UIC Master Plan Update: 2018 Implementation Plan

November 2018
Call to Action

Dear Students, Faculty, Staff and Friends of UIC:

The University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC) is a premier urban public research university comprising faculty members at the top of their field carrying on world-renowned research and teaching one of the most diverse and engaged student bodies in the nation. UIC is also home to leading health care programs and the only state-owned hospital in Chicago. The UIC campus is located in the heart of one of the world’s greatest cities and is one of the university’s most valuable assets. Chicago’s vibrant cultural and business life enriches the student experience and provides a wide variety of personal, professional and academic engagement opportunities.

The University has a proud heritage of embracing and planning for the future. In 2016, UIC articulated its Strategic Priorities to build on these strengths. It outlined a plan to enhance student support and fortify the university’s national and global reputation. The document, “Leveraging Our Strengths to Shape the Future,” highlights four strategic areas that define an outstanding global research university:

- Student Experience and Success
- National and International Impact and Visibility
- Chicago and Community Engagement
- Entrepreneurial University

These priorities, as well as UIC’s rapidly growing student enrollment and evolving educational, research, and healthcare needs, all place great demands on the university’s physical facilities and infrastructure. In fact, the strength of UIC’s enrollment momentum alone is reason to embrace the capacity required to meet the various needs of our students and the staff that support them.

The UIC Master Plan Update: 2018 Implementation Plan is a compelling vision for changing and growing this physical infrastructure in a way that will enable the continued upward trajectory of UIC’s academic and health care programs. It is a multifaceted plan for implementing the Strategic Priorities that embraces change and was developed from the following guiding principles:

- Drive Excellence: Build appropriate environments to support academic and healthcare programs;
- Enhance Identity: Create a welcoming setting that encourages people to linger;
- Our Campus is Chicago: Connect people and the campus to the city; and
- Transform UIC: Leverage campus heritage and change the physical paradigm to appeal to all.

The 2018 Implementation Plan is a bold, visionary, and achievable plan that supports the UIC mission of teaching, research, public service, and healthcare. This plan will carry the university’s positive momentum into and through the next decade with a solid foundation for future growth.

Michael D. Amiridis, Ph.D.
Chancellor
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Introduction

Purpose
The UIC Master Plan Update: 2018 Implementation Plan will guide how the physical infrastructure of the campus will be transformed to support the mission and future vision of the University. The Plan builds on the University’s Strategic Priorities, as well as the 2010 UIC Campus Master Plan to outline a targeted and bold ten-year vision to address immediate needs and transform the physical campus environment.

The 2018 Implementation Plan summarizes the outcomes of the physical planning process and communicates the recommended projects to advance the University’s mission, enhance the campus identity, and help attract and retain talented students, faculty, and staff.
Strategic Goals and Priorities

The core mission of UIC is to create knowledge that transforms lives, provide educational opportunities that only a leading research university can offer to a full spectrum of students, foster scholarship and practices that respond to the increasing diversity of the U.S., advance economic development and train professionals in a wide range of public service disciplines. As the principal educator of health science professionals in the state of Illinois, UIC is also a major healthcare provider to underserved communities. In 2016, the University identified its four Strategic Priorities as a guiding framework for how UIC can build upon its strengths and mission.

The four Strategic Priorities are:

• Student Experience and Success
• National and International Impact and Visibility
• Chicago and Community Engagement
• Entrepreneurial University

Building on Past Planning

To fully support its mission and achieve its Strategic Priorities, the University requires appropriate and high-quality physical facilities and infrastructure, embarking on periodic master planning processes to guide and ensure cohesive campus development. The 2010 UIC Campus Master Plan was developed as a long-term and comprehensive framework for campus planning and development. It provided recommendations for buildings, land uses, campus grounds, transportation, identity, and sustainability over the next forty to fifty years. The plan aimed to create a cohesive campus of integrated buildings, transportation corridors and the natural environment. The recommendations were guided by three overarching goals: cohesion and clarity, connections, and sense of place. The 2018 Implementation Plan reinforces these important objectives and major recommendations of the 2010 Master Plan, while narrowing the planning horizon from fifty to ten years.
Campus Today

UIC is Chicago’s public, research university with over 31,000 students, 10,000 employees, and 15 colleges. With a diverse student population, top-tier faculty and staff, world-renowned research, and exemplary health care programs, UIC has the opportunity to build upon these strengths.

The UIC campus is a major anchor of University Village, Little Italy, and the Illinois Medical District neighborhoods of Chicago. The campus benefits from its close proximity to downtown Chicago, easy access to major freeways, and excellent mass transit service. Because of its urban setting, numerous city streets run adjacent to and bisect the UIC campus.

UIC has two distinct campuses located about one mile apart. Taylor Street is the primary pedestrian and bike connector between the two. The East Campus is the undergraduate academic campus that was established in the 1960’s as a commuter campus. The campus core was master planned and designed by Walter Netsch in variations of the brutalist style of architecture. While most of the Netsch buildings still exist, the system of elevated plazas, walkways, and bridges that once connected the whole original campus have been removed. Subsequent evolution of East Campus includes the addition of student housing, various landscape improvements, and the successful creation of the mixed-use University Village area along Halsted Street.

The West Campus is the health sciences and medical campus. Unlike the East Campus, this campus does not have one dominant character but instead features a diverse range of historic and contemporary building types and styles that support health sciences teaching and research as well as clinical care for the community. The organization and form of the campus is the urban grid, with taller buildings oriented towards city streets and sidewalks to create the primary circulation system for the campus. Several internal green courtyards, including the Medical Sciences Courtyard and the College of Medicine Courtyard, in the northeast precinct of campus are successful open spaces, but the West Campus lacks an interconnected network of quads and pathways that would create a strong campus identity and improve the pedestrian experience.
Guiding Principles

Process & Engagement

The UIC Master Plan Update: 2018 Implementation Plan was developed through a collaborative process of consensus building between UIC and the design team, as well as various UIC stakeholders. The process and the project team were guided on a daily and weekly basis by a steering committee and monthly by an advisory committee. The primary goals during the initial stages of engagement were to establish overall project objectives and to develop principles that would inform final plan recommendations and guide future planning decisions.

