1 Campus Master Plan

SKIDMORE, OWINGS & MERRILL LLP
MAY, 2015
“We will remain true to our core missions as we strengthen our research capacity, serve as a major economic engine for the state, and most importantly, offer a great education to our students.”

Susan Herbst, President. University of Connecticut
Through a focus on supporting STEM education and growing the research enterprise at UConn, the State of Connecticut is investing $1.54 billion in campus development over the next ten years through its Next Generation Connecticut (NextGenCT) initiative. This investment will transform every aspect of academic and student life and advance the environmental sustainability mission of the University. The Campus Master Plan is the vehicle that will drive this transformational change, with an emphasis on excellence, community, inspiration, and innovation.

Research enabled by new, dedicated facilities realized through NextGenCT, in concert with a continuing commitment to sustainability, will guide the campus toward its goal of carbon neutrality by 2050. Infused into all future campus investments, this commitment will solidify UConn as a leader in sustainable development and attract top students and faculty who share a commitment to these ideals.

Beyond the core research investment, the Plan targets three key locations on campus – Hillside Road, Homer Babbidge Library, and Wilbur Cross – as hubs of social and intellectual activity that will magnify the vibrancy of the campus. These hubs will become collaborative spaces that drive interdisciplinary research along with new and renovated academic and research facilities. Projected enrollment growth will be enabled by new academic buildings, faculty offices, student services, and residence halls.

The Plan knits the campus together through a unique and distinctive landscape, anchored by two greenways threading Connecticut’s native woodlands through campus. These greenways will integrate new campus buildings and districts with the campus environment.

Streetscape improvements throughout campus will clarify movement and enhance the experience of pedestrians, vehicles, bicycles, and transit. Hillside Road will become a new campus “Main Street” – a vibrant hub of student activity anchored by dining, wellness, recreation, and other student services.

These improvements, combined with landscape interventions and investments at the northern and southern gateways to campus along Route 195, will enhance the entry sequence. Important viewsheds at campus entries will be preserved, including the College of Agriculture, Health and Natural Resources along Storrs Road. The School of Fine Arts, associated cultural venues across campus, and recreational and athletic amenities will be planned to optimize the positive effects – and minimize the negative impacts – of the University on the local community.

Realized in phases over the next 20 years, this Master Plan will have far-reaching and long-lasting impacts, while still remaining true to the core mission, ideals, and history of UConn.
The University of Connecticut is dedicated to excellence demonstrated through national and international recognition. Through freedom of academic inquiry and expression, we create and disseminate knowledge by means of scholarly and creative achievements, graduate and professional education, and outreach.

With our focus on teaching and learning, the University helps every student grow intellectually and become a contributing member of the state, national, and world communities. Through research, teaching, service, and outreach, we embrace diversity and cultivate leadership, integrity, and engaged citizenship in our students, faculty, staff, and alumni. As our state’s flagship public University, and as a land and sea grant institution, we promote the health and well-being of citizens by enhancing the social, economic, cultural, and natural environments of the state and beyond.”

University of Connecticut Mission Statement

Today, building on its strengths in undergraduate education and athletic achievement, UConn is expanding educational opportunities, research activities, and interdisciplinary initiatives. It continues to invest in the Storrs Campus to add new, state-of-the-art facilities, improve the campus experience, and attract top talent to the University.

Throughout the planning process, three themes have consistently been expressed by faculty, staff, students, visitors, and all those associated with the University. People are proud of the history and accomplishments of UConn. They are excited about the future of the University. And they recognize the importance of public investment in creating a vibrant and successful campus that maintains local focus with global perspective. UConn is committed to solving world problems while benefiting the State of Connecticut.

Ranked among the top 25 public universities in the nation by U.S. News & World Report in 2014, UConn offers exceptional academic programs, an outstanding athletics tradition, and a beautiful, unique campus environment. As the State of Connecticut’s flagship institution, UConn is home to over 30,000 students at six different regional campuses – the largest of which, the Storrs Campus, has enrollment nearing 26,000.

Since its founding in 1881, the University has stayed true to its agricultural roots. Despite offering over 100 undergraduate majors in a wide variety of fields – some with a long history and others brand new – UConn maintains its rural character, set atop a hill in the forests of northeastern Connecticut. This balance of old and new, of campus and natural setting, makes it a uniquely desirable place to live and learn.

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A Framework for Future Growth

The campus planning framework is based on an understanding of the Academic Vision and collaboration with the University community and other stakeholders. It suggests a path forward based on key themes that, along with individual strategies outlined in the Plan, will help advance UConn’s “path toward excellence.”

Expanding Research

As a result of major STEM investments through Next Generation Connecticut, new mixed lab and office spaces will be required. The buildings will include space devoted to advanced research, teaching, and administration, as well as significant landscape improvements to mitigate local stormwater impacts. These new buildings – in both their indoor and outdoor spaces – will create opportunities for socialization, foster collaboration, and facilitate interdisciplinary research.

Expanding Learning Communities

The University’s goal to broaden the definition of learning communities to achieve a campus that promotes deep and meaningful student engagement – where active students experience the entire campus as a place of living, learning, and discovering – will be manifested in the physical plan. New districts will create an integrated, live-learn-work-play environment. The Master Plan will support future modes of teaching and learning. Most critically, on-campus housing options will expand to support enrollment growth targets.

Meeting the Climate Action Commitments and Balancing Campus Circulation

The University’s commitments to reduce its carbon footprint and continue to operate as a leader in sustainable design and campus operations are reflected throughout the Master Plan. Improvements to campus transportation and parking represent a key aspect of achieving these goals. The University can simultaneously address congestion issues, work towards its sustainability goals, and build a revitalized 21st-century campus by creating balanced, safe, and aesthetically pleasing streets and pathways through campus and encouraging alternatives to driving.

Creating Places of Interaction

The Plan focuses on improving the on-the-ground campus experience through both major and minor interventions. Most notably, a series of woodland corridors are proposed within the larger mosaic of outdoor spaces to improve the day-to-day experience of moving through the campus. Large stormwater management features will be embedded within these corridors, providing both ecological and experiential benefits and opportunities for outdoor learning, circulation, and informal recreation.

Anticipating Future Trends in Higher Education

The Plan also looks beyond the next 10 years towards future growth and investment. It anticipates that trends in higher education will continue to drive the following key areas of focus for the University:

• Interdisciplinary collaboration
• Expanding role of science
• Increasing student support needs
• Sustainability
• Health and wellness
An Inclusive Planning Process

The planning process has been conducted with the active participation of University leadership, faculty, students, and representatives from the community, working in collaboration with a consultant team of architects, planners, landscape architects, engineers, and sustainability specialists.

During the planning process, the campus has been studied to explore a range of opportunities and priorities. By soliciting input from a wide range of stakeholders, the Master Plan integrates a cross-section of views and opinions about the future development of the campus. The value of principles and goals to guide this conversation and decision making has been central to the process.

- Phase 1: Assessment, Analysis + Visioning
- Phase 2: Framework Alternatives
- Phase 3: Draft Master Plan + Project Priorities
- Phase 4: Community Input + Master Plan Updates

Developing a Framework for the Vision

A framework plan addresses campus-wide systems. It is an illustration of concepts that guide a strategy for cohesive implementation. These layers include physical plans for systems like transportation, parking, landscape, new buildings, utilities, and land use. Supporting policy proposals relate to sustainability goals, building servicing, regional transportation strategies, and shared infrastructure agreements.

A framework plan is also flexible. It adapts to new conditions and needs. A framework outlines immediate needs and capital projects, but also serves as an evolving tool for University Campus Planners for years to come – allowing future campus projects to be developed with a common goal in mind. It is expected that this Plan will be reviewed, revised, and updated periodically to reflect changing conditions.

Planning Horizon

The vision for the University campus framework is developed over four time horizons:

- **Immediate Needs**: Distinguished by Next Generation Connecticut initiatives and other priority projects defined by the University, these projects are expected to be initiated or completed in the five years between 2015 and 2020.
- **Ten-Year Projected Needs**: The step beyond NextGenCT, the intermediate phase plans for expansion of the campus through 2025.
- **Twenty-Year Vision**: A full build-out of the campus development framework by the year 2035.
- **Long-Term Growth Opportunities**: Areas identified for the next phase of redevelopment and campus growth, beyond the 20-year horizon of the Master Plan.

The Plan brings together existing campus conditions, immediate space needs, University goals, and big ideas for the campus in a single unified vision.
How the Plan Is Organized

This first Campus Master Plan document represents a summary of the key themes and recommendations of the Plan. This primary volume is augmented by an Executive Summary additional design volumes and a series of appendices, which together complete the Campus Master Plan. The remaining documents serve as additional reference points for design recommendations and analysis.

Overview

Executive Summary
The overall positioning of the Master Plan in relation to the University’s Academic Vision, goals, and priorities. It summarizes the major design ideas, growth strategies, and vision for the future.

Components of the Plan

1. Campus Master Plan
An outline of University priorities, big ideas, and key areas of focus for the future. The Campus Master Plan is a comprehensive summary of the vision and ideas.

2. District Guidelines
An explanation of how the vision can be implemented at the scale of individual sites and sub-areas. The district-specific principles, guidelines, and illustrative concepts in this volume are intended to provide guidance to designers of individual buildings and landscape projects.

Technical Appendices

A. Sustainability Framework Plan
A detailed plan for operationalizing sustainability at all levels, building towards the University’s long-term climate neutrality goals.

B. Landscape Master Plan
A plan for improving and amplifying the University’s diverse collection of landscapes and public spaces.

C. Transportation, Circulation, and Parking Plan
Analysis and recommendations related to campus movement and its supporting infrastructure and policies.

D. Utilities Master Plan
Analysis and recommendations for the full range of campus utility networks, outlining the impact of the plan on existing systems and potential upgrades required in the future.

E. Historic Preservation and Adaptive Reuse Plan
A careful look at existing building condition and functionality, including recommendations for historic preservation, renovation, and replacement.

F. Space Needs Analysis
An assessment of existing and projected programmatic needs of the University, for comparison with current space inventory and establishment of planning scenarios.
Planning
Context

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Defining the Next Phase of Growth  14
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Understanding the Place

The Storrs Campus

A land grant University in a rural setting, UConn has significant landholdings around the historic core area. While the main campus is often seen as the extent of the University, there are many other linked “campuses” at Storrs, including various farms and forest tracts in the area. Together they account for 3,826 acres. The roughly 350 University buildings are concentrated at the Main Campus, with some development at Depot Campus, North Campus, and the Agricultural Campus, the home of the College of Agriculture, Health and Natural Resources.

Regional Campuses

While Storrs is home to the greater UConn system’s primary campus, the University is strengthened by its satellite campuses in Hartford, Torrington, Waterbury, Stamford, and Avery Point. This robust system of regional campuses is intended to interact seamlessly with the Storrs Campus. Many of the regional campuses (Hartford, Stamford, Waterbury, and Avery Point) are scheduled for transformational projects in the coming years, but their physical planning is not included within this Campus Master Plan.

Town of Mansfield

NextGenCT projects are designed to provide significant economic benefit to both the state and the town, creating jobs and bringing new investment to the community. New buildings on campus will be planned in the context of other new investments in Mansfield, including the more urban Storrs Center and single-family residential neighborhoods. The Master Plan aligns with and supports the recommendations in Mansfield Tomorrow, the town’s ongoing planning initiative.

Role of the Depot Campus

The Depot Campus – once the historic Mansfield Training School and Hospital – is a unique part of the Storrs Campus. Although it is essentially used today as overflow space for back-of-house functions, Depot could play a more important role in the future life of the University. Growth here may be driven by private developer interest in housing or other programs, and will depend on market conditions. It will follow a different trajectory from new investment at the Main Campus, but may eventually be developed as a planned, mixed-use community.

Concentrating Growth in the Core

Because the core area of campus – including Main Campus and portions of the North Campus and East Campus – has significant capacity for future growth, there is no reason to consider major new development at Spring Manor Farm, the North Eagleville Tract, or Spring Hill at this time. Future development in these areas, where feasible, must be appropriate to their landscape and historic character, as well as their function as part of UConn’s sustainability commitments.

