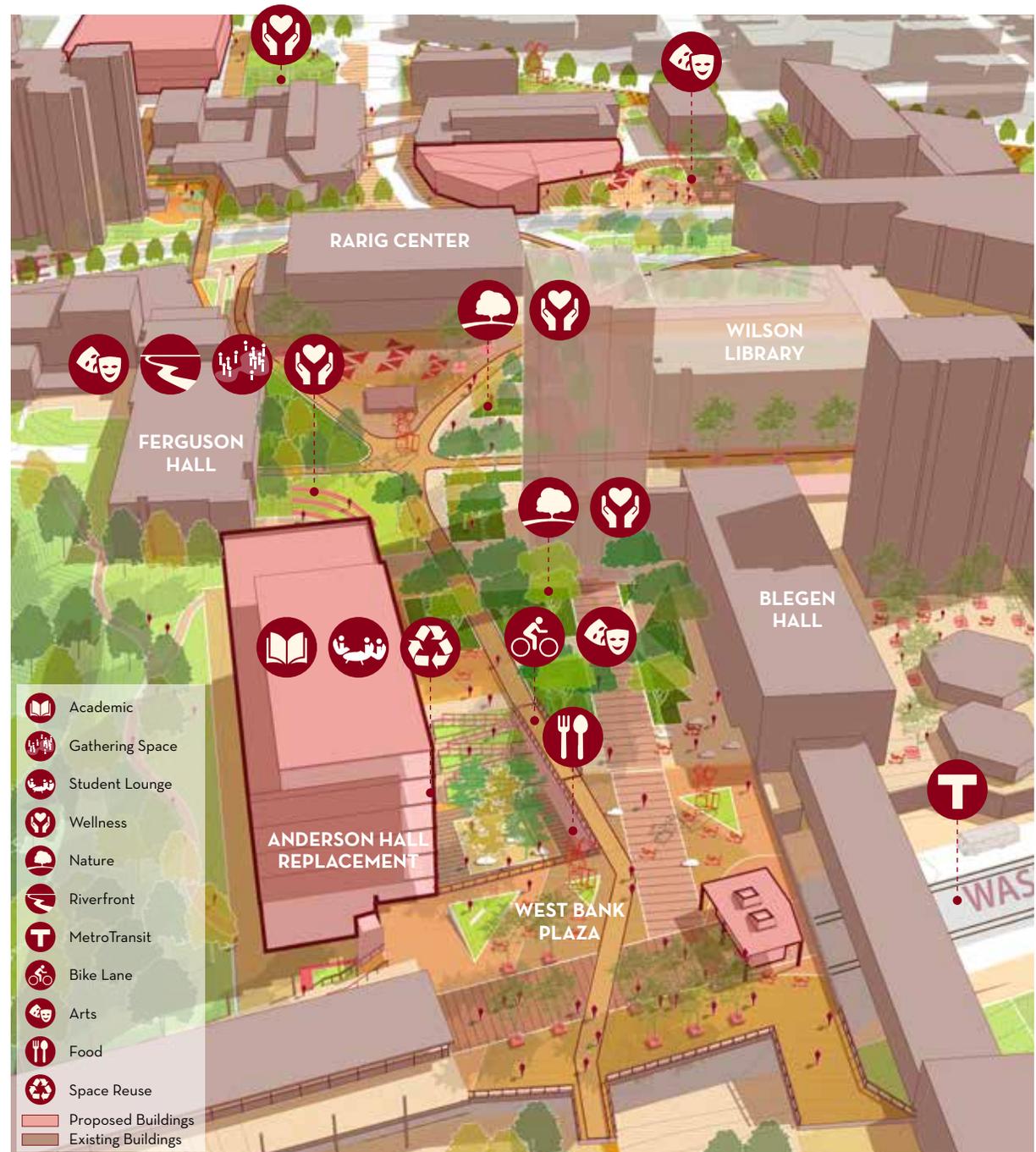
West Bank



Buildings and Renovation

The Campus Plan calls for the renewal of major buildings on the West Bank with a focus on improving the overall campus experience, with a special emphasis on accessibility, accommodating existing and emerging programmatic needs, and improving energy efficiency. Of the earliest buildings, the following are the focus of renovation and renewal:

- **Wilson Library (1967)** - Plans to introduce transparency along the plaza-level facades can reveal proposed collaboration, study, and lounge spaces. The idea is to reinforce this facility as a new center of for study, collaboration, gathering, and scholarship, while looking for opportunities to renew the library in line with contemporary needs.
- **Anderson Hall (1967)** - This building has been identified for demolition and replacement given its condition and inflexible classroom layout. The vision is to replace Anderson Hall with a new hub for classrooms and campus life, designed to respond to the opportunities of this prominent gateway site. It is analogous to Bruininks Hall on East Bank. Located at the head of the Washington Avenue Bridge, the vision is to construct a new building that integrates the plaza and ground levels and creates a new social and amenity hub. At the ground level, a lower plaza is proposed at the transit stop on Washington Avenue SE. The idea is to bring light, sun, and air into the amenity spaces of the “transit hub” at the lower level where students wait for transit services, and to bring light into the lower levels of the new Anderson Hall. As proposed by the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board, a stairway or ramp connection leading down the slope to West River Parkway may be considered.



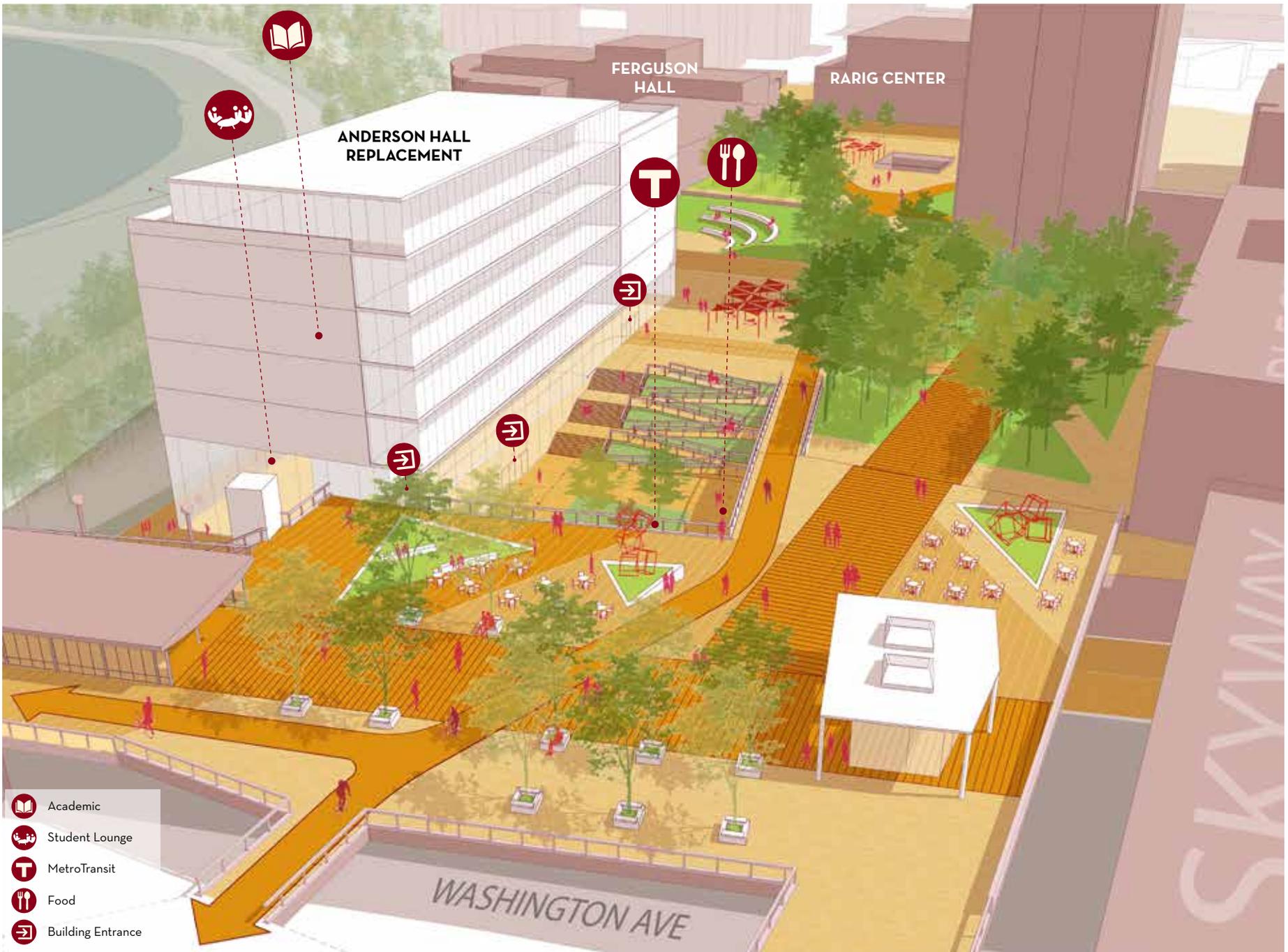
West Bank - Aerial view of renewed West Bank Plaza and Anderson Hall, looking south towards the Rarig Center.

Proposed features of a new Anderson Hall include:

- Ground level plaza that permits sunlight and air to reach the ground level transit hub on Washington Avenue SE;
- A reduction in the amount of space provided under the plaza level with the goal of limiting the total level of plaza and the waterproofing issues with plaza construction;
- A double height ground floor social, collaboration and amenity spaces linking to associated spaces at the plaza level – a new commons for West Bank potentially including elements of a winter garden;
- A transit hub coordinated with the social, collaboration an amenity commons with the goal of enhancing and improving the transit experience by providing indoor waiting areas, amenity and a reception/departure point for students;
- An accessible external ramping system and landscape gathering space to connect the ground and plaza levels;
- Limit the amount of plaza area in favor of more ground level outdoor space that can be landscaped, notably with trees;
- Meeting space on the top floor of the building offering views of East Bank, the river and downtown Minneapolis; and,
- State-of-the-art classrooms and meeting spaces permitting flexible room configurations and flexible use of technology.

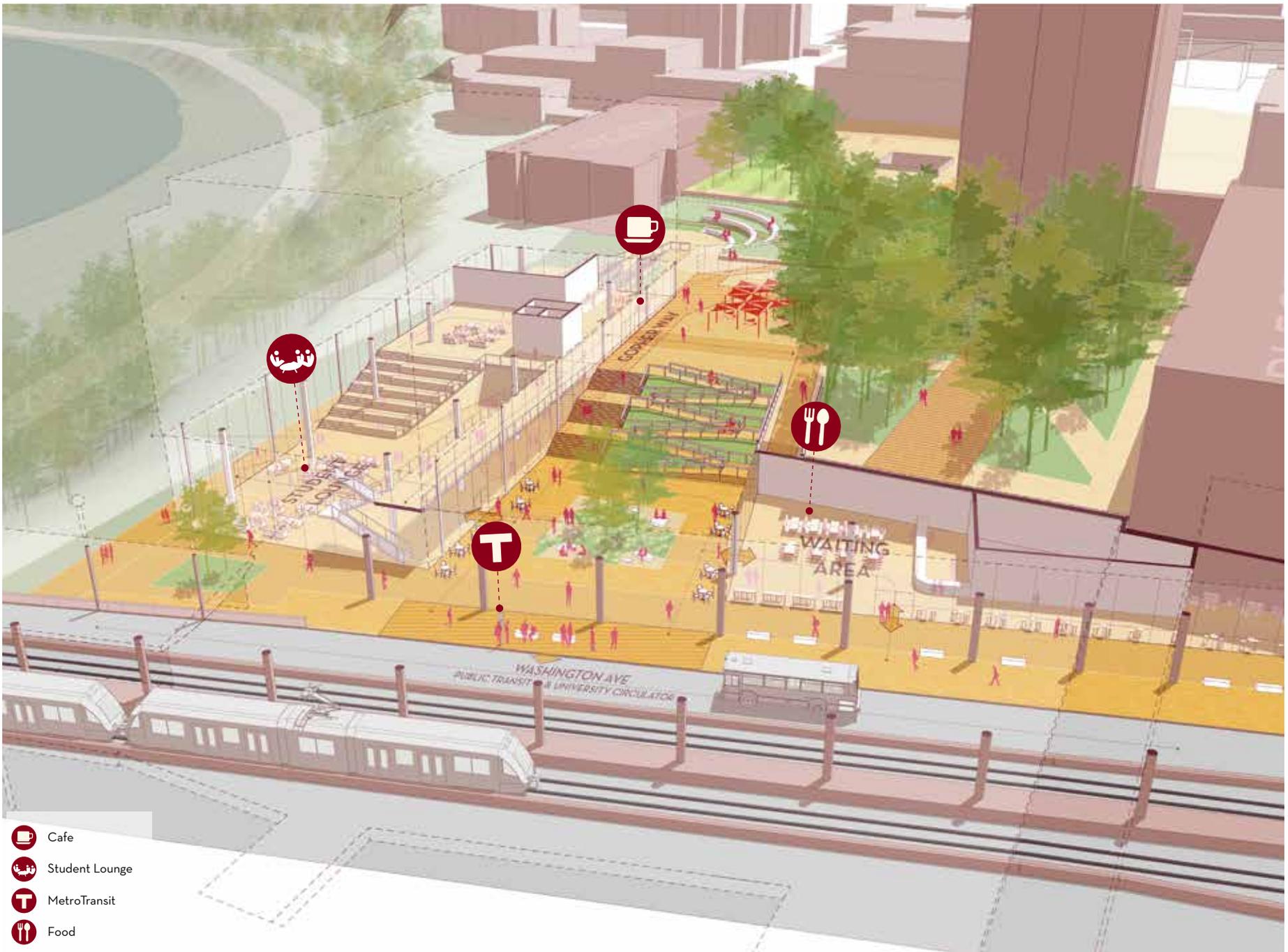


West Bank – A key diagram of proposed and potential locations for renewal or renovation.



-  Academic
-  Student Lounge
-  MetroTransit
-  Food
-  Building Entrance

West Bank - Plaza Level



-  Cafe
-  Student Lounge
-  MetroTransit
-  Food

West Bank - Lower Level





Existing Conditions

Potential Anderson Hall Replacement and Plaza Improvements

Public Realm and Landscape

The West Bank public realm and landscape occurs at the plaza level with extensive areas of occupied space beneath the plaza. To identify ideal ways of moving through West Bank, and to provide connections to Riverside Ave and the adjacent M Health Fairview University of Minnesota Medical Center - West Bank, plaza accessibility, pedestrian and bike routes, and service/emergency routes will require a rejuvenation plan to coordinate landscape and circulation improvements.

Connections to future development opportunities north of the Law School are also needed. The Campus Plan recommends an implementation effort to detail a plan and strategy to restore the ground-floor levels of West Bank Plaza. The ongoing effort to renew the plaza should identify ways to improve the campus experience and create a more welcoming and inclusive campus for the University community and adjacent communities. The recommendation for a detailed study is based on the architectural approach required to coordinate facility needs and to redesign the public realm.

West Bank Plaza Principles

- Minimize the amount of hardscape by introducing sunken plazas/light wells and sunken landscapes where possible.
- Introduce light wells to improve conditions on the ground level and to provide visual and physical connections between the plaza and ground level.
- Programming space and visual interest on the plaza.
- Design for winter conditions taking into consideration wind, solar access, etc.
- Utilize universal design principles to ensure equitable access and connectivity.
- Respect the structural grid of the plaza.

