



FACILITIES MASTER PLAN 2013 -2023

PHASE V FACILITIES MASTER PLAN FINAL RECOMMENDATION

November 22, 2011

State University Construction Fund
Project No. 30884



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FACILITY MASTER PLAN FINAL RECOMMENDATION

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



October 7, 2011

The University at Buffalo is a flagship of the State University of New York system and its largest and most comprehensive institution, serving nearly 29,000 students on three campuses. The university is a major presence and partner in the Buffalo-Niagara region, which is home to 1.5 million residents and is the second-largest metropolitan area in New York State. UB’s three campuses are located in downtown Buffalo, in an historic neighborhood on the northern edge of the city, and in suburban Amherst.

Recognizing the key role that a vibrant 21st century physical campus environment plays in enhancing education, research, and learning, UB is implementing a long-range plan for making its North, South, and Downtown campus spaces more functional, beautiful, and sustainable. In support of its ongoing pursuit of academic excellence, UB continues to invest in creating optimal teaching and learning, research, and library facilities, as well as the shared public spaces that are vital to fostering a robust campus community. The Facilities Master Plan builds on the ideas generated in the UB 2020 Comprehensive Master Plan and provides an implementation strategy for these plans.

I am grateful to the State University Construction Fund and to consultant RTKL for their work and leadership in this significant undertaking. Consultants received valuable feedback from the Deans and Vice Presidents throughout the process that has culminated in this Facilities Master Plan, which will be a valuable tool in reaching our ambitious academic and campus goals. I am pleased to endorse the findings and outcomes of the plan, and I look forward to seeing these plans realized as we move forward in preparing UB’s campuses for excellence in the 21st century.



Sincerely,
Satish K. Tripathi
Satish K. Tripathi
President

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

RTKL acknowledges the significant contributions to this document from materials sourced from the UB2020 Comprehensive Master Plan (“Building UB”) and its Appendices. University at Buffalo has been extremely helpful in making these materials available to our planning team and permitting them to be compiled into this report . This includes both original materials from Building UB as well as copied, paraphrased, and or summarized work from previous studies, reports, and planning documents.

Selected Bibliographies have been provided at the end of each chapter and a comprehensive bibliography is provided at the end of the document. Photography, images, and rendering credits have been included within the text.

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INTRODUCTION

SCOPE OF THE FACILITIES MASTER PLAN

This Phase V Report summarizes the Final Recommended Plan for the 2013-2023 Facilities Master Plan (FMP) for the University at Buffalo. It builds on the findings of the previous four phases of study and expresses in physical form the campus’s desired academic and strategic mission.

RTKL, and its team of consultants, was retained by The State University Construction Fund [SUCF] to conduct a Facilities Master Plan [FMP] for The University at Buffalo’s 1,346-acres which spread across three campuses: North, South, and Downtown. The FMP study was initiated in November of 2010 and began with the aggregation and synthesis of hundreds of University owned documents, the majority of which were related to the 2009 UB2020 Comprehensive Plan, also known as “Building UB”. This process was helpful in gaining a full comprehension of the University in terms of academics, facilities, community and culture.

The documentation for the University at Buffalo Facilities Master Plan 2013 – 2023 consists of five phases

- Phase I - Campus Profile
- Phase II - Assessment of Conditions
- Phase III - Analysis of Space Needs
- Phase IV - Facilities Master Plan Concept Alternatives
- Phase V - Facilities Master Plan Final Recommendations

The intent of the Facilities Master Plan is to provide guidelines for future campus improvements and developments that support the University at Buffalo’s academic mission and strategic vision. The plan will identify opportunities to enhance, maintain, or improve the built environment in a way that facilitates learning and student development. It will seek to maintain the principles and longer term goals of the UB2020 Comprehensive Plan, which are described later in this section.

The Facilities Master Plan will consider current and future University program uses to identify strategies for demolition, rehabilitation, modernization, conversion, expansion, and new construction. It will guide the University and SUCF in identifying, prioritizing, and structuring future project requests for capital funding and will address the projected capital facilities improvement needs for the period of 2013-2023.

GOALS OF THE FACILITIES MASTER PLAN

The primary goal of this Facilities Master Plan is to develop and articulate the capital solutions for the period 2013 - 2023 that support the next phase of UB 2020 development. Initiatives established by the Plan will achieve the following

- Enable strategic academic improvements
- Improve campus life
- Achieve economic impact
- Remedy space needs and building infrastructure deficiencies
- Beautify the “public realm”- excellence in campus appearance is a key element of an excellent university

UB has recently expanded on these goals with the following

- Accommodate growth, migration and transformation
- Ensure economic, social, and environmental stewardship
- Support interdisciplinary research, teaching/learning and enrichment of campus life
- Move closer to neighbors, broaden transportation options, and clarify campus navigation
- Enhance campus character
- Create great public places
- Revitalize campus landscapes

PHASE V – FINAL RECOMMENDED PLAN

The purpose of the Phase V - Final Recommended Plan is to describe and summarize the recommendations for the Facilities Master Plan based upon the options presented in Phase IV. It describes the overall Strategic Plan, provides an overview of the space needs that were analyzed in Phase III, and prioritizes those Space Needs by recommending consolidation, demolition, renovation and new construction strategies.

In identifying key strategies, this Phase V document describes the capital improvements necessary to support the Strategic Plan and the ongoing mission of the Campus. It discusses technologies and supporting infrastructure and coordinates approved Critical Maintenance and Strategic Initiatives with the proposed phasing plan. It identifies additional projects necessary to support plan implementation.

These recommendations are supported by a summary of the capital improvement funding needs by year, phase, and academic or programmatic use. This provides an action plan that ties the development under the final plan recommendation to the Campus’ current and projected multi-year capital plan in terms of phasing and project costs. Lastly, this Phase V document includes Appendices of documents and listing sources referenced during the planning process.