SWOT Analysis

Before commencing physical planning and design work, the team facilitated a series of on-campus listening sessions with the steering committee, advisory committee, and other key University leaders, department heads, and stakeholders. These meetings focused on assessing the University’s current strengths and weaknesses and evaluating future opportunities and threats. The team documented and organized participants’ input by theme to identify emerging priorities and project goals.
Summary of stakeholder input identifying major campus opportunities.
Campus Observations

The project team toured the physical campus and University facilities to understand existing physical conditions, assess constraints, and evaluate opportunities for improvement. Based on their observations, they summarized their impressions and initial objectives for the UIC Master Plan Update: 2018 Implementation Plan.

General takeaways for the UIC campus:
- There is a need to strengthen connections and consistency between the two campuses.
- The UIC campus should be a distinguished destination within the City of Chicago.
- The plan must address program needs and foster interdisciplinary synergies.
- Key edges and arrival points need improvement.
- Existing facilities and campus grounds are holding the University’s academic and healthcare programs back.

For the East Campus, the 2018 Implementation Plan should:
- Create a more collegiate experience that is warm and inviting.
- Add ground floor activity.
- Define a hierarchy of pedestrian circulation and spaces.

For West Campus, the 2018 Implementation Plan should:
- Extend the qualities of the mature campus to the east and south.
- Improve pedestrian access to the campus core.
Guiding Principles

The creation of the UIC Master Plan Update: 2018 Implementation Plan was informed by a set of four guiding principles, which were developed collaboratively with the Steering and Advisory Committees.

Drive Excellence

Build appropriate environments to support academic and healthcare programs
To ensure sustained, long-term success in the competitive world of higher education, the University must elevate its physical facilities and environments to match the quality of its programs.

Our Campus is Chicago

Connect people and the campus to the city
To fully leverage UIC’s location within a premier, global city the University must maximize and enhance physical connections between its campus and the city.

Enhance Identity

Create a welcoming setting that encourages people to linger
To build community and strengthen the campus’s identity and pride of place, the University must focus on creating a collegiate setting with places and spaces that are warm, welcoming, and inviting.

Transform UIC

Leverage campus heritage and change the physical paradigm to appeal to all
To become a lively, modern, urban campus that serves the needs of all stakeholders, the University must celebrate its unique architectural heritage while also embracing change.
2018 Implementation Plan

Developing a Vision & Concept Plan: Visioning Exercise
The Steering and Advisory Committees participated in establishing a vision for the physical environment of the campus by selecting precedent photographs of landscapes and buildings that aligned with their hopes for the future campus. They organized the photographs to align with each guiding principle to assist the project team in accurately reflecting their vision in the UIC Master Plan Update: 2018 Implementation Plan.

Concept Plan
The planning team developed a concept plan that would respond to the University’s needs and priorities and reflect the shared aspirations for the future of campus. The concept plan became the basis for recommended campus improvements and features several key layers that tie back to the guiding principles.
The Public Realm: City-Campus Interface

The UIC campus and the public realm of the city intersect and weave into each other. The quality and character of campus edges, streetscapes, and other externally facing frontages need to be enhanced to maximize connections with the city and elevate campus identity.
The Campus Realm: Open Spaces & Connections

Quads, pathways, courtyards, and plazas are the connective tissue of campus and are a key component of the pedestrian experience of campus. The network of open space and pedestrian connections on both campuses should feature a clear hierarchy and well-defined portals that link the campus to the city. Taylor Street should be reinforced as the primary pedestrian connection between East and West Campus.
Strategic Opportunity Sites (Buildings, Grounds, & Parking)

Investments and physical improvements should purposefully engage with the public and campus realms to contribute to a seamless campus experience. The most meaningful and impactful sites for new buildings, additions, open spaces and parking resources have been identified, with particular focus on realistic near-term implementation.
Campus Activators

Human activity creates the vibrancy of a successful college campus, and this activity needs to be encouraged and created within different campus spaces. A variety of physical features are recommended throughout campus, particularly along key pedestrian routes and in the most emblematic spaces, to entice people to visit, linger, interact, and enjoy the campus throughout the year. Recommendations include movable furniture, hammocks, gateway signage, fireplaces, and other landscape elements that can add pops of red or additional visual interest to the campus. Campus gateway monuments are recommended at major entrances of the campus to clearly signify campus boundaries and primary arrival points. UIC button signs, a smaller campus marker, are proposed campus portals. The uses of red benches are recommended to be used along the major pedestrian passageways to help create a sense of livelihood and activity. Along these routes, designated areas for furniture and site treatments are proposed at areas that are appropriate places to encourage people on campus to linger and interact with one another.
CONCEPT PLAN: EAST CAMPUS EXPERIENCE

A major focus of early concept planning was the notion to create a defining primary campus experience for East and West Campus that would help unify UIC as a whole, elevate the quality and sense of place, and enhance key portals. This manifested itself on the East Campus as an enhanced north-south promenade connecting the UIC-Halsted Street CTA station at the Peoria Street bridge through the Central Quad to University Village. All the various functions and amenities of a thriving and bustling urban academic campus should be experienced along this spine.
CONCEPT PLAN: WEST CAMPUS EXPERIENCE

On the West Campus, the concept takes the form of an enhanced east-west thoroughfare that connects Arthington Mall Plaza to the Ashland and Taylor Gateway. All the functions and amenities of an active, urban, health sciences and medical campus should be experienced along this new primary campus connection. The pedestrian promenade connects to mass transit at the CTA’s Polk station.
Illustrative Master Plan Update

The guiding principles, visioning, and concept planning process all led to the development of a detailed illustrative framework plan that shows the aspirational future condition of the physical campus. It depicts the recommended arrangement of future buildings, major open space improvements, and enhancements to campus connections. Additional plan recommendations such as phasing, project details, and site-specific design considerations are described in subsequent sections.
Near-Term Plan