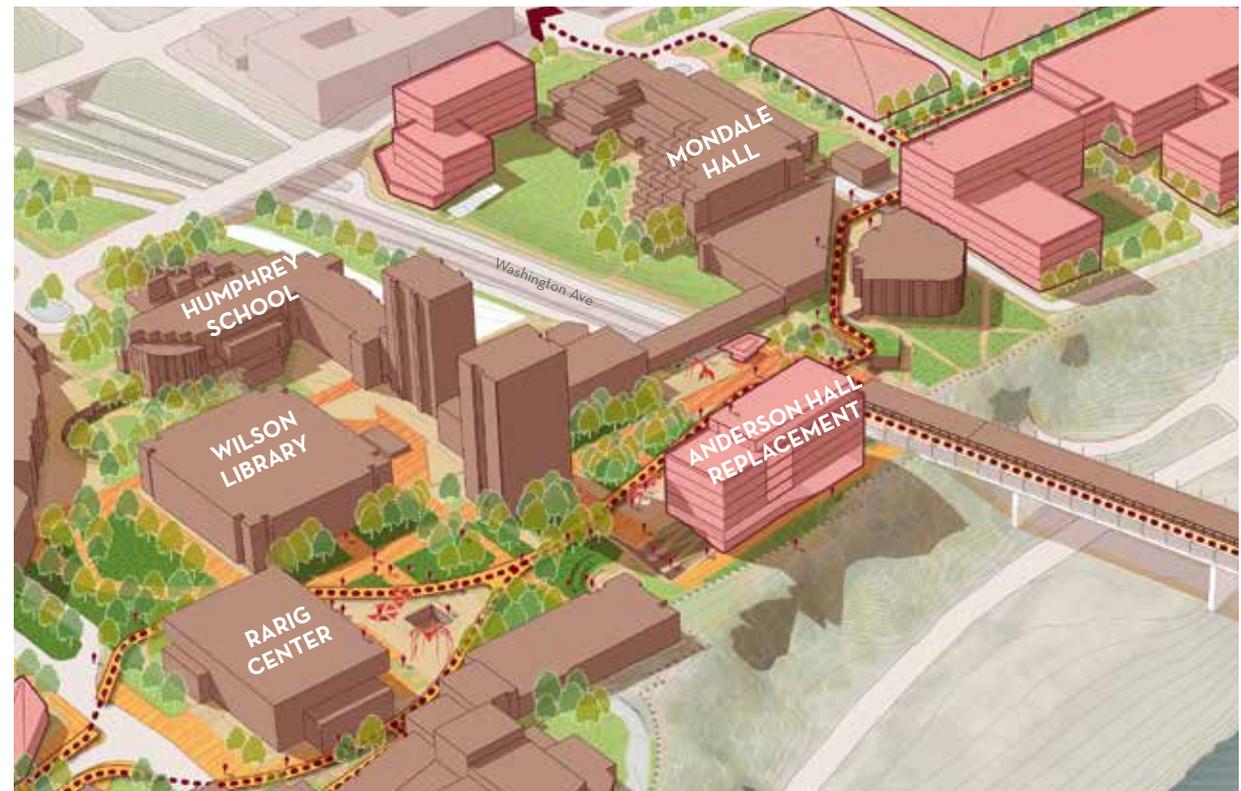
- Plan for emergency access, circulation and accessibility.
- Introduce sculpture, public art and other elements that contribute to the Arts Quarter character and image.

Future Development Opportunities

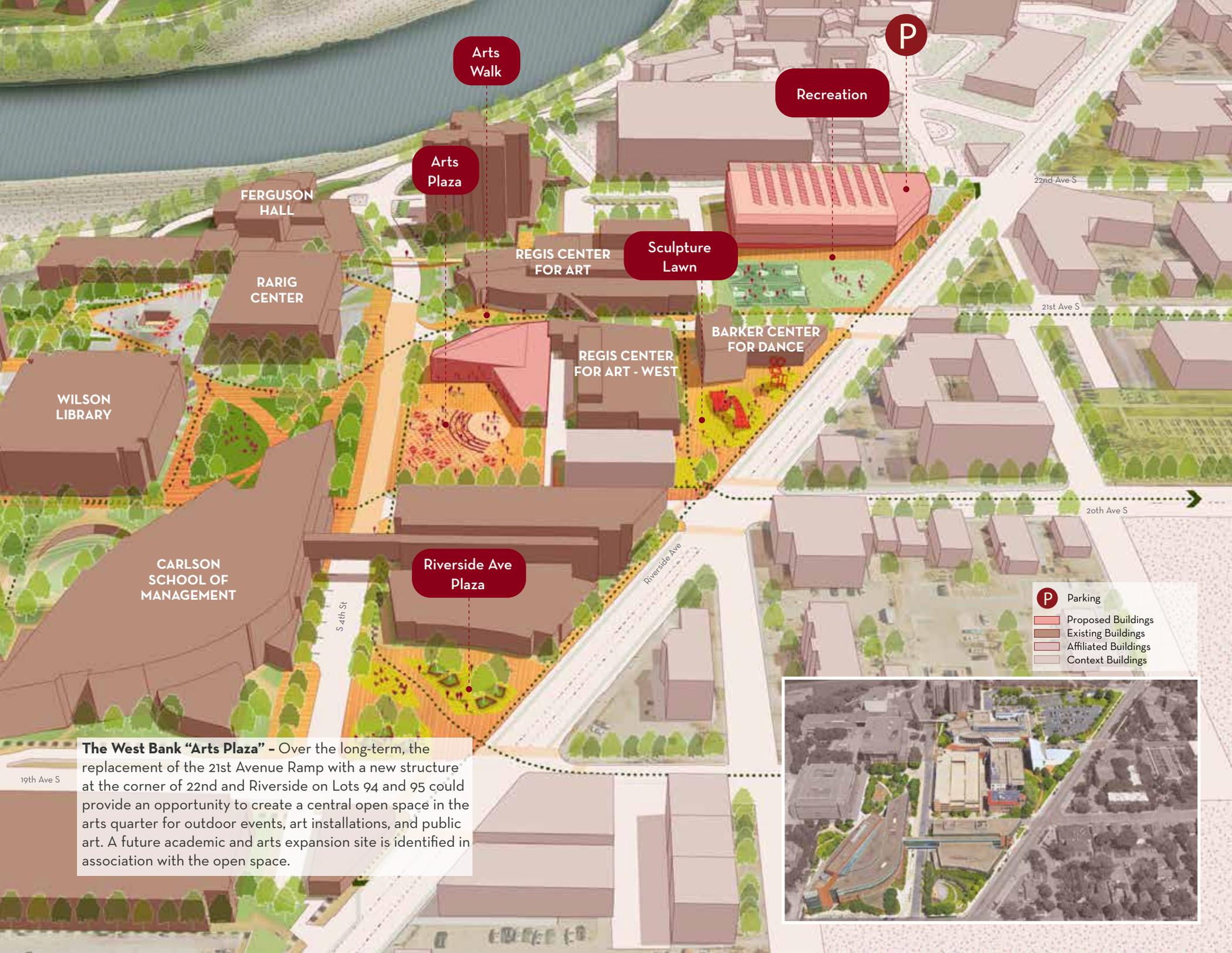
While no current programmatic needs justify an expansion, a site for future growth is identified north of the Law School (Walter F. Mondale Hall). Expansion here should advance the public realm connectivity goals set out in the plan, including

an accessible connection from the plaza level at Mondale Hall to the ground level and onward to connect with the existing east-west pathway and bike route on Bridge 9. To that end, extension of the pathways and bike lanes is recommended. Future uses could include recreation fields and “bubbles”, future academic buildings and parking garages.

In the near future, recreational uses, the existing solar panels, and ongoing remediation of geotechnical conditions will continue.



West Bank - Public Realm



Arts Walk

Recreation

Arts Plaza

Sculpture Lawn

Riverside Ave Plaza

FERGUSON HALL

RARIG CENTER

REGIS CENTER FOR ART

REGIS CENTER FOR ART - WEST

BARKER CENTER FOR DANCE

WILSON LIBRARY

CARLSON SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT

P

22nd Ave S

21st Ave S

20th Ave S

S 4th St

Riverside Ave

- Parking
- Proposed Buildings
- Existing Buildings
- Affiliated Buildings
- Context Buildings



The West Bank "Arts Plaza" - Over the long-term, the replacement of the 21st Avenue Ramp with a new structure at the corner of 22nd and Riverside on Lots 94 and 95 could provide an opportunity to create a central open space in the arts quarter for outdoor events, art installations, and public art. A future academic and arts expansion site is identified in association with the open space.

19th Ave S



The Washington Ave Bridge - A 2018 design study explored improvements to the railing and enclosure of the bridge as a response to safety concerns. The bridge itself is not owned by the University, thus the implementation of approved improvements will require partnership and coordination with Hennepin County, and other agencies.



The Washington Avenue Bridge

East Bank

The vision for East Bank builds upon the iconic and memorable assembly of buildings and landscapes that shape the Knoll and Northrop Mall. It calls for the renewal and reinvestment in these historic areas to create a more inclusive campus, enhance the student experience, engage the Mississippi River and improve mobility while addressing a range of deferred maintenance and operational issues. The vision also provides guidance for the most significant renewal of the Twin Cities campus in over 50 years. Restoration of the city grid in the southeast corner of the campus establishes the context for the renewal of the Health Sciences, a new Hospital and undergraduate housing. It also aligns plans for the campus with private sector and partnership developments emerging adjacent to campus.





University Ave

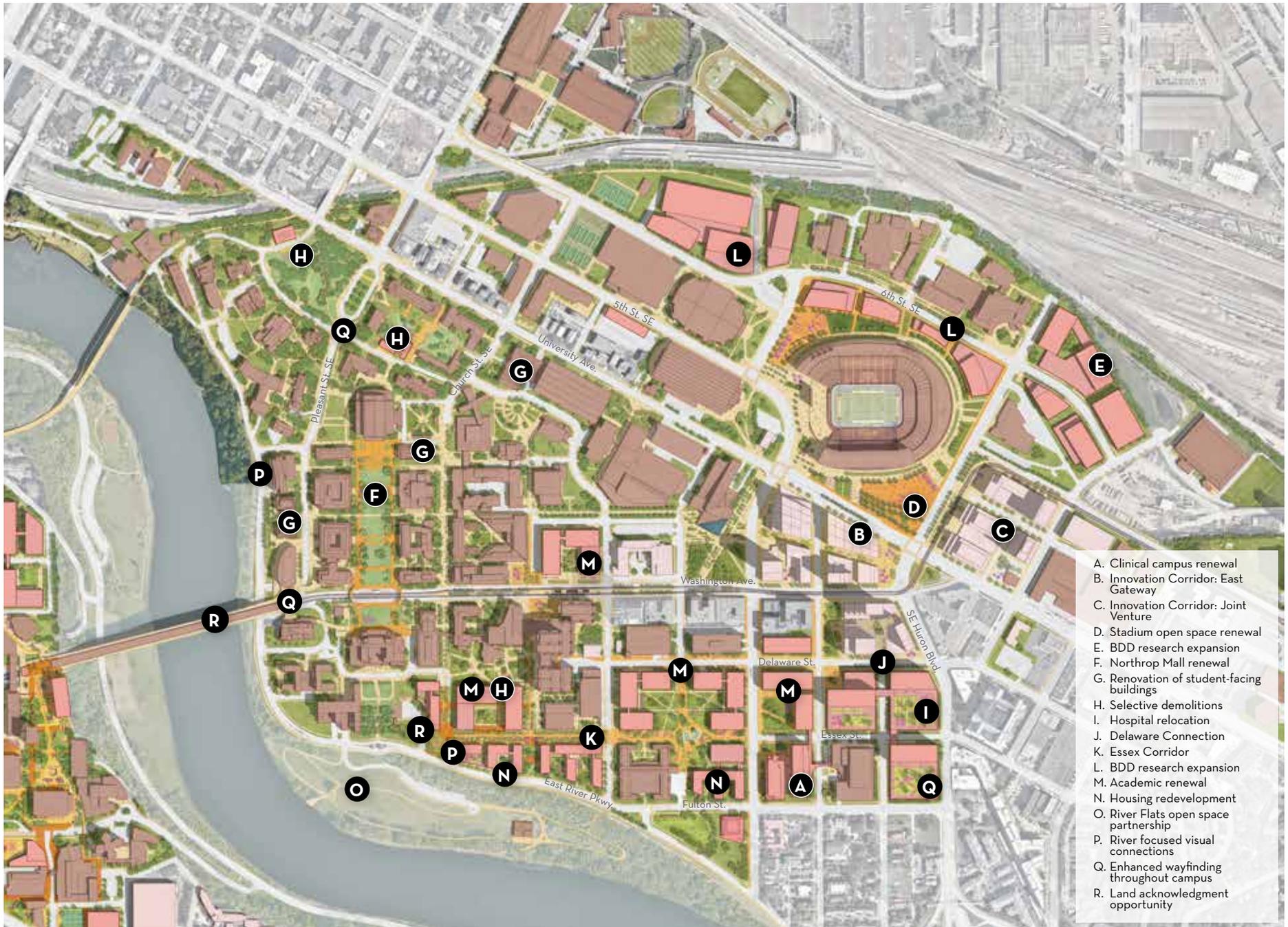
Pleasant St. SE

Washington Ave

East River Pkwy.

Fulton St.

- Proposed Buildings
- Existing Buildings
- Affiliated Buildings
- Context Buildings



East Bank – A key diagram of proposed and potential locations for renewal or renovation.

The Knoll

The origins of the East Bank can be traced to the Knoll, a picturesque area defined by curving paths, high canopy trees and a range of historic buildings. Planned in 1892 by H.W.S. Cleveland, collectively the Knoll landscape and historic buildings form the Old Campus Historic District. Warren H. Manning's later plan reoriented the campus by linking the Knoll to the Mississippi River via the East River Road.

The Knoll is the namesake of the central open space framed by several buildings on the National Register of Historic Places (NHRP) or buildings eligible for NHRP listing. Together, the Knoll landscape and the contributing buildings define the Old Campus Historic District, the original campus for the University of Minnesota.

NHRP Listed Buildings in the Knoll include:

- Eddy Hall, 1886
- Pillsbury Hall, 1889
- Pattee Hall, 1889
- Nicholson Hall, 1890
- Wulling Hall, 1892
- Burton Hall, 1894
- Armory, 1896
- Jones Hall, 1901
- Child Development, 1903
- Shevlin Hall, 1906
- Folwell Hall, 1907

Vision

The vision for the Knoll protects and enhances the public realm in ways that contribute to the character and quality of this most historic of campus districts. The goal is to maintain and improve upon the positive qualities of the landscape while stewarding the relationship between character-defining landscape and NRHP listed buildings as important cultural resources.

Given the historic significance and beauty of the Knoll landscape, the Campus Plan calls for the enhancement of the existing character, building upon the recent investments in Pillsbury Drive and East River Road streetscapes.

The existing historic buildings of the Knoll are maintained and enhanced in the Campus Plan. Demolition is proposed for three non-contributing buildings, Peik Hall, Peik Gym and Williamson Hall. Each building is newer than the buildings that form the heart of the Old Campus Historic District. For that reason, combined with their general condition and character, they are proposed for demolition.



Following the proposed demolition of Peik Gym, a mobility hub could take its place, facilitating entry and exit of the campus from this location.

Jones-Folwell Quad

The demolition of Williamson Hall allows for the renewal of the existing quadrangle defined by contributing historic buildings including 10 Church Street, Folwell, Jones and the Nolte Center. The idea is to enhance the quadrangle with additional landscape and to introduce a new pavilion designed as a mobility hub to accept deliveries and connect with the Gopher Way system currently accessed through Williamson Hall. The pavilion will include elevators for both passenger and freight access to the Gopher Way and could serve as a mobility hub featuring a bike share location and pick-up and drop-off zones for transportation network companies.

More study is needed to understand the need, scale and mix of modes at this potential mobility hub. It will be a design challenge to balance among multiple concerns: access for multiple modes, the safety and comfort of all users, and the historic character of this part of campus. Existing uses in Williamson Hall that would be displaced by demolition include Admissions and significant temporary swing space that supports building renovations across campus. New space must be identified for these critical uses.



Jones-Folwell Quad



When Williamson Hall is demolished, connections to the Gopher Way should be maintained to support continued public access and service uses.

