

CONCLUSIONS

PLANNING CHALLENGES

The Bloomington campus of Indiana University is an outstanding model of an American university campus. However, universities are dynamic environments. Ongoing transformation within higher education, in response to internal and external forces, requires change to facilitate growth; to address deficiencies in campus character, circulation, and infrastructure; and to envision new ways to enliven the campus and demonstrate a sustainable environment. The following items summarize the current campus conditions and challenges addressed by the Campus Master Plan.

Natural Features and Landscape Character

- The landscape character, quads, edges, and gateways of the historic core at IUB comprise one of the best examples of a college landscape; however, the quality and richness of the campus landscape tends to diminish beyond the historic core.
- Stormwater runoff, flooding, and the poor environmental quality of portions of the Jordan River corridor are all related issues.

Fortunately, the Bloomington campus lies at the headwaters of its drainage systems, and can have a significant positive impact through its management of these environmental factors.

- Large open spaces on campus, particularly along riparian corridors, lack the woodland and habitat quality of the academic core. Existing woods on campus, including the historic Dunn's Woods, require increased efforts to manage invasive species.
- Surface parking lots do not contribute to the visual quality of the campus experience in the core. Particularly, the two surface lots on East Seventh Street adjacent to the IMU occupy the symbolic entrance to campus and complicate pedestrian movement at this 100 percent corner.

Campus Development and Future Program

- The historic core represents an ideal campus density and balance of open space to buildings that can be applied to other, less dense areas of campus.

- The architectural and landscape tradition of the core of campus is IUB's signature trademark and identity. New development in the core must be compatible with the existing character.
- Existing historic buildings within the academic core need renovation and repurposing to match building typology to appropriate uses.
- Academic buildings lack the quality of teaching space needed for innovative group learning and interaction. Ballantine Hall is a prime example of the need to renovate academic space for more interaction.
- There is a current academic space shortage of 2.3 million GSF. The greatest space needs are for research and academic office space.
- There is a total future need for over 4 million GSF in academic, research, support, and auxiliary uses, including replacement of over 730,000 GSF of outdated facilities.
- Residential areas tend to be single use zones, often remote from the main academic campus.

- A surplus of traditional dorm rooms and a deficit of more popular suite-style and apartment units creates a need to re-think the housing mix on campus.
- There is a lack of informal gathering and social spaces close to the daily population on campus.

Circulation and Parking

- The traffic congestion on East Tenth Street and lack of alternatives for east-west vehicular movement create backups and pedestrian conflicts.
- The rail corridor and lack of north-south connections on the west side of campus limit movement and access to remote parking at the Athletics campus.
- The railroad underpass at East Tenth Street is in poor condition and will not accommodate future bus movement.
- The lack of connectivity for vehicular, bicycle, transit, and pedestrian movement isolates the emerging Research Park neighborhood east of the bypass from the academic core.

- There is sufficient parking supply on campus to meet current and future demand. The primary issues are the distribution, accessibility, and location of future parking to serve the academic core and major campus destinations.
- Improved transit routes and an increase in bicycle paths and facilities will enhance use of alternative transportation modes on campus.

Infrastructure

- There are capacity limitations campus wide with the Central Chilled Water Plant on North Woodlawn Avenue and East Thirteenth Street. Additional chilled water capacity must be added to multiple locations to serve future development.
- There is steam and condensate capacity for future development on the main campus from the CHP; however, distribution lines need repair, upgrading, and/or replacement.
- Capacity and/or distribution lines for chilled water, steam, and power need to be provided for areas of new campus growth

north of East Tenth Street along North Woodlawn Avenue, and for the Research Park east of the SR 45/46 Bypass.

- The need for improvements to sanitary, storm, electrical, and telecommunications varies by neighborhood across campus.
- Sustainable strategies are needed for campus growth and enhancement.