THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI-KANSAS CITY HAS AN AMBITIOUS VISION

As a student-centered urban university, serving our mission of learning, discovery, research, and service, the 2021 Master Plan responds to and refocuses the goals of the 2018-2028 UMKC Strategic Plan. The planning process included robust engagement, utilizing stakeholder meetings, focus groups, surveys, interactive presentations, and open houses with internal and external stakeholders. Building upon a rich history of planning, the plan addresses the key issues and opportunities facing the campus today, while linking vision to respond to the competitive higher education climate.

UMKC has invested in facilities over the last decade with projects that include the Health Sciences Building, Henry W. Bloch Executive Hall for Entrepreneurship and Innovation, Robert W. Plaster Free Enterprise and Research Center, Miller Nichols Learning Center, and the Atterbury Student Success Center. The 2021 Master Plan recommends continued building renovations to align with modern learning environments while reducing energy consumption of buildings and focusing new construction to enhance the student experience, student success and engagement with the Kansas City community. The plan also recommends improvements to the arrival experience, identity and connectivity of the university while enhancing accessibility, safety and pedestrian circulation to tie the campuses together and the creation of a campus heart and active open spaces. Projects seek to elevate sustainability and accessibility throughout campus.

For more than 85 years, UMKC has been responsive and responsible to Kansas City. While the face of the campus may change, that commitment will not. The 2021 Master Plan reflects an evolving plan within the larger city planning framework that can adapt to future needs and guide the development of the campus over time.

STRATEGIC PLAN PILLARS

1. Provide exceptional student learning, success and experience
2. Foster an environment of imaginative multiculturalism and globalism, diversity and inclusion
3. Transform our community and region with impactful engagement
4. Advance a thriving discovery enterprise
5. Develop a strong and resilient people, process and physical infrastructure

HEALTH SCIENCES CAMPUS AT HOSPITAL HILL

The near-term plan for the Health Sciences Campus is focused on building renovations and providing new space to meet instructional needs as well as offices that serve the community and provide critical skills for students. Strategic additions and renovations provide critical space needs and facility improvements for the Schools of Medicine and Dentistry as well as libraries and collaboration space aligned with interaction and streetscape improvements that incorporate barriers, sustainable management and multi-modal transportation will benefit the entire district and increase safety for pedestrians.

1. School of Medicine Renovation and Addition
2. School of Dentistry Renovation and Addition
3. Interprofessional Health Sciences Building Phase 1
4. Open Space Transformation
5. UMKC Gateway + Streetscape, Branding, Wayfinding Enhancements

The long-term vision highlights capacity to develop the open UMKC zones to meet the needs of both the university, the Health Sciences District and the community. Continued streetscape and open space enhancements lie into the larger city planning framework. Leveraging partnerships, the Health Sciences Campus will be a more welcoming, safe and vibrant place.

6. Interprofessional Health Sciences Building Phase 2
7. Urban Development or Partnerships
8. Housing + Mixed Use
9. Parking
10. UMKC Gateway + Streetscape, Branding, Wayfinding Enhancements
PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

Establishing a campus heart for each campus that promotes vibrancy and collaboration is a central part of the plan. These campus hearts include a variety of opportunities that benefit both the university and the community. These include open spaces, greenways, civic, academic, and cultural programs to provide transformational enhancements to social, cultural, health and economic prosperity. New and expanded opportunities include footable trails, bike lanes, and pedestrian pathways. Resilience and stewardship are woven into all planning recommendations with a focus on social equity, sustainability, accessibility, fiscal responsibility, and economic development. Sustainable practices include renovating existing buildings, incorporating green infrastructure and stormwater management strategies, enhancing various forms of transportation infrastructure for bus, bike, and pedestrian mobility, electric charging stations, and solar power. Sustainable practices include renovating existing buildings, incorporating green infrastructure and stormwater management strategies, enhancing various forms of transportation infrastructure for bus, bike, and pedestrian mobility, electric charging stations, and solar power. Sustainable practices include renovating existing buildings, incorporating green infrastructure and stormwater management strategies, enhancing various forms of transportation infrastructure for bus, bike, and pedestrian mobility, electric charging stations, and solar power.

IMPACTFUL ENGAGEMENT

Improve engagement for the benefit of the community and the university

Impactful engagement focuses on opportunities that benefit both the university and the community. These include open spaces, greenways, civic, academic, and cultural programs to provide transformational enhancements to social, cultural, health and economic prosperity. New and expanded opportunities include footable trails, bike lanes, and pedestrian pathways. Resilience and stewardship are woven into all planning recommendations with a focus on social equity, sustainability, accessibility, fiscal responsibility, and economic development. Sustainable practices include renovating existing buildings, incorporating green infrastructure and stormwater management strategies, enhancing various forms of transportation infrastructure for bus, bike, and pedestrian mobility, electric charging stations, and solar power.

RESILIENCY AND STEWARDSHIP

Ensure stewardship of UMKC’s mission, facilities and campus community

Resilience and stewardship are woven into all planning recommendations with a focus on social equity, sustainability, accessibility, fiscal responsibility, and economic development. Sustainable practices include renovating existing buildings, incorporating green infrastructure and stormwater management strategies, enhancing various forms of transportation infrastructure for bus, bike, and pedestrian mobility, electric charging stations, and solar power.

IDENTITY AND CONNECTIVITY

Celebrate UMKC’s unique identity and role as an anchor institution in Kansas City

With two campus locations, we need to strengthen the collective UMKC identity through enhanced gateways, signage and space that the campus together and the Kansas City community. We will leverage the streetcar terminus and better connect the campus west-east, bridging to the surrounding neighborhoods and community.

STUDENT SUCCESS

Promote personal and social stability for all learners

Student Success highlights opportunities that will directly impact the academic, health, wellness and everyday experience of students on campus. Renovations to academic facilities and outdoor spaces, enhanced collaboration spaces and additional housing, recreation, wellness and student support spaces will enhance professional and social mobility for all learners. The goal is to create a diverse, fun environment that results in a sense of pride from the UMKC community.

PIVOTAL PRINCIPLES

Five planning principles emerged from a large cross-section of stakeholder engagement sessions to create a vision for UMKC’s campus that will support its students, faculty, staff, alumni and the larger Kansas City community. The 2021 Master Plan builds on work from the last master plan update in 2014, continuing our goals of supporting the campus and its community, that is more sustainable, welcoming and uniquely UMKC. The 2021 plan provides a flexible planning framework that can adapt to future needs and guide the development of the campus over time.