Northrop Mall

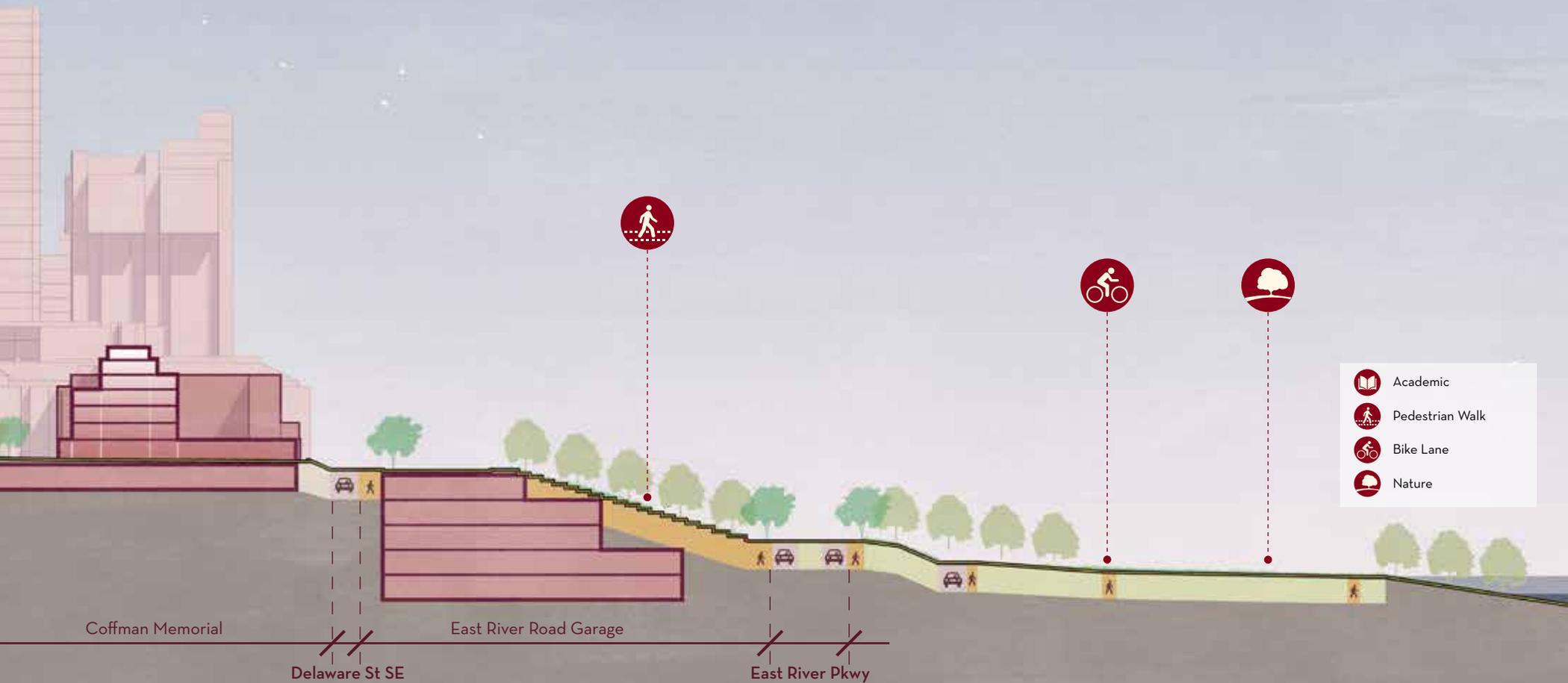
Northrop Mall is the iconic and memorable open space of the East Bank and the symbolic center of the Twin Cities campus. It is the center of the campus experience for many students, staff and faculty. The Mall and the surrounding district are also the center of academic and research activities in the College of Science and Engineering, the College of Liberal Arts, and the College of Design. The campus and student life experience are supported by the Coffman Memorial Union, cultural facilities such as the Weisman Art Museum and Northrop Auditorium, student affairs services in Bruininks and Appleby Halls, and student housing in Comstock and Yudoff Halls.

Section through Northrop Mall



Vision

Northrop Mall is reinforced as the iconic heart of the East Bank in the Campus Plan. Emphasis is placed on stewardship and renewal of the existing historic buildings and landscape. By reinvesting in the core, the goal is to address major deferred maintenance issues while renewing the iconic landscape and structures, and addressing existing and future programmatic needs. Strategies for renewal of the Mall focus on the strategic commitment to creating a more inclusive and welcoming campus, enhancing the student experience and on equitable access.



Historic Buildings and Districts

Northrop Mall extends from Northrop Auditorium on the north to Coffman Memorial Union and the grand stairs leading to East River Road Parkway on the south. Imagined in the Beaux-Arts, or “City Beautiful” tradition, by Cass Gilbert, the vision for the Mall has guided campus development for over 100 years. Realization of the Mall began in 1910 with the construction of Smith Hall, designed by Clarence Johnston Sr., the Minnesota State Architect from 1901-1931. Johnston subsequently designed several other buildings, establishing the architectural and design character that define the Mall today.

Johnston’s buildings in Northrop Mall include:

- Northrop Auditorium
- Morrill Hall
- Johnston Hall
- Tate Hall (*renovated 2019*)
- Walter Library (*renovated 2002*)
- Smith Hall
- Vincent Hall
- Lind Hall
- Mines Experiment Station (Education Sciences Building)
- U of M Field House - Williams
- Folwell Hall (*renovated 2010-2011*)
- Appleby Hall

Today, the Mall and surrounding context is designated as the Northrop Mall Historic District and includes the buildings that define the Mall itself as well as buildings along Pleasant Street to the west and Church Street to the east. Designation of the Historic District occurred in 2006.

The NHRP Buildings in the Northrop Mall District include:

- Northrop Auditorium
- Morrill Hall
- Johnston Hall
- Walter Library
- Smith Hall
- Ford Hall
- Appleby Hall
- Fraser Hall
- Tate Hall
- Vincent / Murphy Hall
- Lind Hall
- Kolthoff Hall
- Lind Hall
- Mechanical Engineering
- Keller Hall
- Akerman Hall

The plan does not fully address campus development issues related to cultural resources. As projects are considered that would impact historic buildings or districts, consideration must be given to maintaining the integrity of such resources while also meeting current and future needs for pedagogy, operations, accessibility and other factors.





Building Renewal and Construction

In support of the Big Ideas to “Reinvest in the Core”, continued renewal and renovation for the buildings in the Northrop Mall District will address the critical deferred maintenance issues in the core while renewing iconic and historic buildings.

While continued investment is proposed for all core buildings, the following facilities are identified for transformative change:

- **Fraser Hall** - renovation to provide undergraduate chemistry teaching labs.
- **Smith Hall** - renovation to address the deferred maintenance issues of the building while updating the labs and learning environments for contemporary needs.
- **Morrill Hall** - given the central location of this administrative building, the Campus Plan calls for the renovation of the building to accommodate student-facing services, amenities and collaboration environments. Specific uses will be the subject of future programming tasks.
- **Appleby Hall** - renovation to support student services and affinity group activities.
- **Coffman Memorial Union** - the Coffman Memorial Union is the focus of a future renovation designed to update the building to meet the needs of today and emerging needs of tomorrow. The goal is to respect the architectural character and integrity of the building while creating a more inclusive and welcoming center for an increasingly diverse population. Recommendations include a new ramp on the east side of the building designed to connect the front lawn level of the building with Delaware Street located south of the building. This requires a plaza extension and a new accessible ramping system over the existing loading dock

of the building. This new accessible route is part of the Twin Cities campus strategy to create an equitable access to all areas of campus.

Other changes to the building include the idea of connecting the lower space bookstore directly with the transit stop on Washington Avenue SE thereby providing a more direct connection to transit services and improving the user experience.

- **Washington Avenue Ramp** - over the long-term, the Washington Avenue Ramp is identified as a redevelopment site for academic and research renewal. The proximity of this site to the academic and research core of the Northrop Mall District make it a valuable location for core mission uses rather than parking. In the interim, the ramp site is designed a one of several potential mobility hubs across the East Bank.

Public Realm and Landscape

Public realm and landscape improvements are proposed throughout the Northrop Mall area to renew the historic landscapes and create new landscape corridors and open spaces that enrich the campus experience.

The public realm framework coordinates the recommendations of the previous Northrop Mall Renewal Plan 2017 with broader winter design and equitable accessibility strategies. The renewal plan included revisions to the Northrop plaza steps and accessibility ramps, and focused on restoring the landscape - in keeping with the original design intent - paving patterns, planting, and other details.

Specific recommendations are as follows:

Northrop Plaza

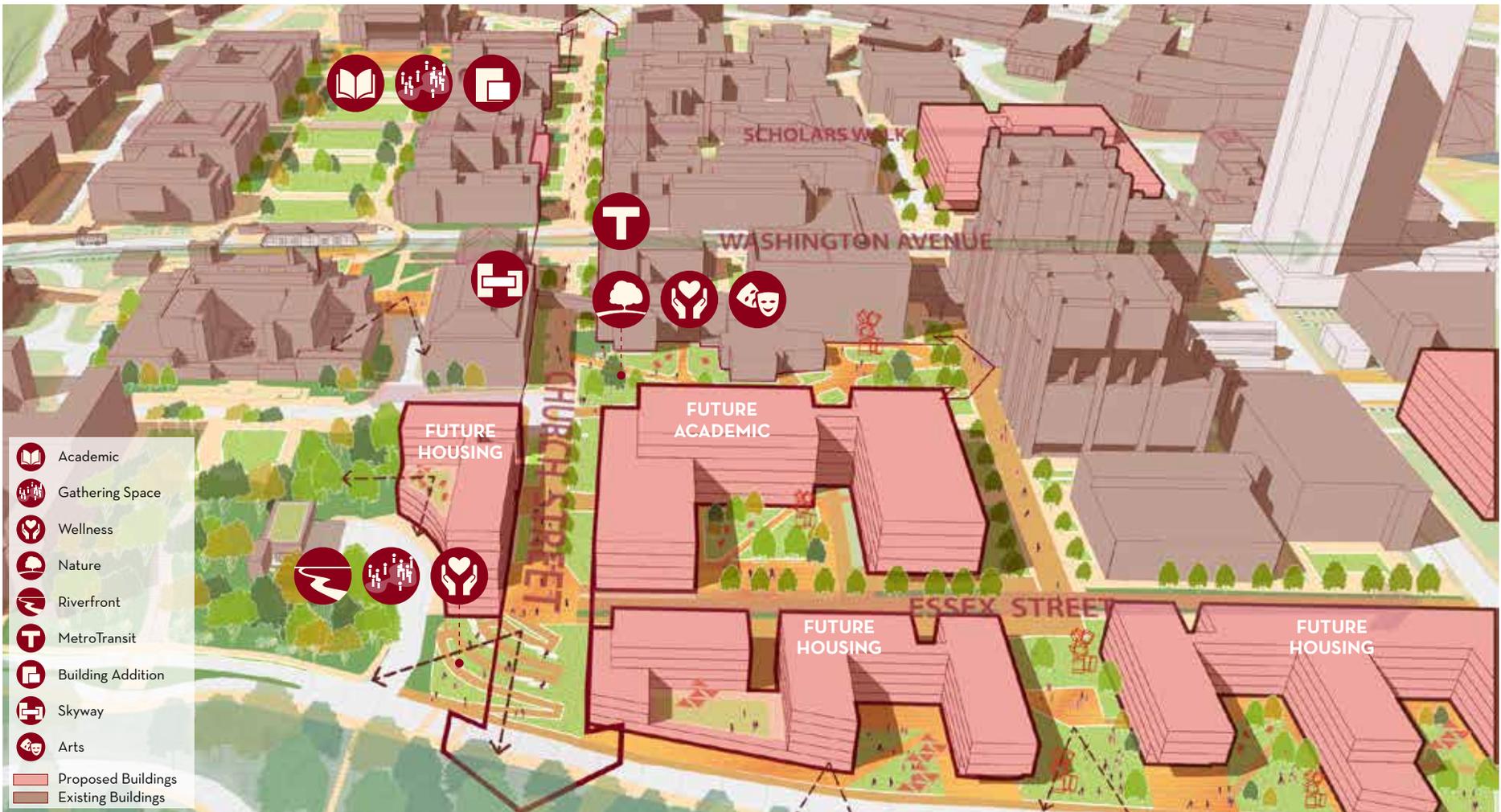
The plaza serves as the “platform” for many campus activities and events and serves as the foreground to the iconic Northrop Auditorium. The elevated nature of the plaza, however, presents a barrier to north-south accessibility from the Old Campus District to the Mall. In response, new accessible ramps are proposed on the west and south sides of the plaza. The south ramp is consistent with the concept proposed in the Northrop Mall renewal plan. The west ramp is recommended to provide consistent and equitable access to the plaza and to facilitate accessible north-south connectivity.

Scholars Walk

Scholars Walk, a four-block long corridor extending from the McNamara Alumni Center to Appleby Hall, celebrates the intellectual accomplishments of award-winning faculty, alumni, and students. The proposed renovation of Appleby Hall provides the opportunity to connect Scholars Walk to views of the river through internal reconfigurations within the building, coupled with changes to the river-facing courtyard.

South Mall Pathway

The existing east-west pathway and bike route located between Ford and Vincent-Murphy on the east and Smith-Kolthoff on the west side of the Mall is reimagined in the public realm framework with the goal of enhancing accessibility, pedestrian and bicycle movement. The idea is to realign and widen the pathway while respecting the landscape recommendations of the Northrop Mall renewal plan. Widening the pathway and clearly designating the bicycle route is a key objective.



Church Street Corridor

This north-south corridor is expanded in the Campus Plan to connect University Avenue to East River Parkway. The recommendations build on the recent hardscape and accessibility improvements made north of Washington Avenue SE. The Campus Plan extends these improvements to the south side of Washington Avenue SE where major redevelopment is proposed.

In line with the universal design goal of the Campus Plan, where possible, new accessible entrances are proposed for the buildings along the corridor, especially the historic buildings facing the Mall - Morrill, Vincent, and Ford - which feature stairways to elevated first floors.

Future redevelopment around the Variety Club Research Center and the Children's Rehabilitation Center facilitates construction of an accessible ramp connecting Church and Essex Street with East River Parkway. The ramp descends to East River Parkway at a slope of 5% and coordinates with a hillside landscape strategy offering views of the river. The ramp will feature seating and river viewing areas, and a land acknowledgment opportunity.

Pleasant Street Corridor

The Pleasant Street corridor is an important north-south route linking University Avenue to Washington Avenue SE. A heavy bicycle, transit and vehicular corridor, several improvements are recommended to resolve pedestrian and bike conflicts especially in the area between Kolthoff and Bruinicks Hall. South of Arlington Street, Pleasant Street is a City roadway so coordination and partnership will be required.

Connection to the River

In support of the “Engaging the River” Big Idea, several overlooks are proposed west and south of Northrop Mall to provide visual connections to the river and, where possible, physical access to the East River Flats, including the following opportunities:

- **Appleby and Fraser Halls** - Visual connections are proposed at Appleby Hall which lies at the western terminus of Scholars Walk. Future renovation of Appleby provides opportunities to open up views of the river from the building and the river-facing

courtyard of the building. Similarly, opportunities exist for the river-facing landscape at Fraser Hall.

- **East River Flats** - The proposed ramp system and landscape strategy at the intersection of Church and Essex Streets, provides an accessible connection to the East River Parkway and visual connections to the river. An accessible connection from East River Parkway to the East River Flats will require collaboration and coordination with the Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board.