New growth will be focused on the Main Campus in order to maximize the potential benefits and leverage this initial investment for wider impact. A vibrant and successful Main Campus will make the remote landholdings valuable for what they contribute to the sustainability and student life missions of the University.
Advancing the Academic Vision

In April 2014, the University of Connecticut Board of Trustees adopted the new academic vision, “Creating Our Future: UConn’s Path to Excellence,” which reflects specific and broad-ranging goals in each area to achieve excellence in all aspects of its mission. It identifies the goals and strategic initiatives necessary for UConn to realize its aspiration to be a top flagship University recognized for excellence in breakthrough research, innovative education, and engaged collaborations with state, community, and industry partners. The vision is grounded in the following strategic goals:

A Path Toward Excellence in Research and Scholarship

Support Interdisciplinary Study and Practice
- Enable planned and spontaneous collaborations
- Promote faculty interaction
- Create sense of place for interdisciplinary initiatives

Modernize and Expand Facilities
- Maximize efficiency
- Optimize space utilization
- Enable future flexibility

Integrate New Technologies
- Support big data with network infrastructure
- Provide access to shared core facilities
- Provide flexibility for evolving needs

Achieving Excellence in Graduate Education

Nurture a Vibrant Graduate School Community
- Create graduate school identity
- Provide lounges / gathering spaces
- Introduce dedicated graduate student hub

Enable Interdisciplinary Graduate Programs
- Bring graduate students and post doctoral scholars together
- Facilitate cross-disciplinary collaboration
- Foster cross-department cooperation

Community Vitality
- Encourage expanded, affordable housing
- Enable walking to campus
- Provide access to retail, amenities, and support

Sustaining Excellence in Undergraduate Education

Increase Undergraduate Students
- Expand opportunities for on-campus housing
- Add to living and learning communities
- Expand honors and STEM living communities

Promote Excellence in Teaching
- Enhance facilities for teaching and learning
- Provide spaces for experiential learning
- Position the library for the future

Increase Student/Faculty Engagement
- Provide places for research and interaction
- Enable interdisciplinary knowledge
- Put science on display
- Engage undergraduates in research

Attaining Excellence in Teaching Effectiveness

Interactive Learning
- Enable team-based, experiential curriculum
- Provide flexible, multi-use, shared classrooms
- Maximize efficient classroom utilization

Interactive Technology
- Provide flexible IT infrastructure
- Provide digital connectivity
- Support formal and informal learning

Interactive Community
- Foster student/faculty interaction
- Activate and program gathering spaces
- Bring together disciplines
- Promote global engagement
- Enable future educational models

A Path Toward Excellence in Public Engagement

Enhance Global Competitiveness
- Engage scholarship
- Attract global talent
- Support global connectivity

Engage the Local Community
- Reach out actively to the community
- Support community-based university partnerships
- Positively impact the town and the region
- Capitalize on regional campuses

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In February, 2014, the UConn Master Plan Executive Committee and the planning team held a retreat to discuss the goals and vision of the Master Plan. The Executive Committee expressed three themes that distinguish UConn:

1. Pride in the accomplishments of UConn
2. Excitement about the future of the University
3. Public investment

The team discussed UConn’s commitment to solving world problems while benefiting the State of Connecticut. The focus of the University should be to continue to strengthen undergraduate education while growing graduate studies and research activities.

At the end of the retreat, all agreed on the establishment of eleven Master Plan Principles that strive to promote excellence and high standards and to transform UConn’s campus into a place that attracts exceptional faculty, staff, and students.

**Structuring the Campus Framework**

The Campus Master Plan expresses these goals and principles by aligning the physical campus identity with the vision for the academic future of the institution. The following diagram organizes these principles into four primary categories, each of which should be grounded in the five strategic goals of the Academic Vision:

- Strategic Principles
- Physical Organization of Campus
- Health of the Campus
- Academic Principles

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**Establishing Master Plan Principles**

**Academic Vision**

- **1. Excellence in Research and Scholarship**
- **2. Excellence in Undergraduate Education**
- **3. Excellence in Graduate Education**
- **4. Excellence in Teaching Effectiveness**
- **5. Excellence in Public Engagement**

**Strategic Principles**

- **Support UConn as a Place that Can Change the World... Global Influence and Local Impact**
- **Focus on Excellence... Use the Master Plan as a Catalyst for Change**

**Physical Organization**

- **Align the Physical Campus Identity with a Vision of the Future**
- **Put Vitality and Creativity on Display. Enhancing the Campus as an Intellectual Hub**
- **Create Vibrant Anchors and Destinations. Integrate a Healthy Mix of Uses**

**Health of the Campus**

- **Prioritize the Campus Experience with Total Mind and Body Well-Being**
- **Enhance Ecological Integrity, while Redefining the Relationship with Agricultural History**
- **Create a Sustainable Foundation that Anticipates Change and Growth**

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**Commit to Learning without Boundaries**

**Drive Interdisciplinary Research through Development of Collaborative Spaces**

**Utilize the Campus to Recruit and Retain Outstanding Faculty and Students**
Defining the Next Phase of Growth

Next Generation Connecticut

Next Generation Connecticut is a 10-year, $1.54 billion state investment dedicated to capital projects focused on building new scientific laboratories, purchasing advanced equipment, and expanding student housing. Next Generation Connecticut funds will also support the hiring of new faculty and expand student enrollment in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

This Master Plan approaches NextGenCT investments in the campus on an aggressive time line, understanding that the long-term impacts on research, job growth, and regional economic development are dependent on how quickly this funding is operationalized.

Enrollment Growth Projections

NextGenCT also projects possibilities for enrollment growth in the future. In projecting future space needs, three enrollment scenarios were considered:

- Current
- +1,000 undergraduate students
- +4,000 additional undergraduate students (+5,000 total)

Personnel counts associated with each model were provided by the University and are consistent with those supported by the NextGenCT initiative. These enrollment growth models, along with their resulting personnel and space demands, are summarized in the table below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Enrollment Scenario</th>
<th>Student Full-Time Equivalent (FTE)</th>
<th>Personnel FTE</th>
<th>Assignable Square Feet (ASF)</th>
<th>ASF / FTE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Existing</td>
<td>20,386</td>
<td>4,620</td>
<td>4,243,651</td>
<td>208</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current Need</td>
<td>20,386</td>
<td>4,620</td>
<td>4,784,713</td>
<td>235</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+1,000 Students</td>
<td>21,500</td>
<td>4,824</td>
<td>5,179,006</td>
<td>241</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+4,000 Additional Students</td>
<td>25,500</td>
<td>5,748</td>
<td>5,454,599</td>
<td>214</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Summary of Enrollment Growth and Space Projections (Fall, 2013)

Priority Projects

Early implementation of the Master Plan will be driven by NextGenCT together with other priority projects. The NextGenCT budget includes two new science buildings, a renovation of the existing Gant complex, a residence hall for students in the STEM disciplines, and a residence hall for Honors students. It also includes associated investments in infrastructure, with a supplemental utility plant and an allocation for structured parking in one or multiple decks.

Other priority projects identified by the University at the onset of this planning process include:

- Student Recreation Center
- Student Health Center
- Two additional residence halls, depending on enrollment growth realized in the coming years
- Potential New Hockey Arena

The Master Plan uses these priority projects as a basis for the next 10 years of campus development. Together, they account for a significant amount of new construction and renovation on campus, in line with the growth trajectory established by programs such as UConn 2000 and 21st Century UConn. The Plan suggests a strategy for siting and implementation that maximizes the broader impacts of these investments.
Accommodating Current and Future Space Needs

Methodology

Grounded in defined institutional strategic drivers of enrollment and personnel, supported by the University’s space inventory, driven by nationally recognized space planning guidelines, and tempered by the specific needs of the University, space needs were quantified for three enrollment points. The outcome is an order-of-magnitude space program organized according to the coding structure of the Facilities Inventory Classification Manual.

Existing Space Inventory

There are 350 buildings comprising roughly 6,262,500 assignable square feet (ASF) on the Storrs Campus today. Excluding unclassified space, the campus has 5,958,000 ASF, which reflects core spaces including classrooms, laboratories, offices, the library, special and general uses, central facilities, health services, and residence halls. Considering core academic, residential, and support needs, the gap between existing space and current need is just over 796,000 ASF.

Projected Needs

The following summarizes the space needs by category resulting from the high-end model enrollment growth of 5,000 students:

- **Classroom**: No significant increase in classroom space is required in the near term, although issues such as the distribution and quality of existing space will need to be addressed in the future. With an addition of 5,000 undergraduates, the need is for about 14,000 ASF of additional instructional space.

- **Class Laboratory**: There are some targeted current deficits in class laboratory spaces that will be exacerbated with enrollment growth. The projected need is for 84,000 ASF of new class labs, assuming current scheduling patterns are maintained.

- **Research Laboratory**: Research space analysis projects a future need for 176,000 ASF above and beyond what currently exists.

- **Office**: Office space needs calculations take into consideration current “legacy” space assignments. Based on the proposed faculty and staff growth identified in Next Generation Connecticut, there is a projected need for 293,000 ASF of additional space.

- **Library and Study**: Library and Study space needs of 119,000 ASF consist primarily of expanded seating and study space. Core library stack space is predicted to decrease in the future, with a shift to more electronic media.

- **Special Use**: The Special Use space category consists of various common facilities including athletics, field buildings, and animal quarters. The primary driver for space needs is in athletics. Collectively, this space category requires 133,000 ASF to support current and projected enrollment growth in the long term.

- **General Use**: The General Use space category includes assembly, exhibition, food service, meeting rooms, and recreational space. It is not until there is an increase of 5,000 undergraduate students that substantial increases in space will be required. Collectively, just over 200,000 additional ASF will be required at that point, with the majority of the need driven by food service, followed by assembly.

- **Support**: Central facilities support overall campus operations and include mail, receiving, general storage, and shops space, among others. Based on a percentage of the anticipated overall campus ASF, there is a projected future deficit of 166,000 ASF, most notably in shop and storage space.

- **Health Care**: Health Services were programmed previously. The projected future deficit is 25,000 ASF.

- **Residential**: Residential space assumes that 70 percent of the full-time undergraduate student population will be housed on campus. Currently, the campus has a deficit of around 1,200 beds, the equivalent of 255,000 ASF. This deficit will increase to 955,000 ASF with robust enrollment growth, a deficit of 4,700 beds.

- **Unclassified**: Unclassified space carried in the space inventory includes areas that are inactive or unassigned; in the process of being altered, renovated, or converted; or in an unfinished state. Some of this space may offset the overall space needs, but not all is available for potential repurposing.

Summary

The current gap between existing space and current need is just over 796,000 ASF. Should enrollment increase by 1,000 undergraduate students, then an additional 534,000 ASF is needed, above and beyond current need. If enrollment grows by 4,000 more students (5,000 total), then an additional 835,000 ASF is needed.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Existing Space</th>
<th>Space Need</th>
<th>Total, Current Need</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5,958,000 NASF</td>
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### Key Considerations for the Master Plan

Extensive analysis of the University’s physical plant resulted in a number of themes that structure the Master Plan. An outgrowth of the analysis, these considerations or “drivers” address observed deficiencies or needs while meeting the stated goals, principles, and academic vision of the University.

They were developed by the consultant team in a highly interactive process along with the Master Plan Executive Committee, Master Plan Advisory Committee, Working Groups, and Town Hall listening sessions.

#### 1. Enable Enrollment Growth
- Increase students
- Recruit new faculty
- Expand STEM programs

Provide New Facilities to Support Growth
- Housing
- Classrooms
- Laboratories
- Offices
- Athletics + recreation
- Amenities
- Student organizations
- Parking

#### 2. Expand Graduate Education and Research
- Faculty recruitment
- Graduate student / post-doctoral scholar recruitment
- Research funding
- New facilities
- Interdisciplinary partnerships
- Collaboration

#### 3. Create an Intellectual Hub
##### Campus Community
- Improve core; increase density and interaction
- Foster intellectual exchange, stimulate creativity
- Create gathering places that bring people together

##### Dynamic Mix of Uses
- Cluster activity to create new campus hub, anchors
- Provide event spaces for programmed activities
- Draw students, faculty, and alumni to campus
- Bring together town and campus

##### Storrs Center
- New south campus center of gravity
- Increase activity / amplify “town feeling”

#### 4. Improve the Student, Staff and Faculty Experience
##### Vibrant Sense of Place
- Cluster living and learning communities
- Activate gathering spaces and circulation
- Provide food, social, and recreation spaces

##### Gracious Campus Experience
- Expand athletics, recreation and student services
- Enable safety, security, and comfort
- Promote day and night campus activity
- Balance privacy, community, and accessibility

##### Cost Effective Housing
- Facilitate expedited construction
- Enable maintenance and durability
5. Celebrate Health and Wellness

Support Life of the Mind and Body
- Promote comprehensive health and wellness
- Locate recreation and athletics prominently
- Use campus to embody total human well-being

Put Campus Vitality and Activity on Display
- Increase student activity visibility
- Better utilize open space for gathering
- Provide bike paths, walking paths, nature trails

Reinforce Campus as Arboretum
- Make landscape central to campus experience
- Optimize connections to nature
- Enhance views and capitalize on topography

6. Knit the Campus Together

Enhance Entry Sequence
- Represent UConn importance
- Define campus gateway, clear sense of arrival
- Utilize Technology Park as entry

Clarify Identity
- Evoke the future
- Enhance image, orientation, sense of place
- Clarify campus edges

Increase Connectivity
- Engage the town
- Enhance circulation and pedestrian experience
- Clarify, link, and integrate campus neighborhoods: housing, academic, technology, fine arts

7. Move People Effectively

Transportation
- Enhance transit and connections
- Reduce dependence on cars
- Provide effective parking, mitigate traffic impacts

Circulation
- Strengthen access and entry
- Promote walking and simplify wayfinding
- Connect housing with core campus
- Separate pedestrians and vehicles

Service
- Reduce truck traffic
- Facilitate emergency service access

8. Provide Sustainable Infrastructure

Support Enrollment Growth
- Support enrollment growth
- Optimize energy, water, transportation
- Expand capacity of systems and infrastructure
- Enhance distribution of utilities

Enable 2050 Carbon-Neutral Goals
- Upgrade steam and chilled water systems
- Enhance campus energy strategies
- Assess co-generation, renewable technologies

Integrate Sustainability
- Macro-regional strategies
- Net-zero water / energy
- Resiliency / emergency preparedness

9. Allow for Flexible Implementation

Optimize Resources
- Define highest and best use for sites
- Determine land-use guidelines
- Leverage existing assets

Prioritize Funding
- Maintain operations
- Allow for changing priorities
- Minimize construction disruption

Provide Infrastructure
- Utilities and systems
- Parking and transportation
- Civic structure and landscape

10. Capitalize on Next Generation Connecticut

- Build preeminence as a research university
- Build on UConn 2000/21st Century
- Promote research, education, economic development
- Support enrollment growth
- Enhance faculty recognition
- Train and educate workforce
- Partner with industry to develop new technologies
- Fuel the economy in Connecticut
- Leverage state investment to create jobs
- Positively impact town and region
## Analysis + Key Findings

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History and Heritage

The place that is now UConn’s Storrs campus was once an orphanage for children during the Civil War. After the children grew up and moved on, two brothers – Charles and Augustus Storrs – offered 150 acres of land and $5,000 to found an agricultural school, which opened in 1881. A dozen years later, following the Yale-Storrs controversy, Connecticut granted funding to Storrs, making it the first state-sponsored, land-grant institution after the national law boosting agricultural education took effect.