The UIC Master Plan Update: 2018 Implementation Plan recommends that new academic, research and student support facilities, as well as open space improvements be constructed on UIC’s campus. When completed together, these new facilities and grounds projects will drive excellence, enhance UIC’s identity, connect the campus to the city of Chicago and leverage campus heritage while providing the needed amenities required by the student population. It is envisioned that these improvements will be constructed in the near-term planning horizon of ten years, but development of these sites may happen sooner or later than expected.
Priority Focus Areas

Three areas of campus should be prioritized for high-impact improvements in the near-term. These include the West Campus, East Campus-North and East Campus-South. These were identified as important areas of focus during the planning process because of their availability of underutilized or developable land, presence of currently planned projects, potential for transformational change, and proximities or adjacencies that can create positive programmatic synergies.
WEST CAMPUS

Proposed Design Strategy

Recommendations for the transformation of the West Campus include the construction of various vital healthcare facilities, interdisciplinary academic facilities and open landscape improvements that connect each of the facilities. The proposed investment on the West Campus will strengthen UIC’s relationship with the people of Chicago, while driving excellence in UIC’s health-science research and academia. Investment in and expansion of West Campus should be concentrated along an improved Taylor Street and a new east-west greenway that links the Ashland Avenue and Taylor Street Gateway to the existing amenity hub at Arthington Mall. The greenway is envisioned as a series of interconnected pedestrian promenades, quads, plazas, and courtyards that will create a sense of a vibrant collegiate campus with improved connectivity and increased opportunities for people to engage and interact.

The West Campus strategy focuses on three key elements:

• Improving the Taylor Street Streetscape to enhance the pedestrian experience.
• Reinforcing campus connectivity via an enhanced and extended Health Sciences Greenway; terminating at a new west quad.
• Branding and anchoring the Ashland Avenue and Taylor Street corner as a primary West Campus Gateway.
The near-term development on the West Campus should occur between Wood and Paulina Streets to extend the continuity and quality of campus character found in the blocks to the west, with longer-term improvements to continue eastward toward Ashland.

An improved CTA Polk Street Station (2) and a new Train Station Plaza (8) will create a welcoming and recognizable entrance to the West Campus. The CTA Polk Station, an important transit hub and front door for the West Campus as well as the Illinois Medical District (IMD), should be enhanced for the thousands of students, patients, and employees of the University and IMD who utilize the station daily. The new Train Station Plaza will physically link the CTA station to the existing north-south pedestrian promenade, the new Drug Discovery and Innovation Pavilion (1) and Arthington Mall and the Health Sciences Greenway (6).

Development of the Hospital Welcome Atrium (3), Ambulatory Surgery Center (4) and Cancer Center Tower (5) will occur on the same block, providing a consolidated zone for quality healthcare services. Improvements to Arthington Mall and the Health Sciences Greenway (6) and Taylor Street Streetscapes (9) will physically connect all of the existing and proposed facilities on the West Campus through the creation of cohesive and safe pedestrian environments and passageways. These streetscape and plaza improvements will enhance UIC’s identity and create pride in place. Because the Ashland Avenue and Taylor Street intersection is also a key campus entrance, creation of the Ashland and Taylor Gateway (7) will help create a clear and welcoming entrance to the east side of the West Campus. Both the Ashland and Taylor Gateway and the Taylor Street Streetscapes will emphasize the importance of Taylor Street as a primary connector between the East and West Campuses. Together, these buildings and open space improvements will provide the physical amenities needed for UIC to become a leader in health care, connect with the City of Chicago and create a vibrant and welcoming environment.

### BUILDING SITES AND MASSING
1. Drug Discovery and Innovation Pavilion
2. CTA Polk Street Station
3. Hospital Welcome Atrium
4. Ambulatory Surgery Center
5. Cancer Center Tower

### OPEN SPACE IMPROVEMENTS
6. Arthington Mall and the Health Sciences Greenway
7. Ashland and Taylor Gateway
8. Train Station Plaza
9. Taylor Street Streetscapes
BUILDING SITES & MASSING

1. Drug Discovery and Innovation Pavilion
The interdisciplinary Drug Discovery and Innovation Pavilion is recommended to be sited on parking lot E adjacent to the College of Pharmacy and along the elevated CTA train tracks. This facility will provide the physical infrastructure necessary for UIC and the Discovery Partners Institute (DPI) to be leaders in the research, development and commercialization of drugs. The contemporary facility will include a bridge link to the College of Pharmacy, a mix of classrooms, offices, research laboratories, and clinical patient rooms with transparent ground floor spaces that showcase active uses and internal collaboration.

2. CTA Polk Street Station
Improvements to the CTA Polk Street Station will create a warm and iconic entrance to UIC’s West Campus. A new transit hub addition to the west of the station could include food services and Illinois Medical District (IMD) welcome services. This project will require close partnership with the CTA and all IMD entities.

3. Hospital Welcome Atrium
The Ambulatory Surgery Center will provide outpatient surgery functions and a modern ophthalmology and otolaryngology facility for UIC to serve its neighboring communities. The new 130,000 GSF facility will be located west of the new Cancer Center Tower, south of the University of Illinois Hospital on Taylor Street. This facility will include an outpatient pharmacy, clinics and multiple operating and procedure rooms.

OPEN SPACE IMPROVEMENTS

6. Arthington Mall and the Health Sciences Greenway
Arthington Mall will enhance UIC’s identity by creating a welcoming setting that safely connects people across UIC’s West Campus and encourages them to linger. Installation of new walkways, seating options, landscaping and exterior lighting will transform Arthington Mall into a vibrant and open outdoor space. Located directly outside of Student Center West, Arthington Mall will anchor the Health Sciences Greenway from Damen Avenue to Ashland Avenue. Near-term improvements to the Health Sciences Greenway should occur within the stretch between Damen and Paulina Streets. Tabletop pedestrian crossings should be added at Wolcott and Wood Streets, and the area south of the Drug Discovery and Innovation Pavilion should be converted into a landscaped quad.

7. Ashland and Taylor Gateway
A pair of UIC-branded red metal pylons will positively reinforce the eastern edge of the West Campus, create a visually interesting sense of arrival, and elevate the University’s profile along this major city arterial.