Accessibility Strategies

The recommendations of the Campus Plan promote equitable, universal access across the Twin Cities campus, and provide conceptual recommendations for locations where major challenges exist. The following illustrations identify opportunities for accessibility improvements for building renovations and public realm projects:



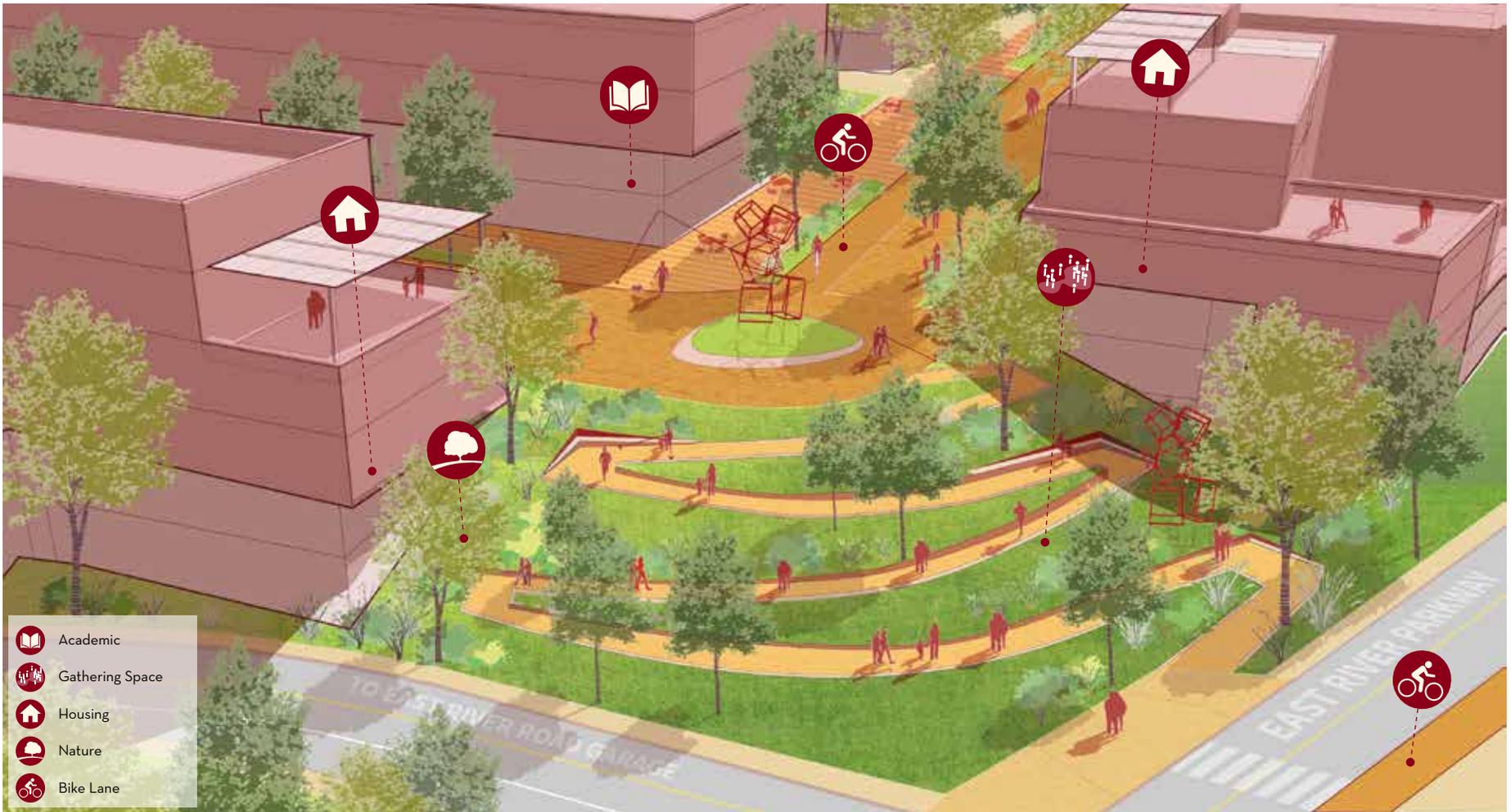
The elevated Northrop Plaza creates an accessibility challenge for north-south movement from the Knoll to Northrop Mall. A ramp along the west side of Northrop would provide plaza-level access. At the south edge of the plaza, changes to improve accessibility and views are envisioned in the 2017 Northrop Mall Improvement Plan, which also proposed underground storage of stormwater for reuse in the district.



The east facade of Murphy Hall, facing Church Street, can be an example of how building additions can provide accessible entries and opportunities for ground-floor collaborative spaces. Accessibility strategies of this nature could be required for other historic buildings along Northrop Mall.



A new, lower level access point would provide direct access to the book store at Coffman Memorial Union from the bus stop on Washington Avenue. This should be studied in the context of the historic district, circulation needs, and other considerations.



This concept diagram demonstrates one way in which a new vertical connection can become a signature amenity and gathering place. Design options will be explored when a capital project is initiated at this location.

River Overlook

The demolition of the Variety Club, Research Center and other buildings and the development of new buildings for student housing and academic uses will provide the opportunity to create a river overlook and accessible route down the bluff from the elevation of Church and Essex to East River Parkway. The overlook is envisioned as a landscaped

area feature accessible paths with slopes of less than five percent and seating areas and viewing areas of the river. This is envisioned as not merely an accessible pathway but a gathering place with seating and plantings. The vision for this area potentially offers the opportunity to integrate land acknowledgment markers and monuments with

views of the river, symbolically, linking to the river, an important cultural and historical area for the indigenous population. East River Parkway in this area currently is administered by the Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board. Future connections will be explored in partnership with other entities, including landowners, and community members.

Riverfront Housing District



Scholars Walk



Church St. Pedestrian Corridor



Connection to River



Essex St. Pedestrian Corridor



FUTURE HOUSING



FUTURE HOUSING

FUTURE HOUSING





Riverfront Housing District

A reimagined university housing neighborhood is proposed along East River Parkway – from the Comstock-Yudoff Hall area to Oak Street – creating major opportunities for housing renewal. Redevelopment in this area will be possible once the programs in the Mayo building, Masonic Cancer Center, University Hospital, and other medical-related facilities relocate to the proposed Health Sciences district along Huron Boulevard.

Vision

The long-term vision is to transform the student residential experience on East Bank by concentrating new housing along East River Parkway and the Essex Street Corridor, which offers views of the river and close proximity to the Coffman Memorial Union. Since on-campus living is one of the most intensive student experiences, the vision proposes providing a neighborhood of close to 2,000 students a chance to look out over the Mississippi River, which would be a unique opportunity for the Twin Cities campus to distinguish itself among its higher education peers. The proposed housing replaces 1,400 beds or more of housing in the aging facilities of the superblock which includes Centennial, Territorial, and Frontier Halls. The recently renovated Pioneer Hall is maintained in the Campus Plan and its expanded dining area will serve all proposed housing.

Buildings

The Campus Plan includes four new residential halls along the Church and Essex corridors, which will be planned over the long-term. The pace of development and the cost of capital improvements currently needed must be balanced with the impact to cost of attendance that comes from building new facilities. Redevelopment on this scale enhances the residential experience and allows for a range of

amenities and services in support of a more inclusive and enriching campus. Design opportunities for the East River Parkway sites include sweeping views of the river and south-facing courtyards and terraces. The Church Street site offers connectivity to Riverbend Plaza and the adjacent Coffman Memorial Union.

Public Realm and Landscape

Essex St and Church St are envisioned as the accessible, pedestrian corridors linking the housing district to the Coffman Memorial Union and the Northrop Mall. A vibrant student residential area is planned along Essex St, with ground floor active uses – lounges, recreation rooms, and collaborative space – coupled with exterior gathering and social spaces. The corridor is unique in that it is defined by residential uses on the south and new academic facilities on the north. Though Church and Essex are envisioned as non-motorized streets in this area, service and emergency access will be maintained.

The proposed layout of new housing restores the city grid at Church, Union, Harvard, and Walnut streets, connecting Essex to East River Parkway. Access to East River Parkway provides connections to the regional bike network and offers the potential of linking to recreation opportunities on MPRB land at East River Flats. At Church and Essex, an accessible connection to East River Parkway offers views of the river, seating areas, and overlooks designed to connect the housing to the amenities of East River Parkway and the River Flats.

The Campus Plan proposes continued use of the triangle bounded by Fulton, Oak, and the East River Road for passive recreation, and envisions a new pavilion to support extended use through the seasons, which would provide social and meeting spaces, restrooms, and storage facilities.





Potential Essex Street Corridor





Potential Pavilion and Open Space at Fulton Triangle

Health Sciences and Clinical Campus





Health Sciences and Clinical Campus

The Health Sciences and Clinical campus area is organized around a vision for the renewal of medical education, research, and clinical care facilities. It extends from west-east from Harvard St to Huron Boulevard, and north-south from Delaware St to Fulton St. It proposes to create opportunity for campus growth and renewal, reserves new corridors and open space features and restores the City street grid to ensure patient and provider access.

Vision

The Campus Plan sets out a vision for the next 50 years of Health Sciences at the University with an emphasis on creating a medical education, research, and clinical care district focused on the patient experience and innovation. This requires critical and transformative investments in a new University Hospital, and a new Clinical Research facility, building upon the recent investment in the Clinics and Surgery Center on Erie Street. Future academic and research development planned for this area further supports the research activities in the Biomedical Discovery District (BDD).

The vision also calls for the continued investment in existing health science related buildings that will maintain a strong presence in the core of campus: Jackson Hall, Molecular and Cellular Biology, Mayo Memorial Auditorium, Weaver-Densford Hall, Malcolm Moos Health Sciences Tower, Deihl Hall, and the Masonic Memorial Building.

Proposed Facilities

The plan provides a phased strategy for replacing existing facilities with new, state-of-the-art facilities:

- **University Hospital** - A new, 425-bed hospital and associated clinical platform has been considered for a site on Huron St, between Fulton and Delaware, replacing the existing M Health Fairview Hospital and Masonic Cancer Center on East River Parkway. It is recommended that the bed towers be oriented on an east-west axis for optimal solar orientation, and that biophilic design principles inform the design of the building, potentially incorporating a central atrium and winter garden.
- **Clinical Research Facility** - A new Clinical Research Facility is planned for the block defined by Fulton, Ontario, Oak, and Essex, which would provide state-of-the-art research facilities to support the University's innovation goals. It is located directly west of the Clinics and Surgery Center.
- **Clinical Related Renewal** - Two sites are identified for potential additional clinical related renewal: the block north of the existing M Health Clinics and Surgery Center, and the block located at the corner of Delaware and Oak (currently occupied by the north end of the Oak Street ramp).
- **Academic Renewal** - In addition to proposed clinical and research facilities, additional sites are identified for future Health Science needs - the Mayo Building site at Church and Essex, and two sites in the Superblock on Delaware Street between Harvard St. and Oak St., the current sites of the Centennial and Territorial Residence Halls. These sites are reserved for future programmatic needs, and other needs that may emerge that may require the demolition and replacement of other existing facilities in the area.
- **Parking** - A level of parking is proposed under all future development in the Health Science district to distribute parking throughout. Access is proposed primarily off Delaware Street.

Transformative redevelopment requires the

Demolition

demolition and replacement of several significant facilities. To that end, the Campus Plan sets out a flexible approach for new facilities that will support academic, research, and patient care goals while replacing aging facilities that do not warrant continued investment:

- Masonic Cancer Research Building
- Variety Club Research Center
- Mayo Building & additions
- Centennial Hall
- Territorial Hall
- Oak Street Ramp
- Frontier Hall
- Stadium Village Apartments

Public Realm and Landscape

To guide the most significant redevelopment on campus, the plan restores the city grid with the goal of establishing a public realm that supports accessibility and connectivity within the Health Science district and beyond. It also defines development sites for incremental urban design interventions are informed by the principles of biophilic urban design – a concept that promotes connectivity to the natural environment as part of the healing process.

Delaware Street – Reimagined as the Health Sciences corridor, this street would connect existing facilities in the Moos Tower vicinity to the proposed University Hospital on Huron Boulevard, which would be made possible by the eventual demolition of the Oak Street Ramp after the right supply of new parking is built at other nearby locations. Delaware is planned as a complete street – a street with accessible routes, bike lanes, and carefully designed vehicular

circulation replete with tree plantings, wayfinding, and stormwater management features designed to introduce nature into the urban context.

Essex Street – The Campus Plan restores Essex Street as an east-west circulation route from Church Street to Huron Boulevard. Between Church and Oak, the corridor includes accessible routes, bike lanes, and vehicular traffic limited to service and emergency access only. East of Oak Street, Essex is imagined as a complete street accommodating accessible pedestrian paths and vehicular traffic along landscape design elements similar to proposed for Delaware. The segment from Oak to Huron provides access to existing and proposed clinical care facilities.

Fulton Street – This street would form the southern boundary of the Health Science district, providing access to future parking, and pick-up/drop-off zones for proposed buildings.

Oak Street – A complete street to connect Fulton Avenue northward to University Avenue and beyond to the Biomedical Discovery District. North-south bike lanes and improved pathways are recommended.

Ontario Street – Ontario St connects the Health Science district and clinical facilities to the East Gateway District where future mixed-use, partnership and innovation development is proposed. Subject to future design and coordination initiatives, an open space providing visual and physical connectivity between the Health Science district, the East Gateway and the stadium area is possible.

Moos/Jackson Open Space – The demolition of the Mayo Buildings provides the opportunity to connect Delaware, south of the Coffman Memorial Union, to the existing segment east of the Moos Tower through the Mayo Circle open space. A new landscape corridor is proposed from Church St to Harvard St enabling a pedestrian and bike connection extending from the Coffman Memorial Union to the proposed University Hospital.

Courtyards – In support of biophilic and winter design principles, new south-facing courtyards are proposed along the Essex Street corridor. The academic renewal buildings proposed between Harvard and Oak Streets on the existing Centennial and Territorial Hall sites define the courtyards. The south-facing courtyards capture sun and block north-northwesterly winds during the winter months. A similar south-facing courtyard is proposed for the Mayo replacement academic renewal building at the corner of Church and Essex.

Public Plaza – Parklet – A small park, defined by a future clinical-related renewal site, is proposed at the northeast corner of Essex and Oak. This south-facing park defines the gateway to the Health Science district along the Essex corridor, providing opportunities for promoting biophilic design.



Health Sciences District

East Gateway

The East Gateway area is a new high-density, mixed-use development on the land parcels generally defined by University on the north, Huron on the east, and Oak on the west. The University of Minnesota Foundation is leading the effort to develop land it has acquired at this strategic location in support of the innovation and partnership objectives of the University. East Gateway is one of several locations identified along the Innovation Corridor which connects West Bank, East Bank, and St. Paul.

The Innovation Corridor links the University's teaching, research, and outreach missions with private companies and other partners. For the East Gateway, companies with a health sciences, med-tech, neuroscience, or early childhood development focus are desired partners. The goal of the Innovation Corridor is to enhance the University's state and regional leadership in multiple areas including bio-based manufacturing, healthcare (bio-tech, med-tech and clinical), and attract world-class talent, drive innovation, and create dynamic startup companies and employment opportunities.

Vision

The Campus Plan embraces the vision for the East Gateway developed by the UM Foundation through a separate planning and design process, the outcome of which is a bold vision for a major mixed-use complex including a combination of office, lab, retail and residential uses. Envisioned as a vibrant urban center, the East Gateway models innovation environments found in other cities with major research universities.

The land use, public realm, mobility, and sustainability frameworks of the Campus Plan are coordinated with the vision set out for the East Gateway District.

The proposed development may include approximately 3 million square feet of space to be developed in three phases. The noted benefits of the East Gateway Vision include:

1. **Center of Gravity:** East Gateway will deliver the first dense, mixed-use district since the recession in the Twin Cities, strengthening the brand of the region and unlocking potential for economic growth.
2. **Innovation Ecosystem:** East Gateway will plant the seeds required to foster an innovation ecosystem that supports institutional and regional growth, and is positioned to build upon Minnesota's history of regional innovation and research and talent at the university.
3. **Competitiveness:** East Gateway will curb market trends to create development that supports collaboration between academia and related industries that will attract and retain talent in the region.
4. **Vibrant District:** The mix of uses will support East Gateway in emerging as a vibrant district that will fundamentally shift the Twin Cities away from the dispersed residential, office, and commercial geographies that exist today, towards a district that attracts young, entrepreneurial talent and innovative businesses of all sizes to the Twin Cities.
5. **Economic Opportunity:** East Gateway's central location and accessibility via public transit will create an integrated place for a diverse set of populations. The district will add jobs that create pathways to the middle class and offer affordable housing to serve low- and middle-income Minnesotans.