The Original Campus

The first structures on campus were wood-framed, shingle and Queen Anne style buildings clustered around the south shore of Swan Lake. Many of these original buildings were destroyed by fire and none remain. The earliest masonry building on campus, Storrs Hall, was constructed in 1906. Shortly thereafter, in 1910, the landscape architect Charles N. Lowrie laid out the first Master Plan for the campus. Lowrie’s plan envisioned a city on a hill in a park-like setting. Paths meandered between the main buildings tying them together; Mirror Lake became a picturesque retreat, and faculty housing was strung around the edge of campus to complete the living-learning community. Remarkably, Lowrie’s plan was implemented very closely to his original vision. The plan came of age 25 years later when the final building, Wilbur Cross, was constructed in 1935.

Campus Growth

The growth of the campus began to accelerate after WWII when many veterans enrolled via the GI Bill. The campus expanded in all directions. Many of the residence halls still in use today were constructed at this time, as well as the Student Union, the Field House, and new academic buildings – a result of the diverse fields of study becoming available at UConn. After the baby boom, the campus saw more moderate growth, but several buildings with a significant impact on the campus were constructed during this era, including the Homer Babbidge Library and the Gant Science Complex.

UConn 2000 + Ongoing Initiatives

A second wave of major growth for the University started in the 1990s. The past two decades, spurred by the funding for the UConn 2000 Master Plan and 21st Century UConn, have seen the construction of 40% of the buildings standing on campus today, from Gampel Pavilion to the more recent Oak and Laurel Halls.

Planning Issues

- Understand and respect the history of the campus
- Work within the constraints of the four historic districts in and around the Storrs Campus
- Evaluate the historic significance of buildings and landscapes before removing or replacing them
- Learn from past Master Plans and major periods of campus growth
An Expanding Campus Footprint

UConn’s footprint has grown steadily over the past 100 years to encompass a large portion of the current 443-acre Main Campus. This growth has favored outward expansion instead of reinvestment in existing campus areas, resulting in a sprawling academic campus with residential and athletics uses clustered around the periphery.

Planning Issues

- Preserve land around the campus periphery and limit outward growth
- Prioritize reinvestment and renewal over new growth
- Respect adjacent neighbors and town
- Relate campus growth to the sustainability mission of the University

Traditional Growth Model:
Continued peripheral expansion

Reinvestment in Existing Buildings:
Renovation of aging facilities and those in need of repairs or modernization

Densification of the Campus Core:
New buildings are focused on adding vitality to the Main Campus, not expanding outwards
Pre-1900: Connecticut Agricultural College

1900-1920: Charles Lowrie “City on a Hill” Plan

1920-1945: Early Campus Growth

1945-1970: Major Growth After WWII and the GI Bill

1970-1990: A Shifting Center of Gravity as New Academic, Residential, and Athletics Facilities are Built

1990-Present: Growth through UConn 2000 and 21st Century UConn
Aging Buildings and Infrastructure

Although many buildings on the Storrs campus have been constructed since 1990, a significant number of buildings are aging, in need of renovation, or approaching the end of their useful life. Deferred maintenance on both newer and older buildings is a constant problem for the University, which has prioritized new building over redevelopment during much of its history.

**Building Facts**

- There are **9.95 million gross square feet (GSF)** in nearly 440 buildings and other structures on campus, as of Spring of 2014
- **65%** of buildings on campus (comprising 5.9 million GSF) are over 40 years old
- **58%** of GSF on campus is in buildings over 40 years old
- **32%** of GSF (around 3.2 million GSF) is past useful life or in need of renovation or modernization, based on a conditions assessment of buildings on both the Main and Depot Campuses
- There are **42 campus buildings** comprising around **900,000 GSF** contributing to the University of Connecticut Historic District

**Planning Issues**

- Address significant deferred maintenance needs
- Renovate or replace major buildings and complexes that are over 40 years old
- Renew aging infrastructure
- Address older facilities that are nearing functional obsolescence, particularly lab and research spaces but also classrooms and residential buildings
- Assess contributing historic buildings for their importance and physical condition
Circulation and Movement

The existing circulation pattern has evolved over time and includes streets and pathways serving cars, buses, service vehicles, cyclists, and pedestrians. It is a complicated system with clear challenges and opportunities for improvement.

Vehicular Circulation

The UConn campus is linked to two primary arterials – Route 44 and Route 195 – that provide access for the majority of students, faculty, staff, and visitors traveling to campus. Vehicular circulation in and around campus is typically free flowing during much of the day, but volumes spike significantly during morning and evening peak hours, causing delays and queuing at intersections and roadways serving the campus. The combination of high pedestrian activity, motor vehicle activity at parking garages, and the limited number of access routes tends to exacerbate peak hour congestion and contribute to pedestrian/vehicle conflicts on and around the core campus.

Parking

There are approximately 12,800 parking spaces throughout the campus, with primary parking garages located within the campus core. The North Garage, located at one of the busiest intersections on campus, has 1,027 spaces and the South Garage, accessed from Hillside Road, has 1,500 spaces. These are supplemented with considerable surface parking throughout campus, from large commuter lots to on-street parking on campus roads.

Campus Transit

Currently there are 13 buses traveling inter- and intra-campus, along seven routes serving approximately 1.4 million riders per year. Generally the bus service hours are 7 am to 12 am, and average headways are 10-15 minutes on weekdays. Regional bus service is provided by a private carrier, Peter Pan, with service to New York City and Boston. The Storrs-Willimantic Bus, operated by the WRTD, runs along Route 195 between Storrs and Willimantic.

Pedestrian Circulation

Generally, pedestrian and vehicular circulation interfere with each other across the campus, particularly along Storrs Road, North Eagleville Road, and Hillside Road. Improvement to the pedestrian environment both within and beyond the campus core is a critical step toward creating a more livable, human-scale campus.

Bicycle Circulation

The Storrs campus presents an ideal setting for promoting and expanding cycling facilities. Students have, however, expressed concerns with the safety of bicycle lanes, inclement weather, storage, and racks. The UConn Cycles bike sharing program has 20 bikes stationed near the library, but they are only available when the library is open.

Service

Service access to buildings is a critical piece of the overall transportation story, but one that also causes significant conflicts. Particularly in the science core along North Eagleville Road, service vehicles interfere with pedestrian movement, break up open space, add traffic to busy roadways, and diminish the overall aesthetic of campus.

Planning Issues

- Address universal accessibility
- Clarify streets and pedestrian pathways
- Resolve pedestrian / vehicle conflicts where possible
- Reduce congestion by eliminating parking in prominent places within the campus core
- Plan for the traffic impacts of the new North Hillside Road Extension
- Make the campus more friendly to walking and bicycling throughout the year
- Use transportation to help keep the campus compact
- Leverage efficient and accessible transit that already exists on campus
- Partner with regional transit providers
- Address service needs of buildings while minimizing conflicts between vehicles and pedestrians
- Improve pedestrian safety along busy traffic corridors, such as North Eagleville Road and Hillside Road
Landscape Setting

The vegetation of the eastern upland region of Connecticut is largely second-growth forest, punctuated by patches of open agricultural land and wetlands. Within this larger mosaic, the main UConn campus is an anomaly – a large, continuously open hilltop – containing little habitat diversity and virtually none of the spatial and experiential qualities that characterize the surrounding landscape. The context has been unintentionally marginalized as a result of rapid growth, but it could be reintroduced to strengthen the sense of place and campus identity.

Planning Issues

- Create a strong unifying identity through campus landscape
- Re-integrate the campus with its unique natural and cultural setting
- Celebrate the rich mosaic of forests, fields, hilltops, and ravines that characterize the Connecticut landscape
- Introduce a more contextual presence into the campus landscape mosaic

Existing Condition: Campus Disconnected from its Surroundings

Proposed Condition: Restore Connectivity with Ecological Setting
Straddling the Fenton River and Willimantic River watersheds, UConn’s campus creates a nearly continuous transect of the ridge from hilltop to waterway. This transect is a topographic microcosm of the larger geographic pattern that makes this region unique. While early development of the UConn campus capitalized on its unique natural and cultural setting, the development pattern over much of its subsequent history has concealed the underlying physical structure of the campus and its intrinsic connection to larger ecological patterns.

**Regional Context**

The Storrs Campus is in the Connecticut Eastern Uplands region, which is composed of glacial drumlin hills divided by river valleys. The campus is surrounded by the Fenton River and the Willimantic River. Together, these systems define the physical and ecological structure of the campus. They also create unique and difficult constraints. The University has legal obligations to limit runoff into nearby Eagleville Brook and Mirror Lake, which both suffer from environmental degradation. These limitations have major impacts on future development of buildings and other impervious surfaces.

**Planning Issues**

- Observe local stormwater and impervious surface coverage requirements
- Minimize impact on the larger watersheds
- Capture and slow water to maximize local infiltration
- Understand the regional hydrological system
- Bring ecology into view
- Capitalize on topography to shape the campus and create views

**Existing Condition:** Untreated Stormwater Runoff

**Proposed Condition:** Integrate Sustainable Stormwater Management
The Storrs Campus has a variety of green spaces, from quads and the Great Lawn to forest and farmland tracts. These green spaces offer opportunities for recreation and relaxation. They also provide a structure and identity to the campus. While loving attention has been given to landscape spaces that are contained by buildings, large portions of the existing landscape are underutilized and do not contribute to the social vitality or the experience of the campus.

**Planning Issues**

- Develop a meaningful and campus-wide open space system
- Emphasize placemaking
- Design buildings in conversation with one another and with the spaces around them
- Clarify perception of campus edges
- Establish a sense of arrival and identity on campus
- Bring clarity to the organization and structure of the campus, instead of accepting ad hoc, incremental growth

**Existing Condition:**
Landscapes Contained by Buildings

**Proposed Condition:**
Districts Organized and Connected by Landscapes
The campus is organized into distinct functional districts. A central academic core is flanked to the north by a dense science and research corridor that extends across Route 195, to the west by a large athletic district, and to the south by a concentration of fine arts facilities. Residential clusters are distributed around the periphery, with most housing separated from the academic core.

**Building Clusters by Primary Use**

- **Academic Life**: Most academic functions are integrated into the campus core. Science and research buildings are clustered on the North and East Campuses, along North Eagleville Road.
- **Student Life**: Facilities are clustered to the southwest of the campus core. Recreation and Athletics share some spaces, and smaller fields are dispersed throughout the residential clusters.
- **Residential Life**: Multiple clusters at the peripheral campus edges lead to a campus core that empties out at night and to pedestrian/vehicular conflicts during the day. Dining Halls are associated with the residential clusters.

**Planning Issues**

- Re-think traditional growth, which has segregated uses into different zones
- Integrate residential areas more seamlessly with the campus core
- Introduce new “live/learn” concepts as a paradigm for campus organization
- Address the future use of South Campus, areas east of Storrs Road, and campus gateways
- Understand key land use adjacencies, and develop new campus buildings accordingly
Master Plan Vision

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A Campus Planning Framework

Summary of the Framework Vision

The Master Plan combines the planning goals and principles, space needs analysis, and key findings about the current campus into a comprehensive development strategy that will be implemented over the course of the next 20 years. The Plan accommodates current space needs, priority projects, and projected space needs for the next 10 years. The Plan proposes a strategy for maintaining and reusing existing buildings over this time frame as well as proposing new buildings and landscape enhancements. It provides direction for developing and enhancing character in each of the different campus districts. The Plan is unified with a unique and distinctive landscape, a comprehensive sustainability framework, forward-looking infrastructure and utilities, and a comprehensive transportation strategy covering the full range of movement throughout the campus.