8. Train Station Plaza
The new Train Station Plaza will create an active amenity zone that will serve as the primary campus portal to the West Campus and IMD. The new plaza will enhance UIC’s identity with a UIC Button Sign, which will alert pedestrians that they are on UIC’s campus. This project will require demolition of a student services annex that currently houses a food court.

9. Taylor Street Streetscapes
Taylor Street is one of the most important streets on campus, and although it is a city street, it should function and feel as part of the campus open space network. The plan recommends streetscape improvements for Taylor Street between Damen and Ashland Avenue in order to make sidewalks a consistent width and feature a uniform paving material, eliminate street parking, and widen the street tree, planting, and amenity zone along the curb. Additionally, stormwater best management practices should be incorporated within the planting strip to help collect and treat rainfall.
Rendering of the Drug Discovery and Innovation Pavilion, CTA Polk Street Station and Train Station Plaza. Existing condition photo of site in the top left corner.
EAST CAMPUS - NORTH

Proposed Design Strategy

The prime objectives for the East Campus-North include creating active and welcoming campus edges and entries, improving connections to the city, and creating a rich variety of campus open spaces. The siting and massing of new buildings in this part of campus must create and reinforce strong open space edges and respond sensitively to existing buildings and skyline views. Such improvements will physically manifest all four guiding principles of driving excellence, enhancing identity, connecting with the City and leveraging campus heritage.

The phasing of near-term development on this part of campus requires sequencing with planned and proposed demolition. Student Residence and Commons South and Stevenson Hall are proposed to be demolished to create two prime building sites, while the former ComEd site becomes a permanent addition to the campus green network. Once the first phase of housing is complete, Student Residence & Commons North and Student Residence & Commons Courtyard can be demolished to create additional building sites.

The East Campus-North strategy focuses on five key elements:

- Leveraging the former ComEd substation site to create a new North Quad – to be anchored by a combination of new and existing campus fabric buildings.
- Reinforcing campus connectivity via existing and extended promenade dissecting the campus core and terminating at the Peoria Street rail station.
- Anchoring the Halsted and Harrison Street corner as an opportunity for future buildings to open the campus interior to the city skyline.
- Leveraging the proposed student residence halls to create a new intimate lawn space.
- Transforming the Central Quad from an inactive passageway that lacks pedestrian amenities to an engaging space that encourages interaction, community and a sense of place.
EAST CAMPUS - NORTH

Near-Term Project Map

Near-term development on the East Campus-North portion of campus includes a variety of transformational academic and student support facilities and grounds projects primarily bounded by Morgan Street, Congress Parkway, Halsted Street and Polk Street.

The new Mixed-Use Housing (Phase I & II) (10) will replace the existing, aging dormitories located on the southwest corner of Harrison and Halsted Streets. The recommended massing for the building includes a 12-story tower that engages the Harrison and Halsted Portal (19) and splays out to preserve the downtown skyline view from campus. The splayed siting of this new facility will create an iconic, framed and unobstructed view of the city skyline. The building’s design will create an activated open space, a new Event Lawn (17), between the Architecture and Design Studios and the Mixed-Use Housing.

A new Performing Arts Center (13) will be constructed on Harrison Field, which is the East Campus- North’s most prominent site due to its high visibility from two major city arterials and the adjacent interstates. This site is perfect for an important University function and prominent architectural statement. The design of the building will also take advantage of prime skyline views and engage with the Harrison and Halsted Portal (19) and the Mixed-Use Housing. Harrison Street and Halsted Street is a primary campus portal that creates a first impression of UIC for many visitors approaching the campus from downtown. The Harrison and Halsted Portal will be transformed with intersection and plaza improvements to provide an inviting, pedestrian environment to support the surrounding facilities.

The College of Business Building (12) will replace the existing Student Residence and Commons West facility. The location of this facility will bring visibility to the College of Business, while directly linking to the Peoria Street Gateway (20) and the new North Quad (18). Its location will strengthen and activate the primary campus promenade that runs from the UIC-Halsted CTA Station through the core of the East Campus-North. The Peoria Street Gateway will be located just south of this CTA station and will create a grand and welcoming entrance to campus through use of new gateway markers and pedestrian crossing improvements. New academic facilities and expansions, including the Stevenson Hall Site (11) and the Daley Library Expansion (15) will define the southern edge of the new North Quad. Improvements to the Central Quad (16) will anchor the primary pedestrian promenade and create a central, activated outdoor common space. The Innovation Center Expansion (14) will complement the interconnectedness of the East Campus-North improvements by providing the physical expansion space needed for the Innovation Center. It is envisioned that these projects will provide the amenities needed by UIC’s growing student population, reinforce harmonious pedestrian circulation and activate primary open spaces and promenades.

BUILDING SITES AND MASSING
10. Mixed-Use Housing (Phase I & II)
11. Stevenson Hall Site
12. College of Business Building
13. Performing Arts Center
14. Innovation Center Expansion
15. Daley Library Expansion

OPEN SPACE IMPROVEMENTS
16. Central Quad
17. Event Lawn
18. North Quad
19. Harrison & Halsted Portal
20. Peoria Street Gateway

East Campus-North proposed near-term projects and design strategy.
10. Mixed-Use Housing (Phase I & II)
The Mixed-Use Housing (Phase I) will include approximately 500 student beds above a 1-2 story plinth that connects to the student center and houses a range of student services, food, and retail. An additional +/− 500 beds is recommended for the north side of the Harrison and Halsted Portal for Phase II, with active student-ori-ented uses, retail, and food services located at the base along the diagonal pathway and Harrison Street.

11. Stevenson Hall Site
The Stevenson Hall site presents a prime opportunity for a new multi-function academic building or library expansion building. It should address the north-south pedestrian promenade along its east end.

12. College of Business Building
The College of Business Administration’s (CBA) rapidly growing student population has triggered the need for a new building that will house office and student space. A modern and dedicated fa-cility will be sited with proximity to the UIC-Halsted CTA Station and Peoria Street Gateway to promote engagement with the city and its business community.

13. Performing Arts Center
A new Performing Arts Center will elevate UIC’s profile and increase its visibility in Chicago while expanding cultural, entertainment, and community engagement opportunities for UIC. It is envisioned to be an architecturally significant 80,000 GSF facility that will be a destination for innovative arts and cultural production. This facility will drive excellence, serving as UIC’s first state-of-the-art perform-ing arts center.