Joint Venture Site

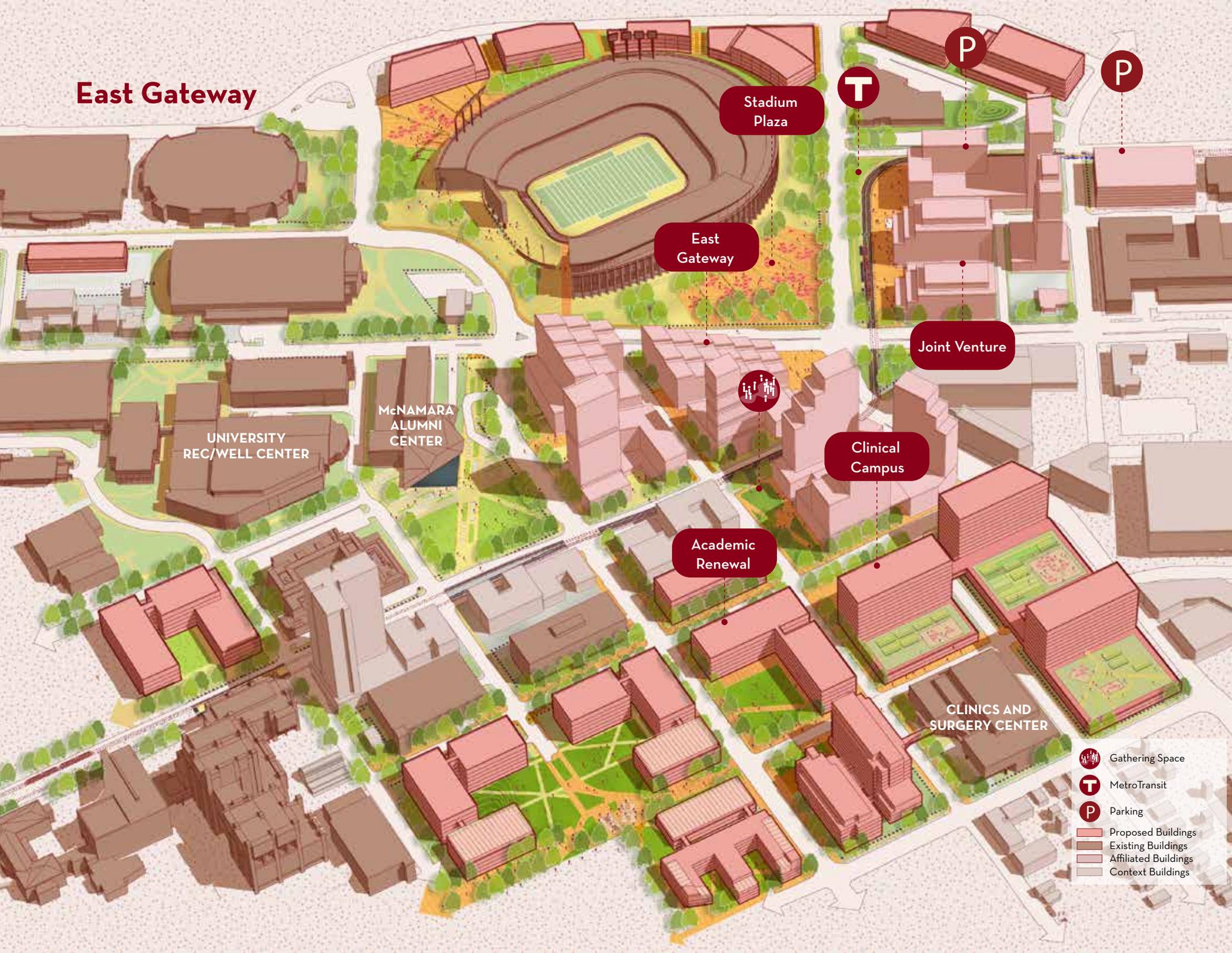
The Joint Venture site includes the land directly east of the Stadium Village light rail station on SE 23rd. Defined by 23rd on the west, the University Transitway on the north, SE 25th on the east and University Avenue on the south, the site will be developed through a joint venture partnership between the University of Minnesota and a private sector partner. It is envisioned as a mixed-use development encompassing in the range of 700,000 gsf of office, hotel and residential uses, including structured parking.

The public realm and development recommendations of the Campus Plan are coordinated with the design vision set out in the plans for the Joint Venture site.



Existing Conditions

East Gateway



Stadium Plaza

East Gateway

Joint Venture

Clinical Campus

Academic Renewal

CLINICS AND SURGERY CENTER

UNIVERSITY REC/WELL CENTER

McNAMARA ALUMNI CENTER

Gathering Space

MetroTransit

Parking

Proposed Buildings

Existing Buildings

Affiliated Buildings

Context Buildings

Biomedical Discovery District

The Biomedical Discovery District (BDD) is the outcome of a financial investment approved by the Minnesota State Legislature in 2008, which will focus on collaborative research initiatives in the health sciences. Today, the BDD is a key driver of scientific discovery and plays a significant role in maintaining Minnesota's lead in the bioscience industry.

Existing facilities include:

- the Lions Research Building (LRB) (1992), which focuses on hearing, vision, and neuroscience;
- the McGuire Translational Research Facility (MTRF) (2005), which houses the Stem Cell Institute and infectious disease and pharmacy research;
- the Center for Magnetic Resonance Research (CMRR), which houses the world's largest imaging magnet and also provides patient care;
- the Winston and Maxine Wallin Medical Biosciences Building (WMBB), which supports research focuses on brain diseases, like Alzheimer's, and new immunology-based treatments for cancer and infectious diseases; and,
- the Cancer and Cardiovascular Research Building (2013), which focuses on heart disease and cures for cancer.

Vision

The Campus Plan sets out a strategy for expanding the established collaborative research mission of the BDD and links the district to activities in the proposed Health Sciences district, and the East Gateway District. Collectively, these districts are central to the outreach mission of the University and emphasize research collaboration, corporate partnerships and clinical care and research. These goals are central to the discovery, innovations and impact commitment of the University's Systemwide Strategic Plan, MPact 2025.

Proposed Facilities

The Campus Plan identifies opportunities for expansion within the BDD including two sites on the north side of 6th Street: East of the MTRF on 5th Street (site of Lots 33 and 37), and east of the Cancer and Cardiovascular Research Building at the northeast corner of 6th Street and SE 23rd Avenue (Ski-U-Mah Lot). Each site would include a parking ramp to support the demand resulting from site and context development.

Expansion opportunities are also identified south of 6th Street and north of the stadium, with the intent of defining both sides of the street with development and activity. Ground-floor spaces for collaboration, meetings, and amenities are proposed for future buildings with the goal of contributing to the vitality of the district.

Public Realm

The public realm recommendations for the BDD build on the positive aspects of the north side of 6th Street – well-defined pathways and bike lanes integrated with a landscape and stormwater strategy.

Streetscape improvements are proposed for Oak Street, the corridor linking the BDD to the proposed partnership, clinical, and research uses planned for the East Gateway and the Health Science district.

23rd Avenue serves as an important street connecting the BDD to public transit and to the regional road network, and is an important pedestrian and bikeway leading to Huron Boulevard. Proposed streetscape improvements along 23rd Ave connect the transit stop to the BDD and the Joint Venture and East Gateway developments.

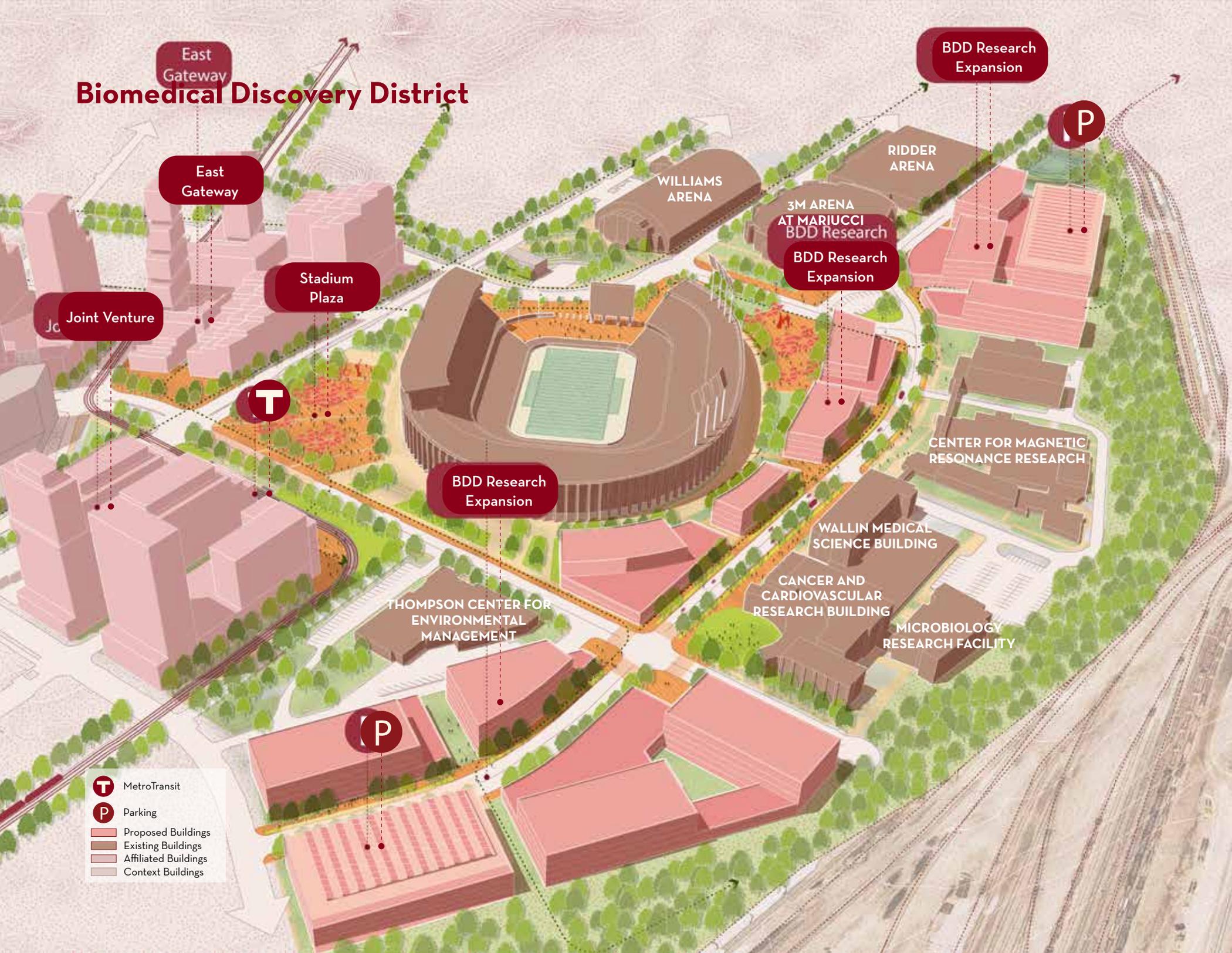
Athletics and Recreation

The Athletics and Recreation area primarily lies north of University Avenue and includes significant facilities and public venues, such as Williams Arena, 3M Arena at Mariucci, and Ridder Arena. Since considerable investment has occurred in the district over the past decade, no major facilities or additional improvements are detailed in the Campus Plan for the athletic and recreation district, with the exception of a site for the potential expansion of University-owned residence halls.



Existing Conditions

Biomedical Discovery District



East Gateway

East Gateway

Stadium Plaza

Joint Venture

T

BDD Research Expansion

THOMPSON CENTER FOR ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

P

WILLIAMS ARENA

3M ARENA AT MARIUCCI BDD Research

BDD Research Expansion

RIDDER ARENA

CENTER FOR MAGNETIC RESONANCE RESEARCH

WALLIN MEDICAL SCIENCE BUILDING

CANCER AND CARDIOVASCULAR RESEARCH BUILDING

MICROBIOLOGY RESEARCH FACILITY

BDD Research Expansion

P

T MetroTransit

P Parking

- Proposed Buildings
- Existing Buildings
- Affiliated Buildings
- Context Buildings





View of 6th Street SE in the Biomedical Discovery District illustrating potential development on the southside of the street.

St. Paul Campus

Located four miles northeast of the East Bank, the St. Paul Campus is home to programs in agriculture and natural resources, biological sciences, extension services, veterinary medicine, and design. For over one hundred years, it has served as an educational campus and an agricultural experiment station defined by research fields, greenhouses and laboratories. The campus encompasses several natural features including bluffs, wooded ravines, Bourlag Woods, and the restored Sarita Wetland. Combined with a generous open space network, the natural features and agricultural land result in a campus noted for its bucolic, verdant landscape.

The campus also features formal open spaces known as the Lawn and the Bowl, which date from the original plans prepared in 1874 by Horace W.S. Cleveland. The University acquired the land defined by the Lawn and the Bowl in 1881. The development of formal open spaces at the Bowl and the Lawn reflects the aesthetic of campus development initially defined in 1910, and increasingly refined through the 1930s. The contrast between the carefully cultivated Lawn and Bowl and the beaux-arts architecture of surrounding buildings, including the St. Paul Gymnasium, Coffey Hall, Bio-systems and Agricultural Engineering, and Haecker Hall, creates a memorable architectural and landscape experience. The rolling topography of the campus heavily influenced the first arrangements of buildings, which were located on a ridge facing the area known today as the Lawn. Later 19th century buildings sit on a ridge to the north and oriented towards the Bowl. These iconic open spaces provide a grounding for all of the principal purposes of the University.

Vision

The vision for the St. Paul Campus draws from the 2019 Strategic Facilities Plan, which defined objectives and principles for guiding the evolution of specific zones, and the campus as a whole. These include:

- Create a discovery district focused on food, water, and the environment.
- Promote regenerative campus design.
- Reuse existing buildings in support of the academic and research mission.
- Maintain an ecosystem of buildings—a system where activities in one building contribute to collaboration and innovation in adjacent buildings.
- Support interdisciplinary research and innovation
- Create experiential learning and public engagement environments.
- Locate collaboration and social hubs to serve a variety of population groups.
- Establish a destination for University of Minnesota students and the broader community.
- Construct catalyst projects and quick wins.
- Maintain and enhance the agricultural land of the campus.

The vision of the Campus Plan aligns the programs, research activities, facilities, research land, and character of the campus with the overarching sustainability initiatives of the University. The natural features of the campus, combined with the agricultural fields and research land, are critical to those initiatives. To that end, the Campus Plan provides guidance on land use, the public realm, mobility, renovation, and new development in St. Paul.





Larpenieur Ave

Cleveland Ave

Bulford Ave

Commonwealth Ave

Como Ave

Land and Facility Use

The Campus Plan maintains existing land use patterns in support of current and future activities. However, it illustrates potential changes and provides facility recommendations across the campus, with the most significant proposed in the following areas:

- Bio-Tech District;
- the Commonwealth Terrace Area; and,
- potentially the Les Bolstad Golf Course.

Academic Core

The proposed changes in the Academic Core calls for building renewal and new construction as part of a coordinated approach to solving complex and complementary space needs:

Magrath Library – Magrath is located at the heart of campus, yet the interior design and façade do not contribute to a welcoming and inclusive place for gathering. The plan suggests renovating the library to create a largescale common space at the center of the building to increase the transparency of the building, and create a new entry to facilitate north-south movement across the campus. Such a space would serve as a collaboration and knowledge hub at the heart of the academic core and create a more accessible and welcoming entrance from the north and south.

St. Paul Commons – The plan supports the idea of reinventing the St. Paul Student Center as a vibrant student destination, facilitated by the Buford Avenue Civic Spine. This would require at least two components: first, defining the right mix and scale of activities, functions, and needed space; and, second, determining the appropriate location and physical connections required to serve resident students, commuters, staff, faculty, and visitors.

Bailey Hall – Bailey Hall is a unique and important housing facility for approximately 500 undergraduate students, centrally located on the St. Paul Campus. In the long term, there is potential to renew Bailey Hall as a residence hall destination with unique food service options and amenities.

Outreach Facility – A potential outreach facility is identified on the surface parking lot bounded by Eckles, Commonwealth, Cleveland, and Carter Avenues. The site offers access from the community spine along Cleveland Avenue and is located between the established core of the campus and the redevelopment imagined for the Commonwealth Terrace Cooperative site. The outreach facility would provide a destination on the St. Paul campus for the surrounding community, region, and state. The facility could be constructed as a farmer’s market or seasonal use facility to support events and programming, or to offer cheese, meat, and ice cream products made on the St. Paul campus, and additional community events.

Academic and Research Facilities

New Academic and Research Facility – A new, centrally-located facility is proposed in Upper Buford Circle to provide an academic and research building, allowing for the demolition of obsolete and under-performing space in existing facilities.

Christensen Lab

The Christensen Lab building occupies a prominent site in the upper Buford Circle area. The building lacks the mechanical systems and structure appropriate for contemporary research. Due to its existing conditions, limited adaptability, and prominent site among other active research buildings, the plan recommends demolition and replacement of the building following a detailed study.