Near- and Mid-Term Campus Plan: 2015-2025

In the next 10 years, growth in the campus will be focused on investments through Next Generation Connecticut, including two new science buildings, residence halls, parking, and utilities upgrades. The near-term plan will also address priority projects such as major renovations to aging buildings like the Gant Science Complex, removal of buildings that are well past useful life, and expansion of athletics programs that need additional space. Landscape and infrastructure upgrades in the near term will be focused on advancing and augmenting these priority projects, as well as taking steps towards a longer-term vision for a more sustainable UConn campus. Primary goals during this phase of campus growth include the following:

- Efficiently guide projects and funding through Next Generation Connecticut
- Accommodate 1,000 - 5,000 new undergraduate students
- Double research expenditure
- Prioritize implementation of the “Big Ideas”
- Set groundwork for future development

Long-Term Campus Plan: 2025-2035

Significant possibilities for both residential and academic or research growth exist beyond the next 10 years, although the exact trajectory of this growth will be determined based on student enrollment and addition of faculty. Primary growth will be focused on additional academic and research buildings in both the Northwest and South districts, as well as potential growth on the East Campus. Reinvestment will continue to be required in the Heritage District, and major landscape features will continue to take shape. Primary goals during this phase of campus growth include the following:

- Continue growth trajectory established in first 10 years
- Pair major landscape improvements with new buildings
- Address on-campus housing shortfall
- Continue investment in science and research
“Big Ideas” for the Campus

Creating a Vibrant Student Precinct along Hillside Road

Improvements will be made to the streetscape to reinforce the idea of a campus “Main Street,” bringing active uses to street level and showcasing activity in existing buildings through greater transparency and porosity. Over the next ten years, the Student Union will be further expanded to present an open and vibrant face to Hillside Road. Deferred maintenance of Gampel Pavilion will be completed, and student-focused facilities, such as a potential new Recreation Center and Health Center, may supplant the Field House, fundamentally changing the character of Hillside Road. In the long term, a new concourse may be added to Gampel along an extended Fairfield Way connection. New residence halls on the southern end of Hillside will reinforce the character established in early phases.

Centralizing Administration and Student Affairs in the Heritage District

Wilbur Cross, the historic heart of the campus, will be renovated and repurposed as a central hub for University administration. Improvements will be made to Mansfield Road, extending the enhanced pedestrian experience of Mansfield Way to Whitney Road and unifying the Heritage District. In the long term, most of the historic buildings in the district will be renovated or restored, and improvements will be made to the landscape of the Heritage District that will set this precinct apart as a distinct part of campus. Landscape improvements will bring renewed activity to Founder’s Green, and updates to the Great Lawn will reinforce it as an asset to all students and a beautiful public face for the University.

Strengthening the Academic Core as an Interactive Knowledge Hub

Over the next ten years, renovations will be planned for Homer Babbidge Library. An off-site, climate-controlled archive will be established at Depot Campus to free up space in the library, allowing for its transformation into a collaborative, social, and knowledge hub geared towards 21st century needs. In the long term, renovations will be made to upgrade other nearby buildings, like the Whetten Graduate Center and the Dodd Research Center to support the library and create an integrated knowledge precinct. Investments will be made into the expansion of digital resources. The raised hardscape terrace will be reconsidered as a key campus crossroads, with spaces to accommodate both students and faculty in all seasons.

Prioritizing Pedestrians within the Campus Core

The Plan creates a pedestrian-focused core area by removing cars from local streets and establishing a primary campus loop road with access to distributed parking facilities. Over the next ten years, improvements to Hillside, Glenbrook, and Whitney Roads, along with the removal of Gilbert Road, will begin to transform the campus core into a more walkable, pleasant, and safe precinct by limiting vehicular access and improving transit and pedestrian connectivity. In the long term, the completion of the Academic Way, the western extension of Fairfield Way, and the North and South Woodland Corridors will further improve pedestrian connectivity and simplify wayfinding. Bicycle facilities will be also expanded and transit will be upgraded and simplified to decrease reliance on cars within the campus core.
Expanding Multi-Use Districts

Over the next ten years, the existing science precinct will be strengthened with the renovation of the Gant complex and the addition of a new engineering building to complete the Pharmacy Quad. Landscape improvements associated with these projects will clarify the framework for this district. To the south and west, residential precincts will be expanded and strengthened with the addition of up to five new undergraduate residence halls. In the long term, the University will continue to expand the sciences into new precincts in the North, South, and East Campuses. The Tech Park and recreational green spaces will be completed. South Campus will be strengthened further with the replacement of aging residential halls and the addition of new University housing.

Creating a Memorable Campus Gateway

A memorable gateway experience will be created on all campus approaches to take advantage of UConn’s unique setting and historic assets, beginning with the entry sequence at the peripheries of campus and extending to strategic points of arrival in the campus core. Over the next ten years, landscape improvements will be made along the roadway at the North Gateway, renovations will be made to historic structures, and new gateway buildings may frame the entry sequence. A new mixed-use development on Storrs Road could change the experience of the Southern Gateway. An enhanced connection between Mirror Lake and Valentine Meadow will impact the ceremonial entry, amplifying the University’s commitment to sustainable, resilient landscapes. Improvements to Whitney Road will transform this roadway into the University’s new front door.

Enhancing a Unique and Distinctive Landscape

Landscape will become the fundamental structural component of the UConn campus over the next twenty years, offering clarity of place and many different experiential qualities. The North Woodland will begin in the science precinct and continue down through X Lot to Eagleville Brook. The South Woodland will be targeted to repair environmental conditions at Mirror Lake and enhance the ceremonial entry sequence. A new South Campus Commons will be established with the removal of existing Faculty Row houses and preservation of historic trees. Clear north-south and east-west axes will be clarified; major improvements to campus pathways will strengthen the pedestrian experience; and the “campus Arboretum” concept will be expanded to enliven the landscape in all seasons and enhance species diversity.

Creating a Sustainable Village at Depot Campus

Over the next ten years, measures will be taken to protect buildings contributing to the historic district from further deterioration. Some historic buildings will be restored and repurposed, with renovations paired with the documentation and demolition of selected buildings as needed to make way for new development. A market feasibility study will be undertaken to explore long-term, public-private partnerships for development of the site. In the long term, a neighborhood of graduate student, family, and faculty housing will be developed as a part of a sustainable village, driven by public-private partnership. The exact details of this neighborhood remain to be defined.
Building the Vision: A New Campus Main Street

View Looking North on Hillside Road from Fairfield Way

Hillside Road will be re-envisioned to become the University’s Main Street. Consolidation of student activities and services here will be a catalyst to transform Hillside Road into an interactive center for student life. Car traffic will be minimized and usable open space created, activated by student-oriented facilities, such as a potential new Recreation Center, Student Health Center, and Student Union expansion.
Building the Vision:
A Vibrant Student Hub on Hillside Road

View Above the Student Union and Potential Student Recreation Center

Permeability between indoor and outdoor spaces will create opportunities for buildings on either side of the street to have a dialogue with each other. This will be the heart of undergraduate life and a nexus of campus activity – a true linear gathering place and campus Main Street that puts activity on display and supports a total mind and body focus on health and wellness.

Note: Two options for the location of the Student Recreation Center are being considered as part of this Master Plan. This image shows one option; the other would be a standalone facility atop the hill on what is currently Y Lot. In that case, other student uses could occupy the frontage along Hillside Road shown here.
An outgrowth of major STEM investments through Next Generation Connecticut, this collection of mixed lab and office spaces will occupy the prominent corner of North Eagleville Road and Hillside Road, which is currently one of the largest surface parking lots on campus. The buildings could include space devoted to translational research, teaching, and administration, as well as significant landscape improvements to mitigate local stormwater impacts. This new quad – in both its indoor and outdoor spaces – will create opportunities for socialization, foster collaboration, and facilitate interdisciplinary research.
Building the Vision:
Expanded Residential and Live/Learn Communities

View of the Honors Residence Area

The University’s goal to broaden the definition of living and learning communities to achieve a campus that promotes deep and meaningful student engagement – where active students experience the entire campus as a place of living, learning, and discovering – will be manifested in the physical plan. New districts will create an integrated live-work-play environment. Research facilities will be expanded to enable interdisciplinary initiatives and collaborations. The physical plan will support future modes of teaching and learning. Most critically, on-campus housing options will expand significantly to support enrollment growth targets. One priority project for the University to achieve these targets, the Honors Residence Hall, will provide new undergraduate beds along with high-quality quad and play field spaces.
**Building the Vision:**
Campus Woodland Corridors

**View Looking Northeast Towards Mirror Lake**

In order to better integrate the campus into its context and improve the day-to-day experience of moving through the campus, a series of woodland corridors are proposed. Larger stormwater management features would be embedded within these corridors, providing both ecological and experiential benefits and opportunities for outdoor learning.
View Looking North along the Academic Way

One of the largest concentrations of mature canopy trees on campus occurs in an underutilized remnant of the Connecticut Agricultural College formerly known as Faculty Row. Situated along the Academic Way and surrounded by potential building sites, this space is ready-made to become a large green space similar to those found at many other elite institutions of higher learning. Improvements to the Academic Way, selective planting of new trees, and new buildings that frame and amplify the space will make this area a new heart of the South Campus.
Building the Vision: 
Formalizing the Academic Way

View Looking North Towards the Residential Quads

The Academic Way – which, in many places today, is fragmented or missing completely – will be transformed to become a true central artery of campus pedestrian movement. A formal promenade as counterpoint to Fairfield Way’s curvilinear garden, the Academic Way will link residence halls, academic buildings, fine arts facilities, and key campus destinations along the primary north-south axis of campus.
View Looking East from the Hilltop

Building upon the latent potential for Fairfield Way and the Academic Way to become places for both movement and respite in the heart of the academic core, a horticultural overlay will transform these corridors into linear gardens. Complementing the proposed woodland corridors, these garden corridors will display a broader range of plant species adapted to the local climate. At the same time, Fairfield Way will also be extended west to the hilltop, creating a seamless east-west axis across the entire campus as a way of simplifying pedestrian movement and wayfinding. This new extension will tie into growth of recreation and other active student uses behind the existing Field House.
Building the Vision:
Improved Mirror Lake and a New Ceremonial Entry

View Looking West along the South Side of Mirror Lake

Part of the original 1910 General Plan, the lake today is an iconic part of UConn’s image, creating the foreground to campus buildings from Storrs Road. The lake does, however, suffer from environmental degradation that must be addressed in the coming years. While improving the health of the lake, the University should take the opportunity to improve the overall hydrological performance of South Campus, create better connections under Storrs Road to other storage areas, improve plantings, expand access to the water’s edge, and celebrate the lake as a key component of a new visitor entry sequence. New buildings will define the existing boundary of this great asset while creating a new public edge to the campus.
Building the Vision: Balanced Streets and Circulation

View Looking South from the Intersection of Hillside and North Eagleville Roads

Improvements to campus transportation and parking elements seek to limit and even reverse current congestion problems while encouraging alternate mode choices. The University can simultaneously address congestion issues, work towards its sustainability goals, and build a revitalized 21st century campus by creating balanced, safe, aesthetically pleasing streets and pathways through campus. Streets should accommodate all users and mode types, including pedestrians, bikes, cars, service vehicles, and buses.
Overview of Major Campus Initiatives

- Mixed Use Redevelopment
- Expansion of On-Campus Housing
- New Athletics Venues
- South Campus Commons
- Primary Campus Loop Road
- Fairfield Way
- Mirror Lake
- South Woodland Corridor
- New Ceremonial Entry
- Continued Growth of Storrs Center
- Fine Arts District Expansion
Campus Framework

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Capitalizing on UConn’s unique setting, the landscape framework asserts the primacy of larger topographical, hydrological, and ecological patterns in shaping future development, linking existing natural open space with new formal landscapes that will enrich the experience of daily life on campus.

The Master Plan proposes to transform corridors currently dominated by wide roadways and expansive parking lots into pedestrian-oriented spaces that evoke the natural landscape and allow stormwater runoff to be re-absorbed into the ground. These green corridors will serve as unifying elements for the north and south districts of campus, they will contribute to mitigating campus stormwater runoff in a sustainable working landscape, and they will serve as gateways to the region’s parks and recreational areas, supporting the goal of promoting health and wellness. Benefits will be both ecological and experiential and provide additional opportunities for outdoor learning.

The landscape framework seeks to transform the Storrs campus over the next two decades into a place that is uniquely Connecticut, proud of its history and its future, adaptable to changing circumstances, and a source of pride for the UConn community.

**Master Plan Strategies**

- Coordinate topography with stormwater capture
- Employ low impact development (LID) strategies such as green roofs and rain gardens at the building scale
- Use larger stormwater management infiltration areas to capture and convey water to downstream basins
- Introduce the North and South Woodland Corridors to better integrate the campus into its context and improve the day-to-day experience of moving through the campus
- Expand the diversity of planting types on campus and enhance the experiential qualities and educational value of the Campus Arboretum
- Expand connections to the University’s larger trail system and regional recreation corridors
- Identify and protect significant trees
UConn is fortunate to have a series of landscape spaces and features that have become an integral part of its identity, from icons like the Great Lawn and Mirror Lake to more intimate gardens, groves, terraces, and courtyards that provide the setting for meeting, gathering, play, and relaxation. By making the creation of a unique and distinctive landscape one of the central ideas of the Master Plan, the opportunity exists to enhance these open space assets and link them to one another with new landscapes that will enrich the daily campus experience.