14. Innovation Center Expansion
UIC’s Innovation Center is a collaborative education and design de-velopment center located in the Student Services Building. A 5,000 square-foot expansion to its space at the west edge of the build-ing will showcase the Center’s collaborative partnerships. It will include additional seminar and flexible studio space and fabrication space to allow students to better develop innovative development solutions. The Innovation Center Expansion will help support the growth of the Interdisciplinary Product Development (IPD) program and curriculum.

15. Daley Library Expansion
The Daley Library is a heavily used, intellectual and cultural center on campus and would benefit from improvements and expansion. If the Stevenson Hall site is not used for the library expansion, a linear library expansion along Morgan Street is an ideal alternative. The ex-pansion would include a welcoming-open atrium, high-density book storage and a retrieval system, digital media commons, temporary exhibit space and a digital media commons.

16. Central Quad
The Central Quad is a popular space for students to gather and hang out, though it is not reaching its full potential as the heart of the campus due to a lack of inviting pedestrian amenities and landscape-ing that could encourage community and interaction. It should be enhanced through a landscape transformation project that adds a lawn at the center of the space and directs pedestrian movement around the perimeter. Permanent low seat walls and bar-height seating should ring the sunken lawn. Other activation strategies, such as movable furniture, fire pits, and a wintertime ice rink, should be used to make it a truly four-season space.

17. Event Lawn
The Event Lawn should feature fixed and movable seating, pedestri-an lighting, UIC markers and connect to the interior student service and amenity functions in the mixed-use housing complex. The brick façade of the Architecture and Design Studios can be used as a projection screen during events. Doing so will enhance pride in place by creating an inviting open space for recreation, relaxation and events.

18. North Quad
The former ComEd substation site should remain a permanent exten-sion of campus open space, and the area between University Hall and the Architecture and Design Studios should be formal-ized into a large North Quad. Doing so will provide students with an open space for leisure and recreation. Anchored by the Walter Netsch-designed Architecture and Design Studios building, the new North Quad celebrates the campus’ original architectural heritage, while the proposed new buildings point toward the future.

19. Harrison and Halsted Portal
The Harrison and Halsted Portal will be transformed to include a welcoming entry plaza between the Mixed-Use Housing Towers to take advantage of city views. Similarly, the area adjacent to and in front of the Performing Arts Center should become a plaza space that allows for pre-event functions or events to extend outdoors. New stamped, international-style crosswalks with pedestrian features, enhanced bicycle routes, and use of UIC branding will maximize UIC’s physical connection to the city and create a strong sense of identity. The improved Harrison Street and Peoria Street crossing will include similar streetscape treatments as other major entrances, thus providing an opportunity to stitch together landscapes on campus.

20. Peoria Street Gateway
New campus gateway markers will be installed on Peoria Street just as the campus boundary begins south of the CTA UIC-Halst-ed station. New markers will clearly identify that pedestrians have entered UIC’s campus. The Harrison Street and Peoria Street crossing is the busiest campus entrance on the East Campus, with thousands of pedestrians traveling to and from the UIC-Halsted CTA station into the heart of the East Campus. The primary pedestrian promenade begins at this location, passes the new College of Business building, and continues through the new North Quad to the south. In addition to the installation of gateway markers, improvements to this crossing will create a safe, designated and prominent entry to UIC’s campus. Installa-tion of stamped, international-style crosswalks with pedestrian features, enhanced bicycle routes, and use of UIC branding will maximi ze UIC’s physical connection to the city and create a strong sense of identity. The improved Harrison Street and Peoria Street crossing will include similar streetscape treatments as other major entrances, thus providing an opportunity to stitch together landscapes on campus.

OPEN SPACE IMPROVEMENTS
Rendering of the Mixed-Use Housing (Phase I & II) and Event Lawn. Existing condition photo of site in the top left corner.
Rendering of the Stevenson Hall Site and North Quad. Existing condition photo of site in the top left corner.
Rendering of the College of Business Building. Existing condition photo of site in the top left corner.
Rendering of the Performing Arts Center, Mixed-Use Housing (Phase I & II) and the Harrison and Halsted Portal. Existing condition photo of site in the top left corner.
Summer rendering of the Central Quad and existing condition photo of site in the top left corner.
Winter rendering of the Central Quad.
EAST CAMPUS - SOUTH

Proposed Design Strategy

The major planning recommendations for the southern part of East Campus focus on realigning and enhancing the main north-south pedestrian promenade, extending the positive qualities of University Village north along Halsted, and expanding science and engineering programs south of Polk Street to Roosevelt Road.

The East Campus-South strategy focuses on four key elements:

• Creating a science and engineering zone on campus through the addition of the Computer Design Research and Learning Center and the Advanced Chemical Technology Building.
• Improving the pedestrian experience along Halsted Street between Roosevelt Road and Taylor Street with the creation of active-use ground floors in facilities and pedestrian amenities.
• Reinforcing campus connectivity between University Village, Athletics and the science and engineering facilities through extension of a primary pedestrian passageway.
• Strengthening and connecting Athletic programs to the rest of campus and with the City, instilling pride in the UIC community.
EAST CAMPUS - SOUTH

Near-Term Plan Project Map

Near-term development on the East Campus-South leverages opportunity sites that do not require major demolition or enabling projects, focusing especially on improving the interconnectivity of facilities and landscapes and enhancing the pedestrian experience.

A new Computer Design Research and Learning Center (23) will attach to the Science and Engineering Lab West (SELW) building where Lot 10 is currently located. The new building will engage with the public and campus realms on three sides: the promenade on the east, Taylor Street on the south, and the Grove on the west. The siting of this facility will reinforce pedestrian connections between existing campus open spaces and academic facilities.