Hodson Hall Replacement

The Plan recommends the demolition and replacement of Hodson given its inefficient floor plan and the poor condition of the building. In addition, the building makes poor use of a strategic site that, if redeveloped, could connect the research lands to the buildings located on Upper Buford Circle.

College of Veterinary Medicine (CVM) Facility Renewal

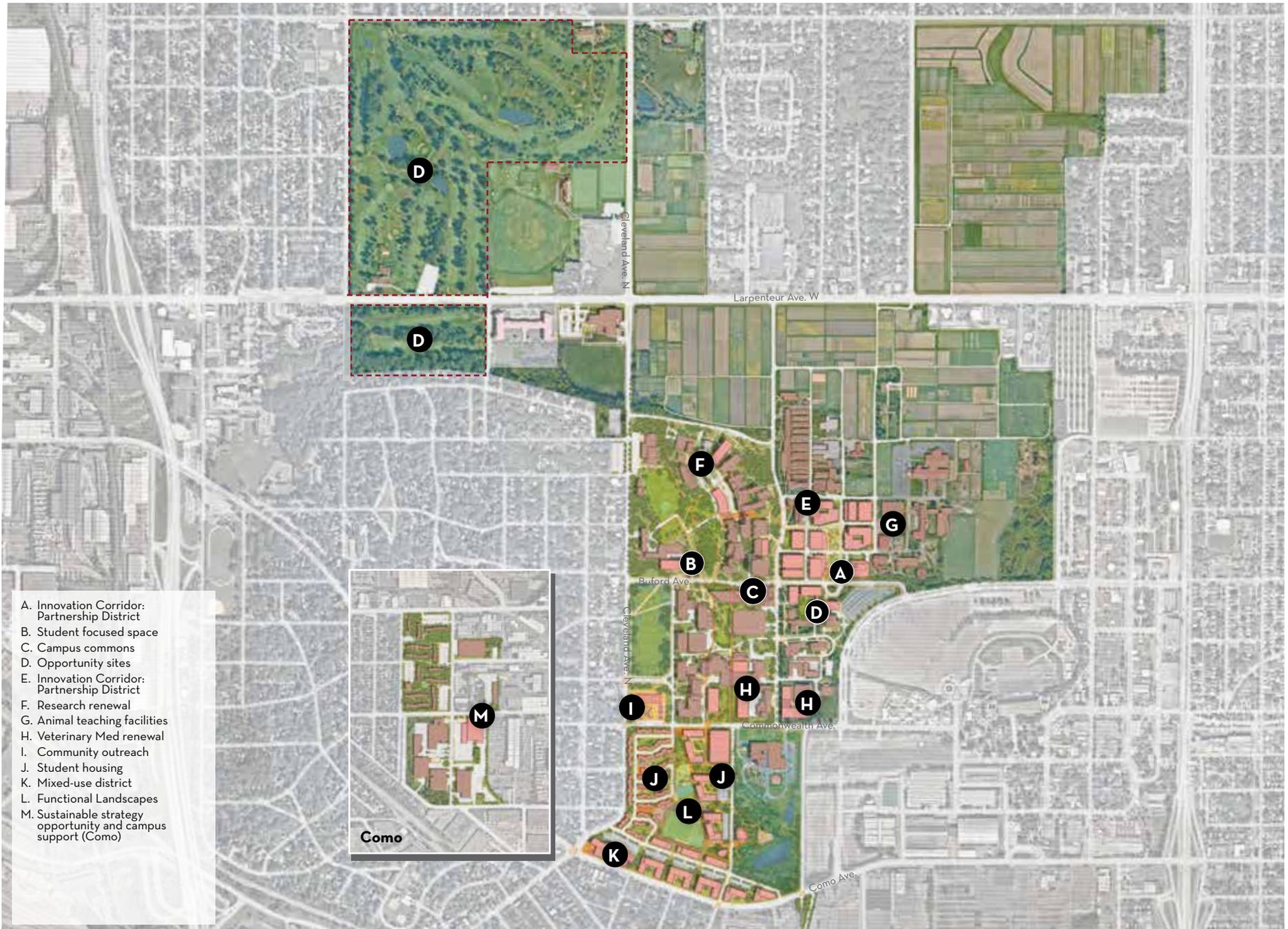
Three potential facilities are proposed as part of a long-term strategy to address deferred maintenance issues, and support evolving programmatic needs in the College of Veterinary Medicine. A new research building to replace the existing Veterinary Science building is the first priority, followed by the demolition and replacement of the Veterinary Medical Center. Independent of these investments but a high priority for student experience is relocation of the Veterinary Medicine Library currently housed in the Veterinary Science building, with a student commons, close to the present day Animal Science/ Veterinary Medicine building. The following summarizes the proposals:



New Veterinary Research Facility - The proposed Veterinary Research Facility replaces labs currently located in the Veterinary Science Building and provides space for future faculty and programmatic needs. Located at the northeast corner of Gortner and Commonwealth Avenues, adjacent to the BSL2 / BSL3 building, the new facility will address critical research needs for CVM.

Animal Science/Veterinary Medicine Addition - To provide needed student learning space, an addition is proposed to the east side of the Animal Science and Veterinary Medicine buildings. The addition accommodates labs on the upper floors and a new library and student commons on the ground floor. The outcome is a new entrance to Veterinary Medicine from the north along the proposed central academic spine of the campus. It includes flexible classroom space and specialized research space that is not possible in the existing building.

New Animal Hospital - A new animal hospital to replace Veterinary Medicine South is recommended over the long-term on the site of the existing Veterinary Science Building. This site provides a new front door to the College of Veterinary Medicine and offers good connectivity and options for parking. This prominent site allows for the renewal and replacement of key portions of the Veterinary Medical Center. Following the construction of a new animal hospital, the Veterinary Science building could be demolished and replaced. The Veterinary Science Building houses research labs, teaching labs, the Veterinary Medical Library, and administrative offices for the College of Veterinary Medicine. It is an essential component of the College's space portfolio, yet it is in poor condition and is not well suited to its current uses.



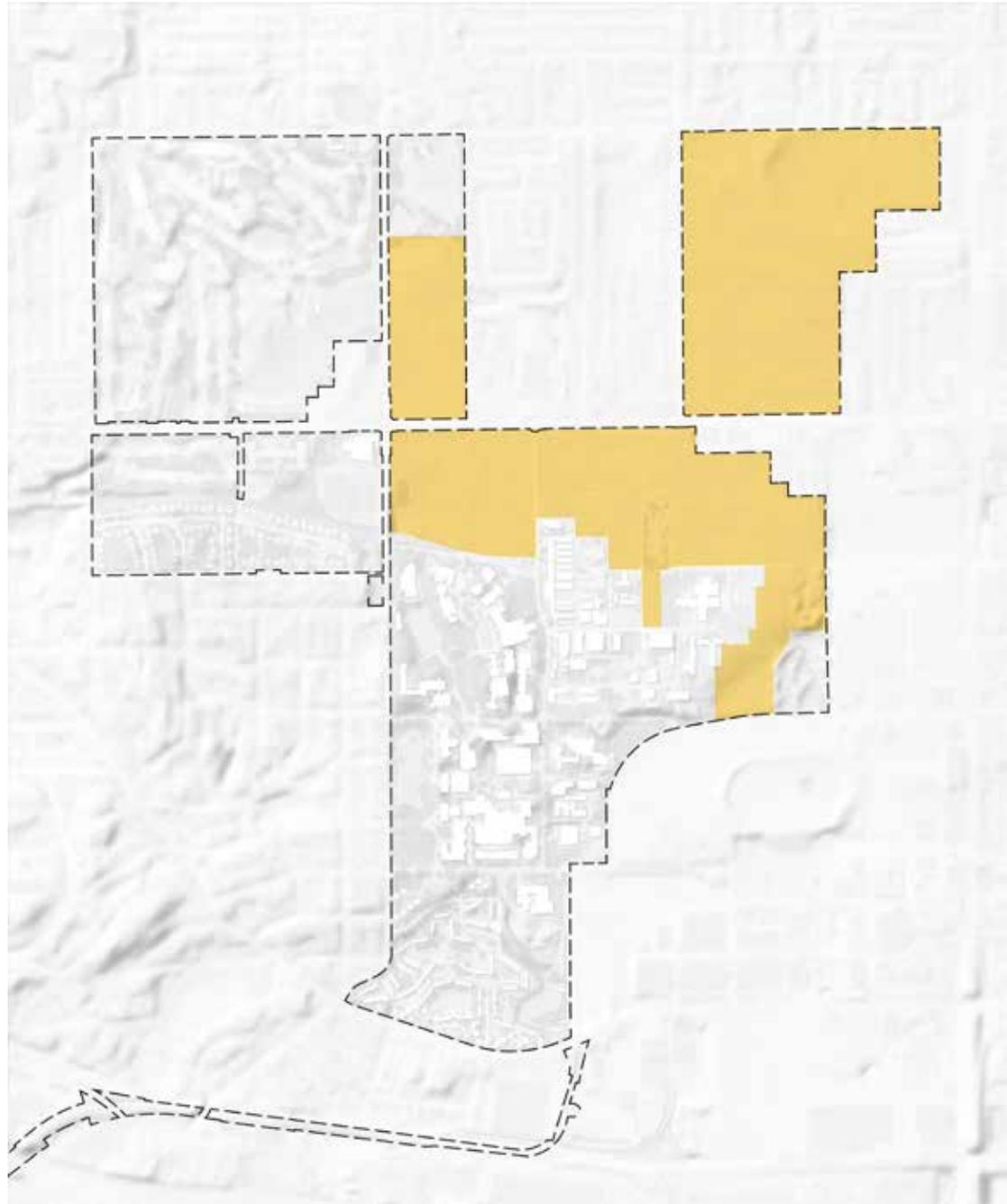
- A. Innovation Corridor: Partnership District
- B. Student focused space
- C. Campus commons
- D. Opportunity sites
- E. Innovation Corridor: Partnership District
- F. Research renewal
- G. Animal teaching facilities
- H. Veterinary Med renewal
- I. Community outreach
- J. Student housing
- K. Mixed-use district
- L. Functional Landscapes
- M. Sustainable strategy opportunity and campus support (Como)

St. Paul - A key diagram of proposed and potential locations for renewal or renovation.

Research Land

The quality of the arable agricultural land on the St Paul Campus is a remarkable asset, especially given its location within the Twin Cities. The land is critical for advancing the land-grant mission of the University and the mission of CFANS and CVM. The proximity of these lands to the research labs and research support facilities is critical to the efficiency and delivery of ongoing academic and research programs. Based on soil condition mapping, the agricultural lands are highly productive and valuable for ongoing research. They also are important to longitudinal research given their use for research since the Agricultural Experiment Station/University Farm was established in 1882. The Campus Plan protects these lands for ongoing and future research and limits the encroachment of development. The plan also protects these lands in the interest of the University's sustainability and resiliency goals and emphasis on food, water and soil security.

Over the years, the research land has been divided into the active research parcels present on the campus today. The proximity of these parcels relative to research laboratories and the student population makes this land tremendously valuable to the mission of CFANS, CVM, and other colleges with land or horticulturally based research. The Campus Plan protects this land from future development that is not related to agricultural and veterinary uses. Today there are over 180 acres in active research over the campus, plus an additional 55 acres in support functions, such as animal housing, storage, and forage production. This land includes research plots assigned to individual research projects and colleges. The land hosts a mix of both conventional and organic production systems. Typical cultivation in the plots include traditional Minnesota crops like corn, soybean, wheat, barley, and alfalfa, as well as more specialty crops including tomatoes, peppers, and industrial hemp.



Research Lands, St. Paul Campus

CFANS Animal Teaching Facilities - Animal teaching and housing facilities are located on the east side of the St. Paul campus directly south of the Leatherdale Equine Center parking lot. The Campus Plan designates this area for existing and future animal teaching facilities with the goal of accommodating these activities in close proximity to the academic core. This proximity is critical to the efficiency and logistics of the operations and for student access.

The Bio-Tech District

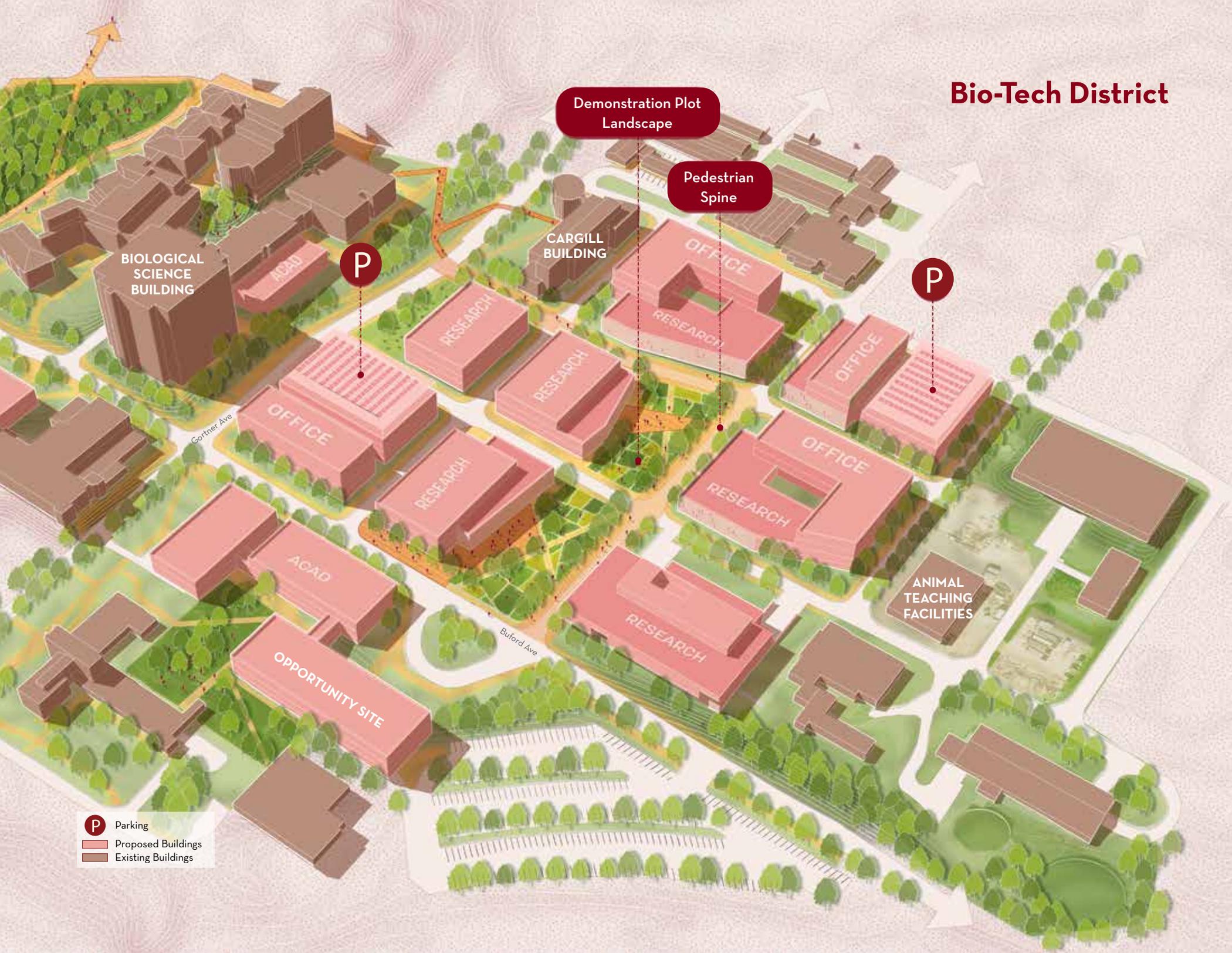
The Bio-Tech District, located at the northeast corner of Buford and Gortner, is intended to support bio-based manufacturing and related activities that attract world-class talent, drive innovation, and create dynamic new start-ups and jobs. The Campus Plan reserves land for future institutional and private sector partnerships focused on disciplines and activities specific to St. Paul. Facilities that support startup and research initiatives in the area of food, water, and the environment are recommended. The district plan includes several sites around a central open space or quad. The layout of the district accommodates in the range of 850,000 square feet of future development and parking. Two parking ramps serve the needs of the district, as well as the existing research and outreach facilities east of Gortner, and offer replacement for parking spaces displaced by development along Upper Buford Circle.