The function and character of existing courtyards and quads will be improved and new spaces for movement and gathering created. Faculty Row will be re-designed as an honorific landscape commons beneath a grove of mature canopy trees. A new system of walkways that better serve the way pedestrians and bicycles move through the campus is proposed in areas of the campus where the existing system is inadequate.

**Master Plan Strategies**

- Customize courtyards to respond to their immediate adjacencies and surrounding buildings’ activities
- Use buildings to frame new spaces and create a dialogue between buildings and landscape
- Create strongly identifiable places through variation in topography, vegetation, and materials
- Create a new South Campus Commons by removing the Faculty Row Houses and associated surface parking lots
- Cluster new science growth around a major new quad space at X Lot
- Improve the functionality of the Founder’s Green for both day-to-day use and special events
- Use existing and introduced topography to support seamlessly accessible landscape connections over major roadways and to all outlying residential areas
- Provide year-round comfort by responding to the particular micro-climate of each space
- Activate the winter landscape with evergreen plantings and cold-weather programming, such as a seasonal skating rink on Founder’s Green
- Integrate high-quality, permanent or temporary art installations

Formal Landscapes and Placemaking
A Pedestrian-Focused Campus

A unique aspect of the campus experience is achieved through the pathways and trails of differing characters that connect the campus together. The campus walking environment will be improved through clear pedestrian corridors, enhanced pedestrian trails, and upgraded pedestrian crossings at major roads. Bicycle facilities throughout campus will also be enhanced and expanded. These strategies will also improve campus transportation efficiency through decreased auto congestion.

**Master Plan Strategies**

- Establish pedestrian sovereignty in the campus core by attracting vehicles to a primary campus loop road, with access to parking
- Enhance and extend the Academic Way to reinforce its primacy as the main north-south pedestrian spine for the campus
- Reduce the perceived distance across campus by providing experiential variety along walkways
- Upgrade to ADA compliant routes throughout the Heritage Campus
- Install high-visibility crosswalks on major roads such as Storrs Road and North Eagleville Road
- Provide leading pedestrian intervals along major roads, allowing crossings before vehicles are provided with green lights
- Add bulb-outs and neck-downs to shorten crossing distances across major roads
- Convert Hillside Road into an active street designed for pedestrians and limited to only occasional transit and maintenance vehicles
- Clarify wayfinding signage for pedestrians, to direct users to desirable routes and on-campus pathways
- Install street trees and planters along sidewalks adjacent to major roadways, such as Storrs Road and North Eagleville Road, in order to beautify the area and provide a more pleasant walking environment
- Provide creative incentives for students, faculty, and staff to choose walking as a mode of transport for all short trips around campus under one mile
- Clarify the campus bicycle plan with a simple, interconnected system of dedicated and shared lanes
- Improve bike network and facilities, including possible development of campus bikeshare system
Vehicle Circulation and Parking

Recommendations for improvements to campus transportation and parking elements seek to limit and even reverse current congestion problems while encouraging alternate mode choices. Through various strategies, the University can simultaneously address the congestion issue and work towards its sustainability goals and a revitalized 21st century campus.

**Master Plan Strategies**

- Limit vehicular access on certain corridors, such as Hillside Road, to reduce vehicle/pedestrian conflicts
- Invest in congestion relief through targeted roadway upgrades, such as the Hillside Road extension to Route 44 and a link from Bolton Road to South Eagleville Road
- Implement Transportation Demand Management (TDM) measures to suppress overall auto demand
- Better define gateways, with redesigns at problem intersections
- Review signalization and timing
- Add parking facilities along the campus perimeter to reduce the number of vehicles entering the core
- Invest in a Smart Parking system – which uses sensor technology and GPS to direct users to open spots or dynamically change pricing – to evaluate current parking utilization, reduce congestion and idling, and plan for future parking needs
- Improve campus transit shuttle bus service by simplifying routes, guaranteeing headways of less than 10 minutes, and enhancing bus stops with shelters and real-time bus tracking information
- Define a clear visitor entry sequence from Mansfield Road to Whitney Road to the South Garage
- Address congestion and pedestrian safety issues on North Eagleville Road by removing on-street parking where possible, improving pedestrian crossings, and considering additional traffic-calming measures like raised crosswalks, speed tables, bulb outs, or signalization
While this 20 year vision calls for a significant amount of new construction, existing buildings will still make up a majority of the 2035 campus. In recent years, the University has made major investments in the Main Campus at Storrs through the UConn 2000 and 21st Century UConn initiatives. These new and renovated buildings are expected to be retained with regular maintenance throughout the 20-year span of this Master Plan and beyond. Not all buildings that are expected to be retained beyond 20 years are new, however. Legacy buildings contributing to the historic districts on campus are the physical manifestation of the University’s heritage. Most historic buildings on the Main Campus are expected to be maintained, restored and adaptively reused well into the future.

Within this framework, significant new construction will fill in many of the remaining vacant parcels and large surface parking lots on campus, as well as sites not hosting their highest-and-best use.

### Master Plan Strategies

- Densify and upgrade in-place where possible, to avoid campus expansion and reduce deferred maintenance backlog
- Focus residential on low-barrier sites to limit displacement and swing space requirements
- Maintain and restore campus heritage buildings
- Consider selective removal of houses contributing to historic district, such as Faculty Row
- Adopt rigorous sustainability standards for new and renovated buildings that address energy use, water use, materials, and overall carbon footprint
- Phase demolition, renovation, and new construction to cause the least possible amount of disruption to individuals and departments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>New Building Projects</th>
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<td>Gant Complex ±270,000 GSF</td>
<td>STEM Research Center 1 ±200,000 GSF</td>
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<td>Monteith ±68,000 GSF</td>
<td>STEM Research Center 2 ±145,000 GSF</td>
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<tr>
<td>Atwater (Envelope)</td>
<td>Greenhouses ±15,000 GSF</td>
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<td>Central Utility Plant Upgrades</td>
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<td>South Chiller Plant Upgrades</td>
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<td>Putnam Refectory ±41,000 GSF</td>
<td>Supplemental Utility Plant (SUP) ±15,000 GSF</td>
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<td>South Residences (Envelope)</td>
<td>Parking Garage(s) ±2,000 spaces</td>
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<td>Young Building (Envelope)</td>
<td>Engineering and Science Building ±118,000 GSF</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fine Arts Production Facility ±34,000 GSF</td>
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<td>Main Accumulation Area (MAA)</td>
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### Next Generation Connecticut

- Gant Complex ±270,000 GSF
- Monteith ±68,000 GSF
- Atwater (Envelope)
- Central Utility Plant Upgrades
- South Chiller Plant Upgrades
- Putnam Refectory ±41,000 GSF
- South Residences (Envelope)
- Young Building (Envelope)
- Gant Complex
- Monteith
- Atwater (Envelope)
- Central Utility Plant Upgrades
- South Chiller Plant Upgrades
- Putnam Refectory
- South Residences (Envelope)
- Young Building (Envelope)

### Priority Projects

- Student Recreation Center ±200,000 GSF
- Tech Park IPB ±114,000 GSF
- Soccer / Morrone Stadium ±5,000 seats
- Baseball / Christian Field
- Softball / Burrill Field

### Early Projects (Not Funded)

- Babidge Library Upgrades
- Gampel Interior / Roof Repairs
- Wilbur Cross
- Priority Heritage Campus Buildings
- Daicy Barn
- Landscaping Barn
- Remaining Heritage Campus Buildings
- Von der Mehden Recital Hall
- Jorgensen
- Residence Halls (to be identified)

### Priority Projects

- Hockey Arena ±4,000 seats
- Public Safety ±40,000 GSF
- Residence Hall 3 ±180,000 GSF
- Residence Hall 4 ±180,000 GSF
- New Student Health Pavilion ±50,000 GSF
- Student Union Expansion ±100,000 GSF

### Future Projects (Not Funded)

- Future STEM Research Center Expansion
- East Campus Academic Buildings
- Engineering Complex Replacement
- Arjona + Monteith Replacement
- Tech Park Phases 2 + 3
- Fine Arts Black Box Theater
- New Performing Arts Center
- Burton Addition
- Mansfield Apartments Redevelopment
- Northwoods Redevelopment
Land and Building Use

Although a great number of buildings on a University campus serve multiple functions, primary uses were established for new and existing buildings that help reinforce the goals and big ideas of this Master Plan.

Academic uses will continue to be clustered in the Core area of campus as well as along the North Eagleville Corridor, where primary science and research expansion will be focused. Administrative uses will cluster in the Heritage District around Wilbur Cross. Student services growth will occur just outside this core area but still within short walking distance, in areas to the south, east, and west. Where possible, however, residential and academic or other uses will be intermingled to foster “live-learn” communities.

Master Plan Strategies

- Cluster core academic uses in the center of campus
- Centralize administration and office functions in the Heritage District, around Wilbur Cross
- Bring active student uses to Hillside Road
- Expand the existing science core and seed a second cluster of academic buildings on South Campus – perhaps with a unique area of focus
- Expand residential options significantly on South Campus, with connections to a diverse mix of other uses
- Focus on shared uses around the campus-community interface at the gateways
The need for quality, affordable campus housing to handle current and future enrollment makes strategies for housing expansion and modernization essential. Today, seventy percent of undergraduate students live in on-campus housing areas, many in buildings that are occupied beyond their original design capacity.

At present, there are two new residence halls in the design phase. The STEM Residence Hall on West Hill is anticipated to house approximately 720 residents when it opens in the fall of 2016. The Honors Residence Hall is also anticipated to accommodate approximately 650 residents when it opens in the fall of 2017, on a site between Mirror Lake and South Quad.

Additional sites for residence halls have been identified in the Master Plan. The size and timing of these projects must be carefully coordinated with enrollment growth and a larger strategy for rehabilitation and modernization of existing residence halls.
The student life mission of the University is critical to realizing the type of campus and community environment envisioned by the Master Plan.

Student services will be clustered along a re-imagined Hillside Road, bringing student-focused facilities like Student Health, new Student Union functions, a potential Student Recreation Center, and other services to an active, pedestrian-oriented campus Main Street. These will tie seamlessly to other anchors of student life – Fairfield Way, the existing Student Union and Quad, and the Field House, among others – to create a hub of student-focused activity.

The intent is not to supplant the “one-stop-shop” for Student Affairs that has been created over many years at Wilbur Cross. Rather, the Plan envisions multiple nodes that serve different student needs and levels of activity.
The near- and mid-term phases of the Master Plan are driven in large part by the Next Generation Connecticut program. Through this program, at least two new research facilities will be built and others will be renovated. The first building, Science 1, is planned for the X Lot, across from the North Garage at the southwest corner of North Eagleville and Hillside Roads. Additional growth beyond this building could occur within any of the following scenarios, depending on the type of programming envisioned:

**Scenario A**: additional near-term growth in the X Lot, focused on the physical sciences and linked back to the existing science core.

**Scenario B**: replacement and renewal of aging facilities in the existing science core – like Torrey and Atwater – with modern facilities for life sciences and other related disciplines.

**Scenario C**: growth of cognitive science and related disciplines on the South Campus, adjacent to a new South Commons.

**Scenario D**: new or replacement facilities east of Storrs Road, complementing the existing research activities on the East Campus.

In the long term, research growth is envisioned within all of these campus areas in addition to parallel initiatives at the Tech Park. The Master Plan provides flexibility for how and when this growth occurs.
While Next Generation Connecticut is focused on STEM-related facilities, the Master Plan recognizes the need for expansion of capacity for all academic units across campus, and also accounts for the renovation of existing facilities. Many buildings called out in the Plan for science growth may, in fact, house mixed classrooms and teaching spaces that serve broader functions.

Specific projects will address the programming and occupancy of new development. In all cases, however, growth of the campus will relate directly to the Academic Vision of the University.
The Sustainability Framework Plan is organized by five areas of focus: energy, water, land, materials, and movement. These areas of focus structure the overall framework for sustainability at UConn, organizing current and potential future initiatives into broad categories to facilitate implementation. Holistic, system-wide environmental and energy performance can be achieved when there is focus at all levels of policy, planning, design, and construction. The following summaries capture the key goals and strategies of the Sustainability Framework Plan.

Area of Focus: Energy

- Focusing on energy use is crucial for UConn to serve its Climate Action Plan and its carbon neutrality goals. The University needs to immediately move toward carbon neutral buildings, especially given anticipated growth.
- All new construction targets LEED Gold and a score of 75 or better on EPA’s Portfolio Manager. LEED Platinum and more stringent systems can serve as stretch goals to meet carbon neutrality by 2050.
- Reduction of fossil fuel use to power, heat, and cool buildings and drive transportation reduces carbon emissions and yields energy independence.
- STEM labs and residence halls with higher energy use intensity (EUI) may benefit from ground source/air source heat pump hybrid systems, less energy intensive buildings may benefit from variable refrigerant flow technology.
- Careful siting and orientation of buildings mitigates heat island effect and improves thermal comfort and energy performance.
- On-site renewable energy systems will be required. The UConn Renewable Energy Preliminary Feasibility Study and Strategic Plan (RESP) studied renewable energy on campus and is intended to encourage the proliferation of these energy sources. Solar hot water systems may be useful for residence halls with significant domestic hot water demands. Fuel cells, geothermal, and ground source heat pumps are also potentially viable but require further evaluation on a site-specific basis. Particularly viable technologies for the region, whether installed on-site or off-campus utilizing purchase power agreements and virtual net metering, are solar photovoltaics and wind power. For wind to be cost-effective, it must be installed at a larger scale and located optimally.