The Advanced Chemical Technology Building (ACTB) (21) will be located on the northern and eastern part of the existing baseball field at Halsted Street and Roosevelt Road, south of the Science and Engineering South building. ACTB will form one side of a campus entrance at the Halsted-Roosevelt intersection and begin to define the South Quad (25), an activated open space. ACTB will also bound the Promenade Extension (24), which is the diagonal extension of a primary pedestrian walkway from the northwest corner of Halsted Street and Roosevelt Road. The Promenade Extension connects University Village and the Athletic's facilities north to the science and engineering facilities. The Soccer Stadium (22) will be sited on the existing soccer field, located along Morgan Street south of the Physical Education Building. Metal fencing with no clear entry point or signage encloses the existing field. The new Soccer Stadium will create a welcoming space for players, fans and visiting teams, while also connecting to University Village via an east-west pedestrian passageway.

These new buildings will ensure that UIC can foster scholarship, drive excellence and bring visibility to its academic, research and athletics programs. Open space improvements will physically connect campus buildings, while also improving the student experience and instilling a sense of place on campus.
**BUILDING SITES & MASSING**

21. **Advanced Chemistry Technology Building**
The Advanced Chemical Technology Building (ACTB) will provide state-of-the-art laboratory space that will foster innovative research and development in the fields of chemistry, biochemistry, biology and physics. The design of the space will enable cross-departmental collaboration and provide opportunities to advance technology transfer, education and engagement. Rooftop greenhouses and ground floor teaching labs are recommended.

22. **Soccer Stadium**
The new Soccer Stadium will enliven the UIC community by bringing pride and spirit to UIC Athletics. The new facility will feature elevated seating, a new artificial turf field, a press box, an entry plaza and spectator elevated concourses. This updated facility will attract and retain talented student athletes, sought-after coaches and fans, while creating an opportunity for UIC students to engage with the community beyond their academic studies. Given its proximity to the adjacent University Village and nearby Pilsen residential neighborhoods, the stadium may also be leveraged for non-UIC sanctioned events, similar to the support the Curtis Granderson stadium provides to youth sports.

23. **Computer Design Research and Learning Center**
The Computer Design Research and Learning Center will provide new space to accommodate Engineering’s growing student population and provide new research, classroom and office space. The new building should consolidate and share a service and loading zone with SELW to allow the building to wrap along and enhance the eastern edge of the Grove, improving the pedestrian experience for students and faculty.

24. **Promenade Extension**
The Promenade Extension will improve campus circulation, establish a campus portal at Halsted Street and Roosevelt Road and provide a new pedestrian path that will connect pedestrians traveling from South Campus to the heart of the East Campus. Use of a UIC Button Sign and other pedestrian amenities will signify the start of a primary campus promenade.

25. **South Quad**
A new South Quad will allow the expansion of science and engineering programs to be organized around a main outdoor space. The eastern end of the quad can be established in conjunction with construction of the ACTB. The western portion requires removing surface lots and replacing parking spaces east of Halsted Street.

**OPEN SPACE IMPROVEMENTS**

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Long-Term Plan

While the major focus of the UIC Master Plan Update: 2018 Implementation Plan is a ten-year timeframe, certain areas of campus have been identified as long-term expansion zones outside this planning horizon that merited planning recommendations. The University should maintain these areas for purposeful future campus expansion as recommended here. Specific programs for long-term building sites and recommended building masses have not yet been identified, though potential uses are suggested. Development of these sites may happen sooner or later than anticipated. As UIC identifies needs and contemplates new facilities throughout the next ten years, it should look to prioritize these long-term sites and actualize the outlined planning strategy.
WEST CAMPUS

Long-Term Plan Project Map

As West Campus evolves and grows, new academic and research facilities should continue east towards Ashland Avenue along an extended Health Sciences Greenway and infill gaps along Taylor Street. The Ashland and Taylor Site (30) is currently a surface parking lot. It should be developed as a prominent new building that activates the streets and leads people diagonally into the Health Sciences Greenway, which then will connect to other West Campus facilities. The Taylor Street Infill Sites (26), which are currently the surface lots adjacent to the School of Public Health and Psychiatric Institute, are not the highest and best use for this important street frontage. These should be developed to include academic and research facilities to activate this prominent stretch of Taylor Street.

Long-term development should also be considered for the Drug Discovery Expansion (27), Dentistry Addition Site (28) and Marshfield Avenue Building Site (29). The Drug Discovery Expansion and the Dentistry Addition would reinforce the edge of and activate the new quad formed by the Health Sciences Greenway Extension (33). The Health Sciences Greenway Extension would continue to the east with the creation of a safe, designated pedestrian crossing over Paulina Street. The Marshfield Avenue Conversion (34) would create a north-south linkage to the Health Sciences Greenway while also providing a pedestrian plaza for the buildings within the block bounded by Polk Street, Ashland Avenue, Taylor Street and Paulina Street.

The Hospital Addition (32) would infill the northwest and southeast areas of property surrounding the UI Hospital, providing the amenities needed by the various healthcare facilities. The Hospital Expansion (31) will allow the Hospital to align with its master plan and expand new clinical functions to the south along Wood Street.
**BUILDING SITES & MASSING**

26. Taylor Street Infill Sites  
As West Campus continues to evolve, the University should seek appropriate academic and research uses and consider new facilities for the Taylor Street Infill Sites, located between Ashland Avenue and Paulina Street, to strengthen and activate this portion of West Campus.

27. Drug Discovery Expansion  
The areas of Lot E and E1 along Paulina Street are prime opportunity sites for new academic, research, or administrative functions. The Drug Discovery Expansion could connect with a bridge over the CTA train tracks to the existing Drug Discovery and Innovation Building. A healthy mix of active ground floors and transparency in the building façade should orient toward and animate the quad, Paulina Street, and Polk Street. This will help to define UIC as a place of health, wellness, and innovation.

28. Dentistry Addition Site  
As the new Health Sciences Greenway and quad are extended east, the College of Dentistry building will gain a front door on a major campus open space. Potential uses include student amenity spaces, dentistry teaching labs, or academic expansion space.

29. Marshfield Avenue Building Site  
The Marshfield Avenue Building has a small, inefficient footprint and underutilizes its site. As it approaches the end of its useful life, its functions should be absorbed into other new or existing West Campus facilities to make the site available for a new academic and research building that extends from Polk Street at the north to the Health Science Greenway extension at the south.