Animal teaching facilities displaced by this effort are relocated to the adjacent animal teaching area. Seed processing storage and field equipment storage will also require a new, consolidated seed facility to support ongoing research.



Biotech District

Bio-Tech District



Demonstration Plot
Landscape

Pedestrian
Spine

P

P

BIOLOGICAL
SCIENCE
BUILDING

ACAD

CARGILL
BUILDING

OFFICE

RESEARCH

RESEARCH

RESEARCH

OFFICE

OFFICE

RESEARCH

OFFICE

RESEARCH

ANIMAL
TEACHING
FACILITIES

ACAD

RESEARCH

RESEARCH

OPPORTUNITY SITE

Gortner Ave

Buford Ave

-  Parking
-  Proposed Buildings
-  Existing Buildings





Bio-Tech District

The Biotech District is intended to support bio-based manufacturing and related activities that attract world-class talent and drive innovation. Some of these facilities may be developed in partnership with other non-University entities. Physical development in this area will advance when proposals support University research priorities and talent development for University students.



Existing Conditions

Potential Central Green of the Bio-Tech District

Commonwealth Terrace Cooperative

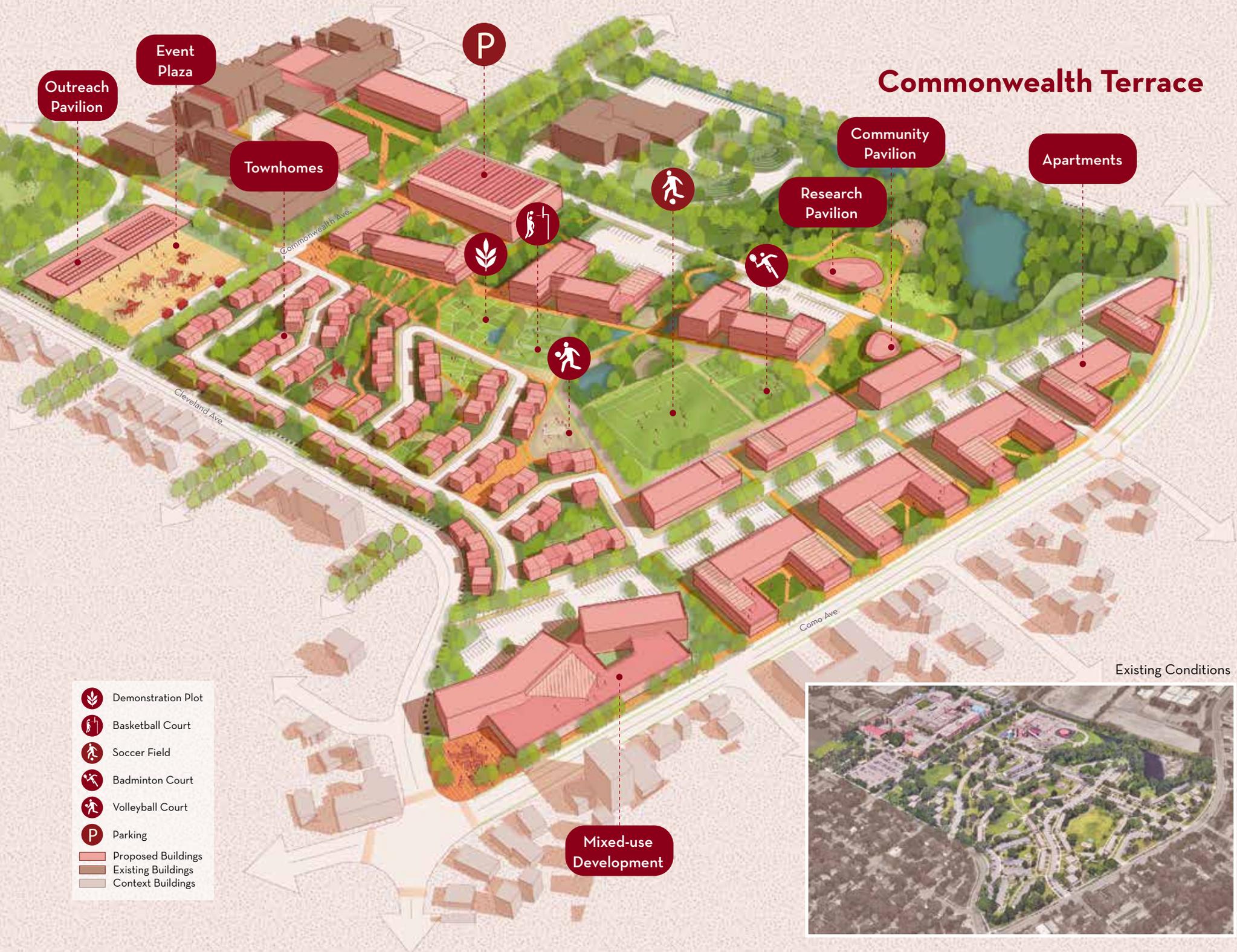
The Campus Plan identifies the Commonwealth Terrace Cooperative area for redevelopment given the current condition and configuration of the existing buildings. Redevelopment is imagined to include a range of affordable housing types and options for graduate students and families. The goal is to create a vibrant series of neighborhoods centered on the expanded Sarita Wetland and park-like spaces. As part of the greater vision, improvements to the Sarita Wetland increases accessibility and enhances its role as an amenity for the campus and broader community. It features trails, play areas, sports fields and stormwater management features.

The concept proposes a mix of housing, including townhouses along the Cleveland Avenue edge, apartment buildings on the interior and mixed-use residential buildings along Como Avenue. Plans along Como Avenue require coordination with adjacent cities, including both the City of Falcon Heights and the City of St. Paul.

The 2019 Strategic Facilities Plan proposed a public realm framework for the St. Paul campus informed by the existing land use patterns, natural systems and open space structure.



Commonwealth Terrace



Outreach Pavilion

Event Plaza

Townhomes

Community Pavilion

Apartments

Research Pavilion

Mixed-use Development

Existing Conditions

- Demonstration Plot
- Basketball Court
- Soccer Field
- Badminton Court
- Volleyball Court
- Parking
- Proposed Buildings
- Existing Buildings
- Context Buildings





Existing Conditions

Potential View of the Central Open Space of the Redeveloped Commonwealth Terrace

Public Realm and Landscape

Athletics and Recreation

Use of fields for organized recreation will continue to be part of the landscape in St. Paul given the deficits in recreational facilities that serve students across the Twin Cities campus. It will be important to maintain sports fields for use by the campus community that is oriented to the St. Paul Campus. Les Bolstad Golf Course occupies approximately 162 acres in the northwest quadrant of the St. Paul campus. In addition to hosting public play on 18 holes and a driving range, it serves as a recreational and athletics destination for cross country teams as well as golf teams.

Recreational and athletic uses are expected to continue, as the underlying soil conditions and the topography of the golf course land suggest this site is not optimal for agricultural purposes. Looking ahead, the University has identified the golf course as an opportunity area, including considering a portion of the land for possible disposition.

The proposed public realm framework is defined by a series of thematic corridors:

Buford Avenue Civic Spine

Buford Avenue, the main east-west route at the midpoint of the campus, is reimagined as the “Main Street” or civic spine of the campus featuring new development and streetscape improvements. Buford Avenue would be reconstructed to support all types of traffic (vehicle, transit, bikes, and pedestrians). Its location at midpoint of campus, when combined with a renewed physical character, will enhance the campus experience and unify the campus. It connects the Cleveland Avenue gateway to the Bio-Tech District on the east side of campus. It will remain the key transit corridor with an enhanced transit node near the central spine (Magrath Library/McNeal

Hall area) to support passenger waiting and student amenity spaces.

Arts Walk and Other Programming Opportunities

Campus life can be enriched by building on the presence and iconic status of public art on campus, such as the Lawn’s bull sculptures. To that end, an arts walk along the proposed academic spine, strengthens the open space network and celebrates the themes of food, water, and the environment through pieces of art or interpretive signage. The walk could also increase the visibility of academic work and research around campus.

North-South Corridors

The circulation and open space structure of the St. Paul Campus consists of a series of landscape and circulation spines. Three north-south circulation

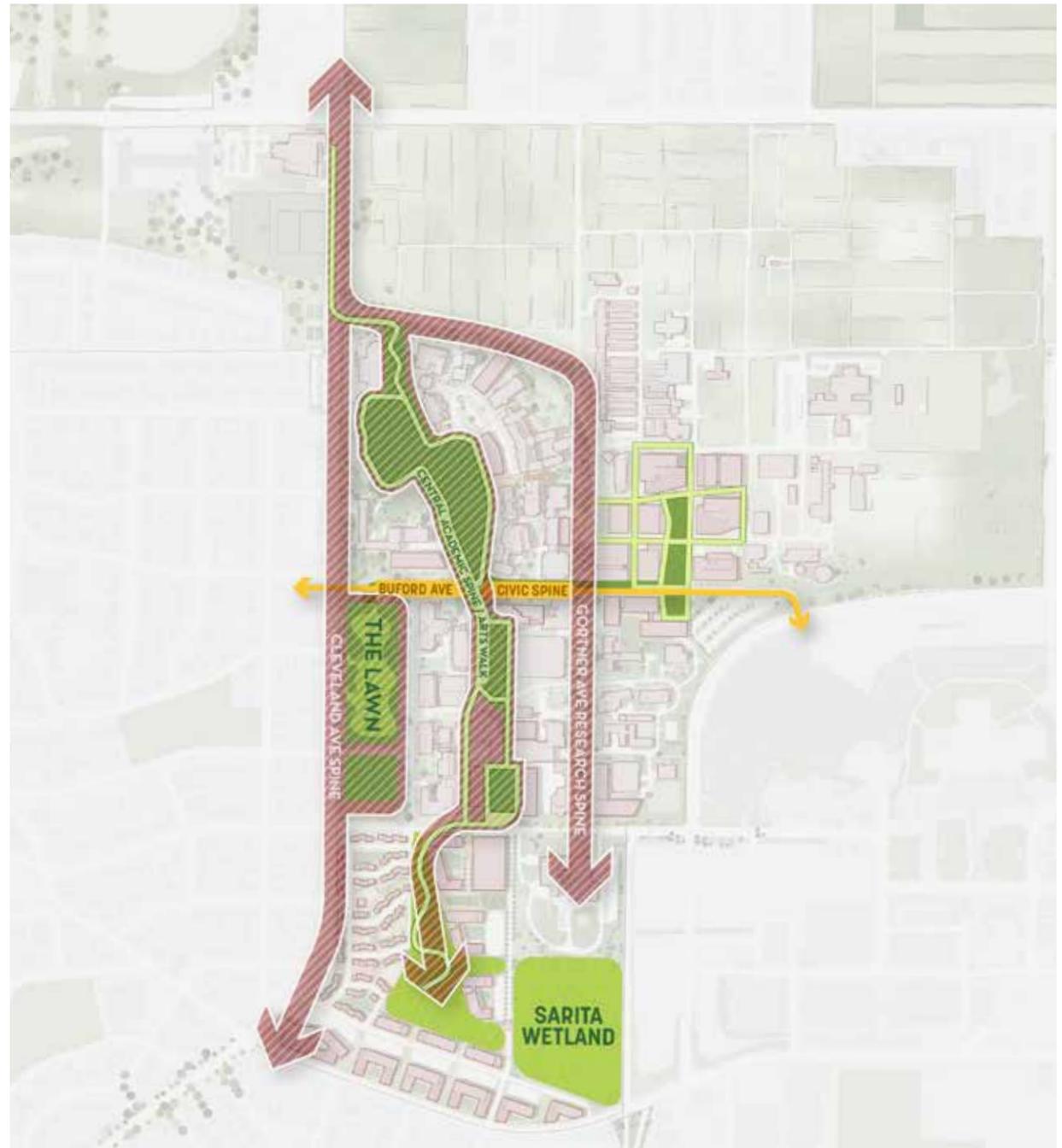
themes are introduced, building upon existing street and landscape corridors present on the campus. These include the Cleveland Avenue community spine, the Gortner Avenue research spine, and a new central or academic spine, passing between the two east and west boundaries.

- The community spine connects the new Bell Museum, at the corner of Larpenteur and Cleveland Avenues, to the established core of the campus by means of improved sidewalks and the streetscape along Cleveland. It extends the positive landscape qualities of the Lawn to the south connecting with the Sarita Wetlands in the southeast corner of the Civic Spine campus with the intent of providing an organizational concept, for the potential redevelopment of the Commonwealth Terrace Cooperative site.
- The research spine follows Gortner Avenue extending from Larpenteur to Commonwealth. New gateway features and an enhanced streetscape are imagined along this corridor.



Les Bolstad Golf Course in the foreground, with the Bell Museum and St. Paul recreation fields beyond

- Various components of the central open space structure and internal roadways of the campus inform the alignment of the central academic spine. It consists of two parallel pedestrian routes and provides north-south pedestrian connectivity between the Veterinary Medicine Complex on the south and research areas north of Buford Avenue. The idea is to enliven the central spine as an arts walk by including sculpture and amenities related to the mission of the St. Paul campus.
- The eastern pathway of the central spine alignment connects the Veterinary Medicine Complex with McNeal Hall. It follows existing pedestrian routes and, where needed, moves through buildings to facilitate north-to-south and exterior-to-interior movement. It includes concepts for moving north to south through the Veterinary Medicine Complex and through the Magrath Library. In both instances, interior reconfiguration of the buildings is proposed to provide accessible routes and to introduce new spaces in response to academic, research, and collaboration needs.
- The western pathway of the academic spine connects the Bell Museum and the St. Paul Gymnasium to Como Avenue. It is primarily an exterior route with one internal segment passing through the Animal Science/Veterinary Medicine Building.