Area of Focus: Water

- Water conservation is a key part of the University’s sustainability program and usage minimization, reclamation, and reuse will need to continue.
- With new connections to a water main extension, water supply is expected to meet or exceed demand through the next 20 years, but potable water use reductions are still necessary to meet sustainability goals.
- UConn targets a potable water use reduction of 40% in the next 10 years. This typically requires aerators, ultra-low flow fixtures, and process water reductions.
- Greywater or stormwater reuse systems will mitigate potable water use. Rainwater can serve as a harvestable and useful resource.
- Water reclamation facility can reduce peak potable water demand by 20% when operating properly but must be seasonally optimized to address inconsistent water quality.
- Reducing irrigation needs by planting drought-tolerant species decreases the peak demand loads.
- Addressing stormwater quality, quantity, and drainage issues on-site, rather than conveying drainage off-site, is a priority.
- UConn is currently targeting volume of stormwater runoff reduction by 2021, but these calculations do not consider the impact of NextGenCT or other STEM development on the campus.
- It will be necessary for UConn to continue implementing green infrastructure and low impact development (LID) strategies as standard practice.
Area of Focus: Land

• Proper land management, especially when coordinated with utility projects, contributes to resilience during significant weather events.
• UConn continues to provide research to the State to inform the Stormwise Management Practices program.
• Providing human scaled, walkable pathways improves movement through campus and provides unique opportunities for well-distributed and maintainable utility infrastructure. Underground electric utilities are an aspiration of the University and are pursued to promote climate resilience, public safety, and maintain valuable viewsheds.
• Sustainable Sites Initiative benchmarking system is adopted for major site developments, which complements LEED certification.
• Continue to revitalize brownfields, such as the Depot Campus, and preserve and restore natural areas around Hillside Environmental Education Park, a former landfill, as a preferred alternative to developing greenfields.
• Prime farmland lost to development is replaced. UConn has a rich agricultural past and continues to provide education and development of new agricultural practices and technologies, including sustainable farming and scalable food production.
• Water quality issues are addressed through land area modifications – vegetated swales, roofs, and walls reduce and treat runoff, and impervious areas are disconnected from water bodies.
• Landscape is used to impact building energy use where green roofs and appropriate plantings provide insulation and shading to buildings which may otherwise have significant solar loads.

Area of Focus: Materials

• Vendor code of conduct is reviewed and revised regularly to accommodate changes in vendor products and policies. Lifecycle assessments guide UConn’s purchasing decisions. Material is biodegradable, recycled, and low- or non-emitting.
• Buildings are evaluated to determine if demolition or renovation is more appropriate and waste is salvaged for reuse on campus to reduce virgin material demand, or otherwise diverted from landfills or incinerators.
• Embodied carbon of new buildings is balanced carefully against potential insurmountable energy challenges for existing building retrofits.
• Food served is healthful and grown on or near campus. This promotes freshness and seasonality and reduces food cost /carbon footprint.
• UConn expands current food related programs, including current composting practices, and composts all biodegradable food waste by 2035.
• Recycling programs are continuously improved, and UConn develops comprehensive strategies for increasing overall diversion rates, including waste reduction and reuse practices, such as purchasing standards that minimize packaging.
• The Sustainable Design Guidelines and associated policies are revised to incorporate more stringent benchmarking targets. UConn adopts LEED Gold certification as a minimum performance standard for construction – similar to its peers.
• EPA Energy Star Portfolio Manager and other progressive benchmarking systems are implemented for some development projects.
• Local procurement is prioritized and encourages market transformation and economic development.

Area of Focus: Movement

• Future growth necessitates measures to avoid increased parking demand and worsened traffic congestion. Solutions must contribute to carbon neutrality goals.
• Reducing single occupancy vehicles is critical. Shuttle and bus services are accepted as desirable, reliable alternatives to driving. Routes are streamlined, there are plentiful covered waiting areas, and electronic tracking access is available.
• UConn is integrated with local and regional transit service.
• Parking is covered and vertically stacked. A comprehensive plan to assigns proper value to parking, establishes a graduated rate structure, and electronic parking management system that leverages peak demand and proximity to the campus core.
• UConn’s fleet is alternatively-fueled, hybrid, or electric. Fuel costs and air/noise pollution decrease. Fleet vehicles are sized for purpose, small buses make frequent loops to promote convenience, deliveries are centralized and shuttled to their final destination.
• Prioritizing pedestrians fosters a culture of carbon-responsible campus travel. Walking is safe and connects users to nature, while campus walks are connected to a larger trail network for increased utility. Photovoltaic and full-cutoff site lighting reduces energy consumption and addresses light pollution.
• UConn is a League of American Bicyclists Bicycle Friendly University. Bicycle sharing is improved via more convenience and availability.
## Campus Districts

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Vibrant Campus Districts

The Campus Master Plan relies on investing in existing campus districts and creating new multi-use precincts, which bring together spaces for living, learning, and discovery into vibrant student and faculty areas.

At the heart of the campus, a core academic district features central amenities, services, and classroom spaces that are shared by the entire campus. This academic core includes a portion of UConn’s historic campus, which will gradually transition into a centralized area for campus administration and services. The western portion of the campus is devoted to Athletics and Recreation, including facilities for varsity, intramural, and club sports.

Beyond this core area, in districts to the north, south, and east, more mixed-use districts contain both residential and academic or research functions. These are intended as living laboratories where students become fully engaged in the academic experience, as well as interesting places that provide space for creativity, recreation, and socializing. New investments in these districts will break from the traditional mold of single-use areas where residences and academic spaces are separated.

Finally, two districts overlay multiple other areas on campus. The Heritage District will become a hub of administrative functions that have some interaction with the academic core. It will put UConn’s historic buildings on display and serve as a key gateway for visitors to the campus. Hillside Road, which connects directly to the North and South districts and to the East Campus via Fairfield Way, will become a central spine of student services and an active new main street for campus.
The North Eagleville District will build on the dense concentration of science programs already present on the north part of campus, where engineering, physical sciences, and life sciences all have teaching and lab spaces today. In this existing core area, the Plan proposes to remove buildings that are past useful life or no longer suitable for modern laboratory space — such as Torrey Life Sciences and Williams Health Services — and renovate others that could be repurposed or improved without full replacement — such as the Gant Science Complex, Storrs Hall, and Atwater. The removal of Torrey also decompresses a very dense collection of buildings, allowing for improved pedestrian and landscape connections even with potential new replacement buildings.

New investments, primarily through NextGenCT funding, will extend this sciences core to the west to create a connected series of research areas clustered around the North Woodland Corridor. This corridor will begin in a new Northwest Science Quad occupying the existing X Lot, which will consist of both research and academic buildings to create a dynamic environment for learning and discovery. It will run through a re-invigorated science core to Swan Lake, before linking with an enhanced agricultural research and academic quad on the eastern side of Storrs Road. Unifying the campus districts most focused on the sciences across this shared green corridor will create opportunities for socialization, foster collaboration, and facilitate interdisciplinary research.
North Eagleville Science District
Research and Innovation

**Master Plan Strategies**

- Knit the Science Core with the rest of the campus both physically and visually through clear connections
- Decompress the existing core by removing buildings which are past their useful life
- Establish a prominent gateway on North Eagleville and Hillside Roads that links the core campus with the Tech Park
- Introduce performative landscapes as central to campus experience while addressing stormwater management requirements
- Enable flexibility and future growth of science, research, high tech, and other related programs
- Improve North Eagleville Road streetscape, including burying the overhead electrical lines
- Consolidate crossing areas at key points and introduce traffic calming strategies to increase pedestrian safety

**Key Projects**

1. X Lot Parking Deck: ±500 Spaces
2. Science Complex: ±800,000 GSF
   (including Science 1 at ±200,000 GSF)
3. Jorgensen Renovation: ±95,000 GSF
4. Gant Renovation: ±270,000 GSF
5. Engineering Replacement: ±200,000 GSF
6. CUP Upgrades: 2,000 tons chiller capacity
7. Engineering and Science Building: ±118,000 GSF
8. Atwater Repairs
9. Greenhouse Replacement (Options)
10. Supplemental Utility Plant
The southern part of campus, roughly between Whitney Road and Bolton Road, has enormous potential to transform into a great new live/learn neighborhood. This area of campus today includes a wide array of uses that feel somewhat incongruous from one another, including residence halls, a very large fine arts complex, the Nathan Hale Inn, and various student services buildings. It also features the unoccupied Faculty Row houses – the “brown houses” – as well as wide swaths of surface parking lots. These uses create problems for the cohesive perception of the district and prevent it from achieving the unique sense of place that exists in other areas of campus.

A renewed South Campus will be built around the district’s major landscape features: a new South Campus Commons will replace the Faculty Row houses (but not the trees), serving as a front door for new academic and residential buildings; Mirror Lake will serve as the foreground for a clarified campus gateway at Mansfield and Whitney Roads; and the new South Woodland Corridor will eliminate major impermeable surfaces and improve campus hydrology, while also providing connections to other parts of campus and context for new residential and fine arts growth. A clarified main entry sequence will feature a new Honors Residence Hall – with dining and active student uses facing Mirror Lake – as well as the eventual redevelopment of Arjona and Monteith as part of a future academic and research cluster. This will preserve the ceremonial importance and symmetry of these two gateway buildings framing Whitney Road.

An abundance of available parcels will allow for rapid and creative development of science and residential buildings, with room for growth into a dynamic live, work, and play neighborhood in the future.
South Campus District Existing Plan

Proposed Long-Term Plan
South Campus District
Live/Learn Community

Master Plan Strategies

• Hold the ceremonial entry edge along Mansfield Road
• Respect north-south alignment of Academic Way
• Frame the new South Campus Commons
• Take advantage of views to Mirror Lake and new landscape spaces
• Complete the south residential quad, including areas for play fields
• Resolve vehicle circulation and screen service/loading from important views
• Mitigate increase in runoff associated with site development and/or improve quality of runoff entering Mirror Lake
• Target high performance buildings in terms of energy, water, and waste

Key Projects

1. Y Lot Residence Halls or Rec Center Option
2. South Hillside Residence Hall: ±180,000 GSF (600 beds)
3. West Campus Residences Replacement: ±300,000 GSF (900 beds)
4. CT Commons Replacement: ±210,000 GSF (700 beds)
5. Future Academic Building: ±145,000 GSF
6. Arjona + Monteith Replacement: ±345,000 GSF
7. Honors Residence Hall: ±210,000 GSF (650 beds)
8. Public Safety (Option): ±90,000 GSF
9. Performing Arts: ±105,000 GSF
10. Bolton Road Deck: ±600 Spaces
11. Fine Arts Production Facility: ±34,000 GSF
12. South Residence Halls Façade Repairs
13. Drama Music Building Façade Renovation
14. Von der Mehden Recital Hall Renovation: ±15,000 GSF
15. South Chiller Expansion
Currently the central stretch of Hillside Road is bounded by the Student Union and the Field House, which both present inactive faces to the street. In front of these buildings are undefined fragments of lawn that are not attractive spaces for the campus community to gather. All movement and activity is limited to the busy sidewalks on either side of the road. Hillside Road itself is often congested with vehicular and bus traffic.

This Plan proposes to re-think Hillside Road by inverting the spaces: activating the building façades and the spaces in front of them; creating a central, pedestrian-oriented space with attractive gathering areas; and creating a narrower, transit-focused roadway. By activating the building façades and giving people places to linger, the character of this streetscape will transform to feel like the Main Street of campus. Traffic will be limited, potentially only to buses and service vehicles, in order to reduce pedestrian-vehicle conflicts and make Hillside Road a safer place to walk.

The Student Union is already a destination for dining, clubs and organizations, and other services. Currently, however, the building opens onto patios in the central Quad, but the original building façade on Hillside Road does not hint at the activities and amenities provided inside. More transparency and gathering spaces outside the south façade and clearer navigation inside the building through to the Quad will create a 360 degree face to the Student Union. Active uses, from restaurants and cafés to creative spaces and potentially a new outpost of the Dairy Bar, will cluster along this “urban” stretch of Hillside.