30. Ashland and Taylor Site  
A new building on the Ashland and Taylor Site should receive special design consideration. It should engage directly with the city, elevate UIC’s profile and visibility, reinforce the campus edge, and create an identifiable impression on people passing through it or by it. A new plaza at the northwest corner of Ashland Avenue and Taylor Street should incorporate planned gateway monument signage and act as an active and inviting entry to the campus with a blend of landscape and hardscape features. It should be designed to strongly relate to the proposed mixed-use building on Lot G and connect directly to the Health Sciences Greenway. The plaza will help integrate UIC’s presence with the neighboring communities by creating a welcoming entry to West Campus, thus building upon the notion that our campus is Chicago.

31. Hospital Expansion  
The 2009 UI Health Hospital master plan calls for major expansion of medical facilities south of the new Ambulatory Surgery Center and Cancer Tower. The new hospital should address Roosevelt Road with an easily navigable and generous pick-up and drop-off zone.

**OPEN SPACE IMPROVEMENTS**

33. Health Sciences Greenway Extension  
The Health Sciences Greenway Extension will include extending the new quad and pedestrian promenade with a tabletop crossing at Paulina Street and converting Lot F into a green quad. A tabletop crossing with appropriate bollards and lighting over Paulina should prioritize the east-west movement of people and bikes. Doing so will create a complete east-west mid-block crossing; stitching together each of the facilities, creating pride in place, and providing a safe pedestrian network for patients, students, faculty, staff and visitors. The greenway and promenade should connect to the existing green space west of the Molecular Biology Research Building and extend diagonally southeast to the Ashland and Taylor Gateway. A new quad is a major part of the Health Sciences Greenway experience as people move through the West Campus, enhancing the collegiate quality of this side of UIC’s campus. The elevated train tracks should be treated as a design feature of the space, providing an opportunity for UIC to enhance its identity and connect with the City. The tracks provide an opportunity for creative University branding or environmental graphics to be applied to the trestles and overpass structure, helping to create a health and wellness corridor.

34. Marshfield Avenue Conversion  
Marshfield Avenue is a low-volume and minor campus street extending from Polk Street to Taylor Street that should be closed to through-traffic and converted into a greenway that prioritizes pedestrians and cyclists. It will need to be designed to maintain loading and service access to the College of Dentistry building at the north, and possibly secondary access to the Paulina Street Parking Structure at the south. Closing off this portion of Marshfield Avenue will help marry the proposed gateway, portal, facility and open space improvements to create a collegiate and inviting area on the West Campus.
Rendering of the Health Sciences Greenway Extension and Drug Discovery Expansion. Existing condition photo of site in the top left corner.
EAST CAMPUS - NORTH

Long-Term Plan Project Map

The later phase of planning and development on the East Campus-North should seek to fill in remaining gaps within the campus fabric and begin to shift the focus of improvements westward.

In the long-term, the land west of Morgan Street along Harrison Street should be developed into an Academic Expansion and Partnership District (35). The existing Lot 1A and 1B site should be considered for long-term expansion of academic facilities that create a strong edge along Harrison Street and a series of new, interconnected south-facing quads along Vernon Park Place. When the replacement arena is completed at Halsted Street and Roosevelt Road as part of the Entertainment and Innovation District, the Pavilion should be redeveloped to create additional partnership opportunities. Further west of Racine Avenue, the existing Student Services Building should be redeveloped to create a long-term partnership development.

The Performing Arts Center Expansion (36) will be a western addition to the Performing Arts Center. It would also create a front door for the Performing Arts Center to the Peoria Street Gateway. The Behavioral Science Building (BSB) is one of the largest and busiest classroom buildings on campus, including faculty offices, food service, computer labs, and tutoring spaces. While it is a great example of Walter Netsch’s Field Theory design, it lacks a front door and can be difficult for users to navigate. The BSB Addition (37) would create an eastern expansion that becomes a new front to the facility and expands student service functions. It should include a plaza space that extends the high quality of green space in front of University Hall, provides a direct and safe pedestrian path to the core of the East Campus and connects to the new Stevenson Hall Site.
EAST CAMPUS - SOUTH

Long-Term Plan Project Map

Long-term planning for the East-Campus South is centered on filling out the South Quad area and continuing to reinforce the Halsted Street frontage. It ensures that the streetscape characteristics of University Village are carried north and that science and engineering has the opportunity to expand south. The (38) Entertainment and Innovation District is bounded by Halsted Street, Taylor Street, the Dan Ryan Expressway, and Roosevelt Road. Currently, this block features uninviting facilities and a surface parking lot, creating a large disconnect between the core of the East Campus and University Village and an unwelcoming pedestrian experience. This block should be redeveloped into a lively area with mixed-use entertainment and partnership facilities. Intersection and public realm improvements will tie this block to the rest of the East Campus-South, as well as the new development on the (42) University Village Infill site. The construction of the (39) SES Halsted Addition and the (40) PEB Atrium Addition will also strengthen streetscape character by featuring activated ground-floor additions to East Campus-South facilities bordering Halsted Street and Roosevelt Road.

The (41) South Quad Academic Buildings will infill the remaining block bounded by Taylor Street, Morgan Street, Roosevelt Road and Halsted Street. Doing so will consolidate the science and engineering programs, create a new South Quad and reinforce the primary circulation through the East Campus- South.
LONG TERM IMPROVEMENTS

35. Academic Expansion and Partnership District
As part of the Academic Expansion and Partnership District, UIC’s academic facilities would expand west while creating additional active open green spaces. The northeast segment of Harrison Street and Racine Avenue should be redeveloped to create additional partnership opportunities for mixed-use development that could include innovation space, office, housing, active street level uses, and structured parking. Further to the west of Racine Avenue, the site of the current Student Services Building is another ideal location for long-term partnership development, as well as a large remote parking garage. This garage would be easily accessible from the expressway and centrally located to serve both the East and West Campuses. A robust campus shuttle system would assist users in getting from the garage to their final destinations on both campuses. The shuttle system may involve autonomous vehicles, if or when they become more common or ubiquitous.