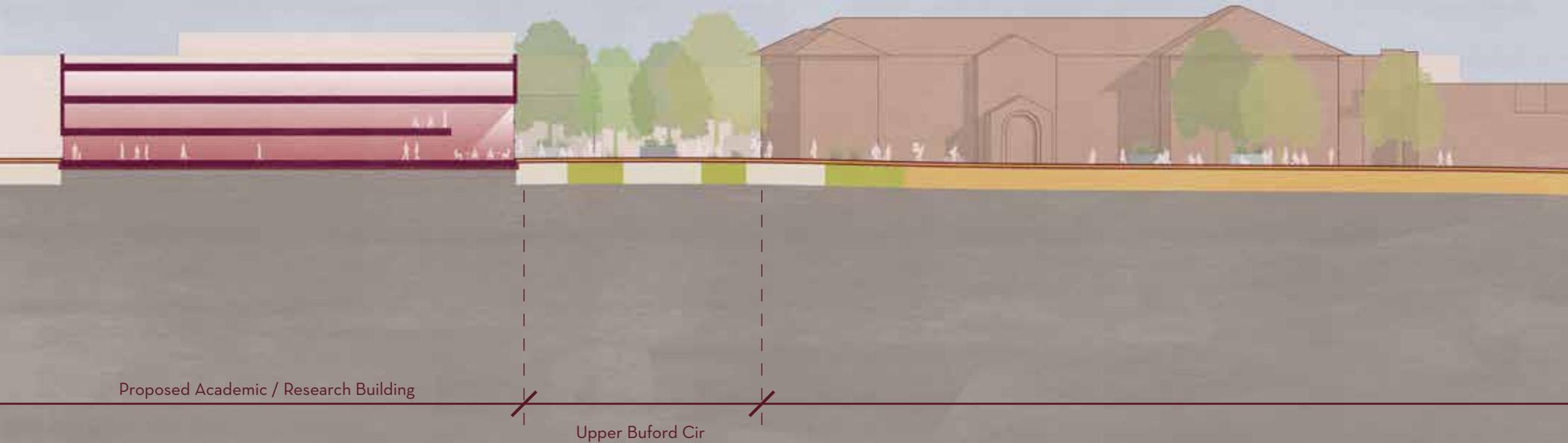


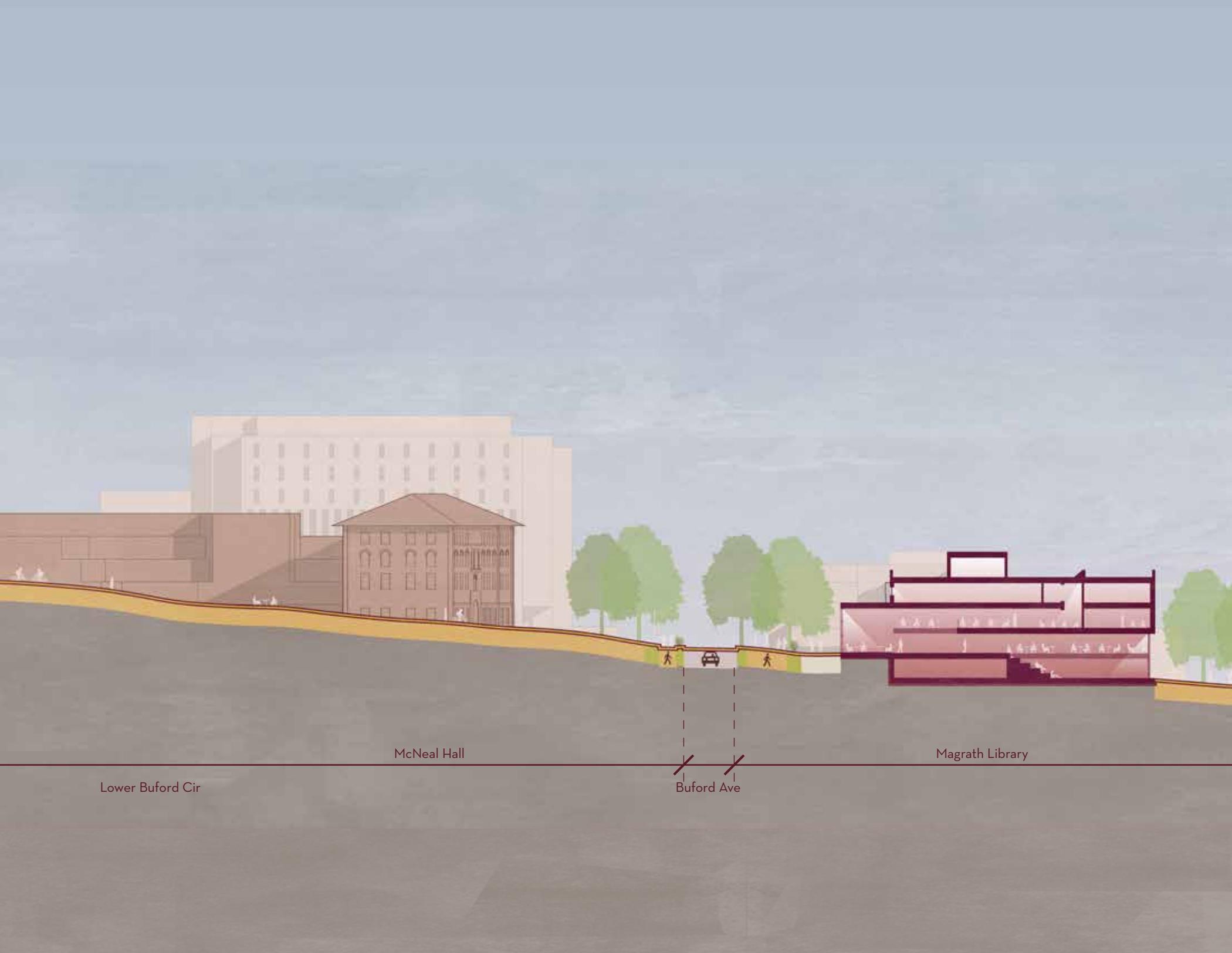
The Corridors of the St. Paul Campus

The Central Academic Spine & Arts Walk

Section through the Central Academic Spine illustrating the potential connection between a renovated Magrath Library and a new research building in Upper Buford Circle. It is themed as the Arts Walk, providing the opportunity to integrate sculpture and other elements representative of the academic, research and service programs of St. Paul. Future pathways will meander to provide an accessible route from Buford Avenue to Upper Buford Circle.

Section through the Academic Spine





McNeal Hall

Lower Buford Cir

Buford Ave

Magrath Library



Implementation **7**

Introduction

The Campus Plan looks forward to the 10-year horizon and beyond by building upon the long history of the University, its resilience, and the guidance provided by previous plans including the 2009 Master Plan. This vision for the future of the Twin Cities campus takes into consideration key planning principles, builds on recent and ongoing studies and efforts, and aligns with the University’s Systemwide Strategic Plan, MPact 2025.

It can also serve as a framework to guide incremental change, a tool to evaluate future development proposals, and inform the public of the University’s aspirations to promote and foster positive relationships with neighborhoods, municipalities, and other stakeholders.

The plan, however, does not identify specific sites for development, design buildings and landscapes, or define a financial plan for the construction of buildings and development of property. The plan also does not fully address campus development issues related to cultural resources. As projects are considered that would impact historic buildings or districts, consideration must be given to maintaining the integrity of such resources while also meeting current and future needs for pedagogy, operations, accessibility, and other factors.

The implementation strategy for the Campus Plan was carefully constructed to address the financial capacity and logistical needs of the University. The implementation period is designed to take place in two time horizon periods: 1-10 years (or “near term”) and 10+ years (or “long term”).

Though most of the improvements envisioned in the Campus Plan will take many years to implement, there are several that could be implemented in the very near term, and others are currently ongoing:

1. Gopher Way signage and wayfinding;
2. replacement of sidewalks and plazas;
3. renewal of exterior pedestrian-scale lighting;
4. accessibility improvements as part of capital building projects;
5. micromobility policy and management;
6. mobility hub pilot projects with external partners;
7. extensions to the bicycle network; and,
8. programming and informal gathering in campus open spaces, such as Northrop Mall, Gateway Plaza, and the St. Paul Lawn.

A survey conducted in February 2021 to understand priorities and opportunities for improvement received more than 2,800 responses, below are excerpts from the results.

We asked people:

What types of student life spaces are most important for creating a sense of community?



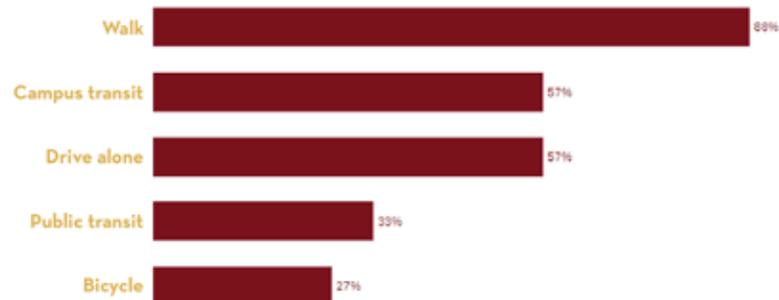
We asked people:

If you walk to or from campus, what would make walking more attractive and convenient?



We asked people:

What mode(s) of transportation do you use to travel on campus?



West Bank

1-10 Years

- A. Student facing building (replacement)
- B. Academic commons (Wilson Library)
- C. Improved transit connections
- D. Wayfinding and pedestrian signage
- E. Washington Avenue SE Bridge improvements

10+ Years

- F. New pedestrian, bike connection to East Bank
- G. Corridor and open space development
- H. Innovation Corridor: West Bank Incubator
- I. Academic expansion
- J. Student focused new open space
- K. Relocated parking (new structure)
- L. Campus edge open space
- M. Development opportunity



West Bank

East Bank

1-10 Years

- A. Clinical campus renewal
- B. Innovation Corridor: East Gateway
- C. Innovation Corridor: Joint Venture
- D. Stadium open space renewal
- E. BDD research expansion
- F. Northrop Mall renewal
- G. Renovation of student-facing buildings
- H. Selective demolitions

10+ Years

- I. Hospital relocation
- J. Delaware connection
- K. Essex corridor
- L. BDD research expansion
- M. Academic renewal
- N. Housing redevelopment
- O. River Flats open space partnership
- P. River focused visual connections
- Q. Enhanced wayfinding throughout campus
- R. Land acknowledgment opportunity



East Bank

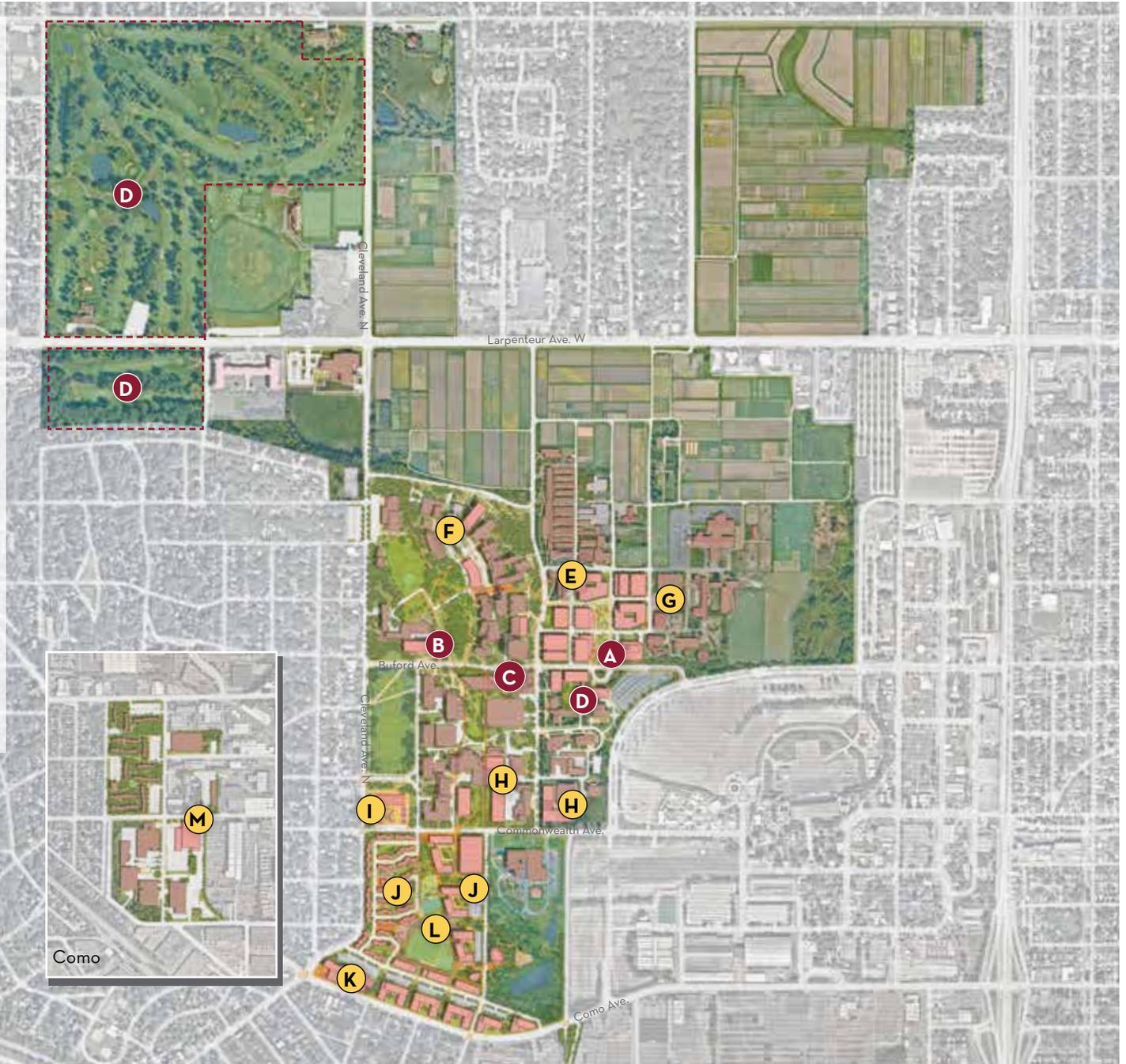
St. Paul

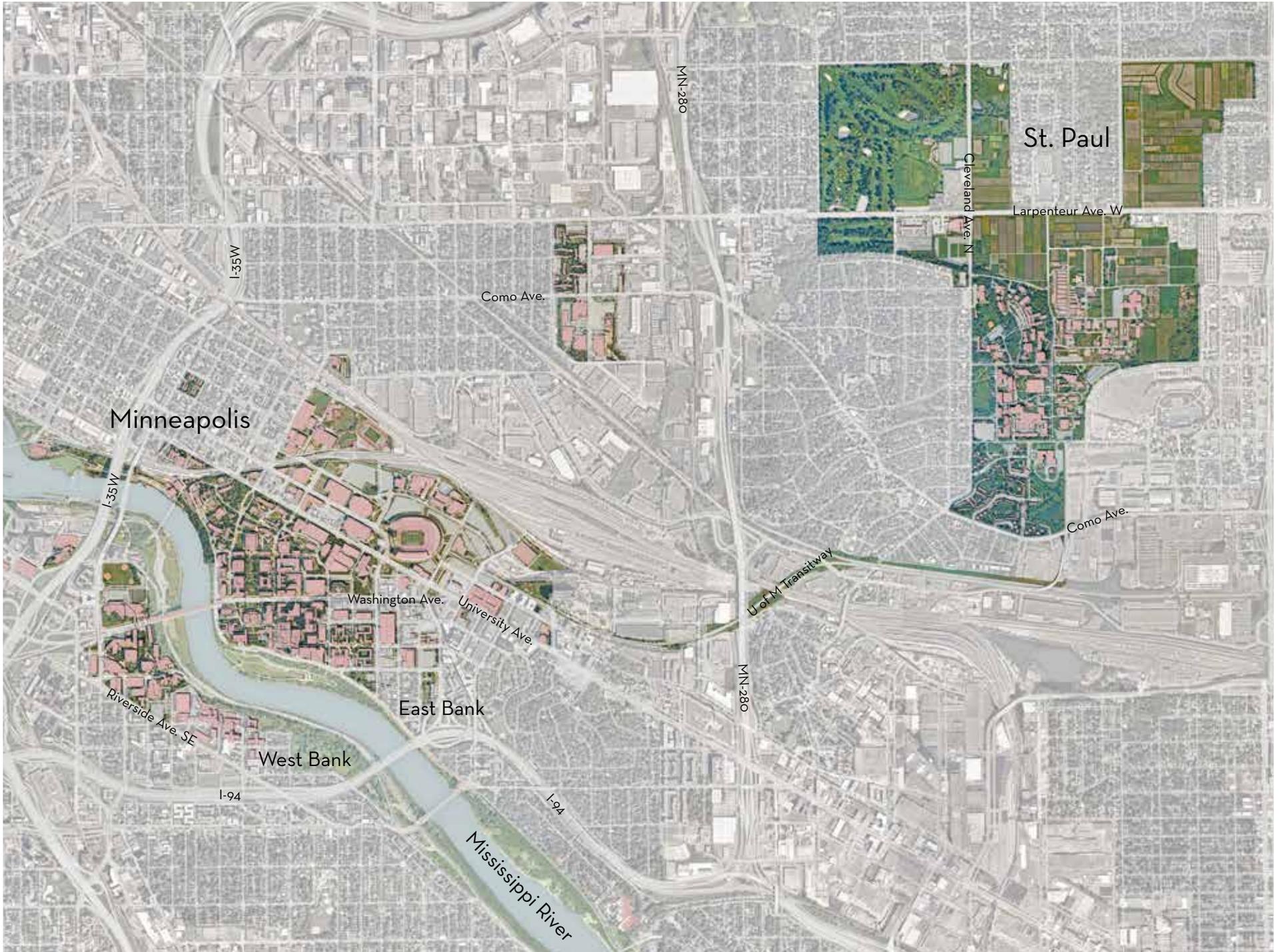
1-10 Years

- A. Innovation Corridor: Partnership District
- B. Student focused space
- C. Campus commons
- D. Opportunity Sites

10+ Years

- E. Innovation Corridor: Partnership District
- F. Research renewal
- G. Animal teaching facilities
- H. Veterinary Med renewal
- I. Community outreach
- J. Student housing
- K. Mixed-use district
- L. Functional Landscapes
- M. Sustainable strategy opportunity and campus support (Como)





Existing Conditions - 2021