Student-oriented facilities, such as a new Student Health and Wellness Center and Student Recreation Center, could occupy the opposite side of the street, the former within the existing 65’-80’ setback between the sidewalk and the Field House, and the latter on a new development site created by decanting and removing the aging Guyer Gym. These will “put health and wellness on display” by bringing activity right up to the street through, for example, offering a glimpse of workout facilities directly from Hillside. As other new buildings infill along Hillside Road – whether residence halls, academic buildings, or offices – they should also strive to include active student spaces at ground level.
Hillside Road District
Vibrant Student Hub

Master Plan Strategies

• Transform Hillside Road into an active, pedestrian-oriented and transit-focused street
• Cluster student services and activity to create a new campus hub
• Locate recreation and athletics prominently: put health and wellness on display
• Facilitate a mix of student-focused uses
• Reduce the importance of the street for vehicle and service traffic, potentially restricting access
• Build a new parking deck under Sherman Field to add additional capacity within the core of campus
• Introduce a new service road between Alumni Drive and Jim Calhoun Way to help divert local traffic from Hillside
• Redevelop low-density residential halls along Hillside to increase number of beds and provide active street-level uses
• Extend Fairfield Way to improve pedestrian connectivity between the Core Campus and the hilltop residential areas
• Carefully consider massing of buildings to reduce shadows and maximize pedestrian comfort in all seasons

Key Projects

1. South Hillside Residence Hall: ±180,000 GSF (600 beds)
2. West Campus Residences Replacement: ±300,000 GSF (900 beds)
3. CT Commons Replacement: ±210,000 GSF (700 beds)
4. Gampel Concourse: ±40,000 GSF
5. Student Rec Center: ±200,000 GSF (Option)
6. Sherman Field Above Parking: ±1,000 spaces
7. Athletics Pavilion: ±135,000 GSF
8. Student Health: ±50,000 GSF
9. Student Union Expansion: ±100,000 GSF
10. Y Lot Residence Halls or Rec Center Option
11. Gampel Roof Renovations
The core of campus today includes major administrative and academic buildings straddling the primary crossroads of student and faculty movement. Both traditional and recent campus growth have emphasized these crossroads, either with connections to Fairfield Way (the new Oak Hall), frontage on the Main Quad (the renovated Student Union), or both (Laurel Hall). An eventual redevelopment of the Connecticut Commons Residence Hall could complete this core area, forming a second academic quad that also opens up onto the library, across from the existing Main Quad and fronting Fairfield Way.

The Homer Babbidge Library will be reinvented to respond to the needs of the future, transforming it into a place of engagement and scholarship that integrates study, services, and student/faculty interaction. An off-site, climate-controlled archive could be established at Depot Campus to free up space in the library, allowing for its transformation into a collaborative, social and knowledge hub. Amplified technology, creative group work spaces, tutoring, and career services will be centered at this campus hub, strengthened by the recent additions of nearby Laurel and Oak Halls. These interdisciplinary spaces draw students and faculty from all parts of campus, and library should be structured around this movement.

The spaces around the library and adjacent buildings will be transformed to attract the campus community and energize the space as a knowledge and gathering center. The northern façade of the library will welcome people from Fairfield Way with a modified front entry, which signals the library’s place as the crossroads of campus. The southern terrace of the library will be amplified and activated, making it a space for gathering in winter as well as summer. The complicated series of steps and ramps in this area will be clarified to better integrate the space with the surrounding landscape. All changes – interior and exterior – will be geared towards making the library the center of intellectual endeavors on campus and a hub for interaction and creativity.
Academic Core District
Interactive Knowledge Hub

Master Plan Strategies

- Transform the library and adjacent buildings into a dynamic knowledge and gathering hub: a Campus Crossroads
- Amplify and activate Babbidge plaza and loggias as spaces for gathering in winter as well as summer
- Strengthen north-south pedestrian connectivity through a stronger pedestrian route
- Reinforce sense of entry into the campus from Whitney Road
- Clarify building entrances and relationships between buildings and the landscape to front the new Academic Way and Fairfield Way

Key Projects

1. Future Academic Building: ±175,000 GSF
2. CT Commons Replacement: ±210,000 GSF (700 beds)
3. Babbidge Library Renovation and Terrace Upgrades: ±387,500 GSF
4. Hawley Armory Renovation: ±59,000 GSF
5. Budds Building Renovation: ±26,500 GSF
6. Wilbur Cross Renovation: ±112,000 GSF
7. Castleman Building Renovation: ±59,000 GSF
Wilbur Cross occupies the most prominent position on campus. It is the centerpiece of the legacy campus, yet is positioned at the edge of the modern core. Many student services already occur in this building, but so do many administrative functions. Wilbur Cross should be re-envisioned as the iconic centerpiece of the campus. The Plan proposes to consolidate University leadership and key administrative offices in the Wilbur Cross building as well as an Innovation Showcase of the arts, humanities, and sciences. In this way, its physical and functional importance on campus will be mutually reinforced, representing the status and importance of UConn to visitors, prospective students, and potential faculty recruits.

Beyond just Wilbur Cross, the Plan proposes identifying and formalizing a broader Heritage District that will include the existing historic structures as well as the landscape which was an important part of the original 1910 General Plan. The character of the Heritage District will be reinforced and better defined through landscape improvements, memorable signage, lighting, and improved pedestrian access. More gradual, comfortable, and ADA-compliant routes will be explored through the district, particularly those traversing the Great Lawn. Successful places such as the Benton Garden in Art Woods should be a model for restoring and amplifying the park-like nature of this part of campus. The Heritage District will be the historic heart of campus and a place of pride for the entire UConn community.
Heritage District Existing Plan

Proposed Long-Term Plan
**Heritage District**

**Administrative Hub**

**Master Plan Strategies**

- Re-envision Wilbur Cross as an innovation showcase and iconic centerpiece of the campus
- Improve the functionality of the Founder’s Green as a ceremonial space for both day-to-day use and special events.
- Designate the historic core of the University as a Heritage District
- Wherever possible, improve paths to create more gradual, comfortable, and ADA compliant routes
- Preserve and renovate existing historic structures
- Maintain and enhance views across the Great Lawn, Swan Lake, and Wilbur Cross
- Use landscape, paving, and lighting to better delineate the district
- Incorporate interpretative signs for buildings and landscape, including walking tours and other opportunities for interaction
- Renovate all buildings contributing to the Heritage District

**Key Projects**

1. Wilbur Cross Renovation: ±112,000 GSF
2. Austin Building Renovation: ±121,000 GSF
3. Beach Hall Renovation: ±104,000 GSF
4. Gulley Hall Renovation: ±15,400 GSF
5. Family Studies Building Renovation: ±36,000 GSF
6. Budds Building Renovation: ±26,500 GSF
7. Hawley Armory Renovation: ±59,000 GSF
8. Koons Hall Improvements
9. Hall Building Improvements
10. Wood Hall Improvements
11. Storrs Hall Improvements
East of Storrs Road, the Plan calls for limited development of new science and residential programs, mostly as an expansion and augmentation of existing uses in the district. Replacing the outdated Jones and White Buildings, new research buildings will create an Academic Quad with connections east to Horsebarn Hill and west back to the main sciences core. The Dairy Bar could be potentially relocated from its current home in the White Building to space in a renovated historic Dairy Barn, creating an important visitor destination at the gateway.

All development should be of appropriate scale and character to be compatible with the historic Agricultural Campus and should consult applicable State of Connecticut guidelines for aquifer, watershed, and conservation zones. Existing views from Horsebarn Hill, Horsebarn Hill Road, and Gurleyville Road should be enhanced and preserved. To that end, the Plan will observe the recommendations of the East Campus Plan of Conservation and Development (2004), avoiding development in certain areas and keeping buildings low-scale and contextual where they are developed.
**East Campus District**  
Agricultural Campus and Storrs Road

**Master Plan Strategies**

- Redefine and strengthen the existing science quad through renovation or replacement of existing facilities
- Improve connections across North Eagleville Road to the science core
- Preserve and frame views towards Horsebarn Hill and the Agricultural Campus
- Respond to the character, materials, and height of existing buildings with all new development
- Renovate and adapt the Landscape and Dairy Barns for future uses, while preserving their historic character
- Reduce the impact of stormwater runoff from new development
- Formalize a fitness trail with facilities for both runners and bicyclists around Horsebarn Hill

**Key Projects**

1. Future Science/Academic Building: ±180,000 GSF
2. Future Science/Academic Building: ±66,000 GSF
3. Landscaping Barn Renovation: ±10,300 GSF
4. Dairy Barn Renovation: ±9,400 GSF
5. Young Building Façade Repairs
6. Hicks and Grange Renovation, Expansion, or Replacement
The area of campus west of Hillside Road along Jim Calhoun Way is devoted chiefly to athletics and recreation, serving the needs of varsity, club, and intramural sports as well as general student recreation. Currently, major facilities for nearly every program exist on-site, including track and field, lacrosse, soccer, football, volleyball, basketball, baseball, softball, hockey, and swimming and diving. Many of UConn’s athletics programs are in need of upgrades to facilities, either to address deferred maintenance in existing buildings, expand event seating capacity, offer new amenities, or provide more desirable space to attract top student athletes to the University.

Building on the idea for a vibrant student hub along Hillside Road, this new Athletics framework envisions a dedicated Student Recreation Center – in one of two locations – and a Health and Wellness Center fronting the street. To do that, a new building would occupy the existing setback from Hillside Road and, potentially, a replacement of the area now occupied by the Guyer Gym. Behind the Field House, Sherman Field would be “raised up” on a deck with parking, utilities, and a bus drop-off below. A new Sherman Field would then occupy the top of this deck, creating a similar stadium while providing sorely-needed parking in this part of campus. This new facility will complete a student services corridor along the historic axis that extends west from Wilbur Cross, through the Student Union, and beyond to the hilltop residential cluster.

The existing baseball and softball complex will be upgraded to include additional seating, press facilities, concession areas, and lockers. The existing 5,100-seat soccer and lacrosse complex will be upgraded to a stadium with greater seating capacity, press facilities, and locker rooms. Football practice fields will be upgraded in place, with the adjacent D Lot transitioning to use for student recreation. Additional coaches offices and locker facilities could be augmented by adding an annex to the new Burton building when additional space is needed.
West Campus District Existing Plan

Proposed Long-Term Plan
Master Plan Strategies

• Extend Fairfield Way to the west as a primary campus pedestrian axis
• Keep athletics and recreational or club sports separate from each other
• Create new connections from the hilltop to the campus core
• Lay out new recreational facilities with careful consideration of sunlight and wind
• Carefully site new residential development to avoid casting major shadows on adjacent sports fields
• Incorporate the University’s health and wellness mission into the overall circulation framework, with space for bicycles, pedestrians, and fitness trails
• Where possible, keep like sports facilities together, focusing on key programmatic adjacencies

Key Projects

1. Baseball Stadium / Christian Field
2. Softball Stadium / Burrill Field
3. Hammer / Discus Relocation
4. Recreational Field
5. Potential Hockey Arena or Tennis Complex Relocation
6. Morrone Stadium / Soccer Field
7. Burton Expansion: ±30,000 GSF
8. Gampel Concourse: ±75,000 GSF
9. Student Rec Center: ±200,000 GSF (Option)
10. Sherman Field Above Parking: ±1,000 spaces
11. STEM Residence Hall: ±210,000 GSF (720 beds)
12. Athletics Pavilion: ±135,000 GSF
The Mansfield Training School and Hospital was originally designed to be in harmony with the landscape so that the environment could contribute to the healing of patients. Despite the high vacancy rate of the current holdings, the campus landscape still conveys a welcoming scale where a sense of community could once again thrive. By restoring selected portions of the historic building fabric and constructing new housing and community amenities, the Depot Campus will become home to faculty, staff and graduate students as the University population grows.

The campus can provide an alternative neighborhood to attract those more interested in living in the Connecticut countryside rather than the more urban Storrs Center.

The Mansfield Training School and Hospital’s historic connection to Spring Manor Farm enhance the possibilities for creating a sustainable community with a direct connection to agriculture. This Village could spur enhancements at the Spring Valley Organic Farm, development of recreational trails connecting to the Main Campus, and extension of the Willimantic River Greenway to reach a community dedicated to living sustainably.

Although there is a stated desire to target new investment in the consolidated area of the Main Campus, the Depot Campus presents clear opportunities for possible public/private development partnerships. It could also include support or swing space to handle overcrowding of various University functions, particularly during construction. These uses may include but are not limited to:

- Graduate / Family / Faculty Housing
- Lab Surge Space / Office Space
- Arts Expansion (Theater)
- Retail and Community Amenities
- Retreat Center
- Climate-Controlled Library Archives
- Utilities and Support Services
- Renewable Energy Demonstration Facilities
- Fields for Recreational or Club Use
- Parking

A | Preserving History
  Sledding at Lamoure Hall, 1960

B | Sustainable Village
  Jackson Meadow, Marine on St. Croix, Minnesota

C | Sustainable Student Housing
  Swarthmore College, PA
Development Strategy

2015-2020 Plan .................................................. 104
2020-2025 Plan .................................................. 106
2025-2035 Plan .................................................. 108
Future Development Reserves ......................... 110
Initiatives Beyond Main Campus ...................... 112
Development Summary .................................... 114
In the next five years, growth in the campus will be focused on investments through Next Generation Connecticut, including two new science buildings, residence halls, parking, and utilities upgrades. The near-term plan will also address priority projects such as major renovations to aging buildings like the Gant Science Complex, removal of buildings that are well past useful life, and expansion of athletics and recreation programs that need additional space. Landscape and infrastructure upgrades in the near term will be focused on advancing and augmenting these priority projects, as well as taking steps towards a longer-term vision for a more sustainable UConn campus.

**Building Projects**

- NextGenCT Buildings
- Unfunded New Buildings
- Development Site Options
- B1 Student Recreation Center (Option)
- B2 Student Health Services
- B3 Engineering and Science Building
- B4 STEM Research Center 1
- B6 STEM Residence Hall
- B7 Honors Residence Hall
- B8 Fine Arts Production Facility
- B11 Tech Park IPB
- B12 Main Accumulation Area
- B27 Burton Complex Addition
- NextGenCT Renovations
- Other Building Renovations
- R1 Gant Complex
- R2 Putnam Refectory
- R3 South Campus Residences (Envelope)
- R4 Gampel Pavilion (Roof)
- R5 Monteith Building
- R7 Young Building (Envelope)
- R40 Fine Arts (Facade)
- Demolition
  - D1 Faculty Row Houses
  - D10 Guyer Gym (Option)
  - D20 Existing MAA Removal + Cleanup

**Athletic Facilities**

- Athletic Field Site Areas
- A2 Baseball Stadium / Christian Field
- A3 Softball Stadium / Burrill Field
- A4 Morrone Stadium / Soccer Field
- A5 Hammer/Discus Area
- A6 New Rec Fields (D Lot)
- A8 Horsebarn Hill Fitness Loop

**Landscape Projects**

- Major Pathways
- Woodland Corridors
- Landscape Improvement Areas
- L1 Mirror Lake Improvements
- L2 Pharmacy Quad
- L3 North Woodland Phase 1
- L4 South Woodland Phase 1
- L5 South Campus Commons
- L7 Academic Way Improvements
- L12 NW Science Quad
- L25 Fine Arts Gateway Phase 2

**Infrastructure Projects**

- Street Improvements
  - S1 North Hillside Road Extension
  - S2 Hillside Road Realignment
  - S3 Glenbrook Road Improvements
  - S4 Gilbert + Whitney Road Adjustments
  - S5 N Eagleville / Storrs Road Intersection
  - S6 New Access Drive
  - S10 Hillside Road Improvements
  - S12 New Service Drive
  - S13 N Eagleville Road Improvements

- Utilities
  - U1 Central Plant Chilled Water Expansion
  - U2 Supplemental Utility Plant
  - U3 Utility Tunnel Extension: X Lot
  - U4 Utility Tunnel Extension: South Campus
  - U5 Water Line Extension (CT Water)
  - U8 South Chiller Plant Expansion

**2015-2020 Plan**

**Near Term**

**Total New Construction:** ± 1,330,000 GSF

**Total Demolition:** ± 90,000 GSF

**Net New Construction:** ± 1,240,000 GSF

**Total Renovation:** ± 350,000 GSF

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1 List of new and renovated buildings subject to funding. Projects in this list may move to 2020-2025 or beyond.

2 Identified sites indicate location alternatives which are still being explored.
Continuing the near-term growth initiated by *Next Generation Connecticut*, the following five-year phase will focus on continued growth in all of the campus’ mixed-use districts, with a particular emphasis on expanding facilities along Hillside Road and infilling the two districts in the Northwest and South areas of campus with new buildings. This phase will also begin to address the shortfall of on-campus housing with new and upgraded residential areas.

Total New Construction: $\pm 860,000$ GSF  
Total Demolition: $\pm 400,000$ GSF  
Net New Construction: $\pm 460,000$ GSF  
Total Renovation: $\pm 430,000$ GSF

### Building Projects

1. NextGenCT Buildings
2. Unfunded New Buildings
3. New Buildings in Previous Phase
4. Development Site Options
5. STEM Research Center
6. Mixed-Use Redevelopment
7. Greenhouse Replacement (Option)
8. Student Union Expansion
9. CT Commons Replacement
10. South Hillside Residence Hall
11. Tech Park Phase 2
12. Public Safety Expansion (Option)
13. Remote Book Preservation Facility
14. NextGenCT Renovations
15. Other Building Renovations
16. Babidge Library
17. Budds Building
18. Atwater (Envelope)
19. Student Union (Interior)
20. Landscaping Barn
21. Dairy Barn
22. Mansfield Apartments (Extent TBD)
23. Torrey Life Sciences
24. Greenhouses
25. Infirmary
26. CT Commons
27. Sherman Field
28. New Parking Decks
29. Sherman Field Parking Deck
30. Mansfield Apartments Deck
31. Bolton Road Deck

### Athletic Facilities

- Athletic Field Site Areas
- Sherman Field Replacement (Over Parking Deck)
- Hockey Arena (Option)

### Landscape Projects

- Major Pathways
- Woodland Corridors
- Landscape Improvement Areas
- North Woodland Phase 2
- South Woodland Phase 2
- NW Science Quad Expansion
- Fairfield Way Extension
- Library Terrace Improvements
- Academic Way Improvements (Central)
- Academic Way Improvements (North)
- Academic Way Improvements (South)

### Infrastructure Projects

- Street Improvements
- Access Road / Covered Bus Drop-Off
- Whitney Road Extension
- Bolton Road / S Eagleville Connection
- Hillside Road Improvements
- Central Plant Upgrades
- Sewage Treatment Plant Repairs

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1. List of new and renovated buildings subject to funding. Projects in this list may move to 2025-2035 or beyond.  
2. Identified sites indicate location alternatives which are still being explored.
Mid-Term Capital Improvement Plan

CAMPUS MASTER PLAN
2025-2035 Plan
Long Term (Subject to New Funding Sources)

Significant possibilities for both residential and academic or research growth exist in the long-term plan, although the exact trajectory of this growth will be determined based on student enrollment and addition of faculty. Primary growth will be focused on additional academic and research buildings in both the Northwest and South districts, as well as potential growth on the East Campus. Reinvestment will continue to be required in the Heritage District, and major landscape features will continue to take shape.

Total New Construction:  ± 2,292,000 GSF
Total Demolition:  ± 517,000 GSF
Net New Construction:  ± 1,775,000 GSF
Total Renovation:  ± 1,460,000 GSF

Building Projects¹
- NextGenCT Buildings
- Unfunded New Buildings
- New Buildings in Previous Phase
- Development Site Options²
- B16 STEM Research Center 3
- B18 West Residence Halls Replacement
- B21 Gampel Pavilion Concourse
- B22 Fine Arts Black Box Theater
- B24 Northwoods Expansion
- B28 STEM Research Center 4
- B29 Future Academic Building
- B30 Engineering Complex Replacement
- B31 Monteith Replacement
- B32 Arjona Replacement
- B33 CAHNR Campus Research Quad
- B34 New Residence Halls (Option)
- B35 Performing Arts Center
- B36 North Gateway Development
- B37 Tech Park South
- B39 Athletics Expansion
- B40 East Campus Residence Hall
- R9 Wilbur Cross
- R11 Beach Hall
- R13 Gulley Hall
- R14 Whetten Graduate Center
- R15 Castleman Building
- R16 Hawley Armory
- R18 Von der Mehden Recital Hall
- R19 Jorgensen
- R20 Wood Hall
- R21 Austin Building
- R22 Hall Building
- R23 Koons Hall
- R24 Family Studies Building
- R25 Manchester Hall
- R29 Drama Music Building
- R30 Hicks and Grange Halls
- R31 Alumni Quad
- R32 Ellsworth and Hale Halls
- R33 Northwest Quad
- R34 North Quad
- R36 Shippee Hall
- R37 Buckley Hall
- R38 Jacobson Barn
- D9 Natatorium
- D12 Monteith
- D13 Arjona
- D14 Human Development Center
- D15 White
- D16 Jones
- D17 Commissary Bakery Warehouse
- D18 Chicken Coops
- D19 Engineering Complex
- D20 West Campus Residences

Landscape Projects
- Major Pathways
- Woodland Corridors
- Landscape Improvement Areas
- L8 Founders Green Improvements
- L11 Mirror Lake / Valentine Meadow Link
- L17 Eagleville Brook Connection
- L18 North Campus Quad Improvements
- L19 Academic Way Improvements
- L21 South Woodland Phase 3
- L22 CAHNR Campus Quad
- L24 Great Lawn ADA Upgrades

Infrastructure Projects
- Utilities
- U6 Solar Shade Deployment
- U11 Utility Tunnel Extensions

¹ List of new and renovated buildings subject to funding.
² Identified sites indicate location alternatives which are still being explored.
³ Size of new construction and renovation of long-term projects to be determined at the project level; numbers shown represent estimates.
Additional areas for growth exist at the Storrs Campus, but have not been specifically addressed in this Master Plan, either because they were not necessary to achieve the overall planning vision, did not yet require upgrades because of their age, were too important to take off line in the near-term, or could not be adequately replaced – like the major residence halls at North and Northwest Quads – but could be redeveloped in the future.

Beyond the 20-year purview of this Plan, the campus may see additional growth and renewal in any or all of the following areas. Most are outside of the campus core, although a few parcels in this area remain for reconsideration beyond the Master Plan purview.

1. North + Northwest Residential Quads
2. Husky Village
3. Towers Residence Halls
4. Charter Oaks + Busby Suites
5. Hilltop Apartments
6. Eastern Agriculture Campus / Biobehavioral Research Area
7. Parking and Facilities Area Behind Whitney Hall
8. Storrs Center Expansion (Public/Private University Partnership)
New growth – particularly through Next Generation Connecticut – should be focused on the Main Campus in order to maximize the potential benefits and leverage this initial investment for wider impact.

However, the Plan recommends some limited development elsewhere at the Storrs and Depot Campuses, as well as upgrades to transportation and landscape along key local corridors:

• At Depot Campus, future growth may be primarily driven by private developer interest in housing or other program, and will depend on market conditions supporting this growth. It will follow a different trajectory from new investment at the Main Campus, but may eventually see a sizable amount of new development.

• The Tech Park will also follow a different phasing trajectory, but benefits from its three building clusters will accrue to other parts of the campus – particularly through potential synergies with NextGenCT science and research facilities. In the near-term, surface lots and future development pads at the Tech Park could be used for temporary parking.

• At key street intersections that serve as gateways to campus, investments will be made in landscape, buildings, signage, and other upgrades to announce arrival to campus.

• Nearby sites with convenient access to the University are ideal for off-campus housing, particularly for graduate students. Redevelopment of UConn’s existing buildings should focus on increasing density and quality of housing stock. Expansion at other sites such as Storrs Center and elsewhere in Mansfield or Willimantic will be primarily developer-driven based on market conditions.

• Transportation strategies must be considered at the regional scale in order to have the greatest possible impact. A number of potential strategies are proposed and explored in the Transportation, Circulation and Parking Plan.

• Due to UConn’s extensive landholdings, the opportunity exists to create additional connections on UConn property between trail systems that are currently isolated from one another and between UConn’s forest tracts and the campus core. In partnership with the Town of Mansfield and other land owners, additional opportunities may exist to improve regional trail connectivity.

**Depot Campus**
1. New Development at Historic Utilitarian Campus
2. New Development at Historic Main Campus
3. Expansion of Rec Fields
4. Removal of Existing Cottages along Weaver Road

**Tech Park**
5. North Tech Campus
6. Central Tech Campus
7. South Tech Campus
8. Discovery Center Orientation / Exhibition Space
9. Tech Park Woodland Corridor

**Campus Gateways**
10. “4 Corners” Route 44 and Route 195
11. Route 44 and North Hillside Extension
12. North Gateway: Route 195 and Moulton Rd
13. North Entrance: Route 195 and North Eagleville Rd
14. Visitor Entrance: Route 195 and Mansfield Rd
15. South Entrance: Route 195 and Bolton Rd
16. South Gateway: Route 195 and S Eagleville Rd

**Off-Campus Housing**
17. Northwoods Apartments Redevelopment
18. Mansfield Apartments Redevelopment
19. Storrs Center Expansion (private development)

**Regional Transportation Strategies**
• Park-and-Ride Lots to the North, along I-84 Corridor
• Park-and-Ride Lots to the South, near East Brook Mall
• Regional Transit Connections
• Improvements to Campus Shuttle Service
• Car-share Program Expansion
• Connections to Regional Trail Network
In the next 20 years, this Master Plan will propel campus growth at the pace established by UConn 2000 and 21st Century UConn before it. The Plan suggests over 3.5 million gross square feet (GSF) in net new development by 2035, supported by about 1.7 million GSF in the next 10 years alone. It outlines a path to accommodate high-end enrollment scenarios and alleviate overcrowding, with capacity for almost 5,000 net new beds on campus. While this growth is primarily focused on science, research, and on-campus residential projects, it is reflected in every use type on every part of campus in some way. And the Plan does so without increasing the development footprint of campus – a major step towards long-term sustainability.

Projects proposed in the Plan should be understood as representing the capacity for growth at the Storrs Campus in the next 20 years. This will be refined in the coming years as the Plan progresses and projects are programmed, designed, and implemented. Only a portion of this growth – associated with NextGenCT or other University programs – is currently funded, and the numbers should be understood in that context.
A place you want to be...
...a place you will always remember
Acknowledgments

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