36. Performing Arts Center Expansion
The massing and design of the Performing Arts Center should leverage the site’s prominent location and visibility from I-290 and the Peoria Street bridge.

37. BSB Addition
The BSB Addition should be highly transparent to contrast with BSB’s solid façade treatment and should sensitively connect to the structure of the BSB. Possibilities include creating a winter garden between the Addition and existing building or linking connection(s) to one or two glassy corridors. The design and program functions of the BSB Addition should have a complementary relationship to the exterior.

38. Entertainment and Innovation District
The Entertainment and Innovation District should be redeveloped to include mixed-use facilities including entertainment, hospitality and partnership opportunities. The site currently houses surface parking lot 6, the Roosevelt Road Building (RRB) and the Plant Research Laboratory (PRL). The PRL functions should be relocated to the rooftop greenhouses on the Advanced Chemical Technology Building (ACTB), and the space in RRB should be replaced in other new or existing buildings in the Science and Engineering part of campus. The site’s large land area can accommodate a broad mix of new buildings and uses, and its prominence and high visibility should be fully leveraged with high-density development. A new arena to replace the aging UIC Pavilion is recommended at the south of the site along Roosevelt, pining the new facility with the UIC Forum and expanding entertainment, athletic, and convocation opportunities. The arena should be lined and attached to a new mixed-use hotel along Halsted Street. The north half of the site presents a major public-private partnership opportunity that should include office and innovation space, a new parking structure, and street-facing retail and active uses; all of which serve to further integrate the campus and surrounding community.

To strengthen UIC’s connection with the city, the walkable and bike-friendly qualities of University Village should be extended to the north, and an inviting new campus portal should connect the main north-south promenade to this important intersection. It is recommended that the pedestrian experience of the Roosevelt Road and Halsted Street intersection be improved through the use of stamped, high-visibility crosswalks with pedestrian features and updated bicycle lanes similar to the Harrison Street and Halsted Street, and Harrison Street and Peoria Street crossings. Doing so will strengthen UIC’s identify and reinforce UIC’s brand along this key campus corridor. The ACTB and SES liner addition should address and activate the west side of Halsted, while a mixed-use hotel and arena should do the same on the eastern side of the street.

39. SES Halsted Addition
The Science and Engineering South (SES) building is another prominent Field Theory building by Walter Netsch. Its unique geometries and shifting forms give it a visually interesting appearance. Unfortunately, its frontage along Halsted Street fails to address or activate the street in a meaningful way. The plan recommends a new mixed-use liner building that engages the public sidewalk and animates the street. A direct linkage back to SES could be a winter garden or atrium space that engages its exterior wall or light bridge connections that link up with corridors in SES. Demonstration labs, student services, and active amenity spaces are appropriate for the ground floor, while academic and office spaces could occupy upper floors.

40. PEB Atrium Addition
The Physical Education Building (PEB) is challenged with circulation issues and disconnection between different areas and floors. To solve internal circulation and promote movement between the campus core and the athletic area to the south, the plan proposes a retrofit of the building’s central circulation spine and a new corridor addition along Roosevelt Road that appropriately links the western and eastern spaces of the building.

41. South Quad Academic Buildings
Multiple new academic buildings should line the South Quad. As science and engineering programs continue to grow and the University continues to improve the quality of teaching and learning spaces, they should seek to co-locate program functions in new interdisciplinary facilities that cluster in this area, filling a large gap in the campus experience and creating a cohesive collegiate environment. As parking resources are expanded east of Halsted Street, the South Quad, which connects the South Quad Academic Buildings, should be extended westward to create a large, unified, and meaningful quad for the Science and Engineering zone of campus.

42. University Village Infill
The last large undeveloped site in University Village is the Lot 14 surface parking area. The site offers high visibility and views of the city and lake, and it should be leveraged as a partnership opportunity to add to the vibrancy of University Village. The recommended development could include a dense mix of housing, hospitality, and amenity functions, along with structured parking.
University of Illinois at Chicago UIC Master Plan Update: 2018 Implementation Plan
November 2018


With guidance from:
- University of Illinois at Chicago Advisory Committee and Design Review Committee
- Planning input provided by additional University stakeholders

Under direction of:
- Timothy L. Killeen, Ph.D., President of the University
- Michael D. Amiridis, Ph.D., Chancellor of the University of Illinois at Chicago

For the Board of Trustees of the University of Illinois:
- Dr. Timothy N. Koritz, Chair
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- Mr. Trayshawn M. W. Mitchell, Urbana Student Trustee
- Mr. Darius M. Newsome, Chicago Student Trustee
- Ms. Shaina Humphrey, Springfield Student Trustee
Appendix: Design Guidelines

I. General Requirements

A. Purpose

The UIC Design Guidelines were developed as a component of the UIC Master Plan Update: 2018 Implementation Plan in the effort to align campus architecture and landscape design with the principles identified in the Master Plan document.

B. Application

The UIC Design Guidelines are applicable to major renovation work and new construction for buildings and grounds at the University of Illinois at Chicago. Major repair and renovation projects that impact more than 10% of facades are to follow these design guidelines.

C. Sustainable Design

The UIC Design Guidelines incorporate sustainable design principles to improve efficiency, health, comfort of users and reduce negative impacts on the environment. Through sustainable design decisions, UIC seeks to reduce consumption of non-renewable resources, minimize waste, and create healthy, productive campus environments.
II. Historical and Architectural Context of Campus

A. East Campus (Walter Netsch)

Construction of UIC’s East Campus began in 1963 with the goal of creating a new 4-year university campus for veterans and young adults in the heart of Chicago. The planning of the campus was done by the Chicago architecture firm, Skidmore Owings and Merrill, led by the internationally known architect and planner, Walter Netsch. Following his design, the campus buildings are grouped by function, following a metaphor of a stone dropped in a pond; the most essential and trafficked buildings occur at the center of campus (library, lecture halls and student center) with the administrative support buildings located farther out like ripples. Six core architectural principles informed the campus layout and building design:

- Structural members were to be concrete and of uniform strengths. Differences in strengths were to be expressed in form.
- Materials were to be indestructible – concrete, granite and hard surfaced brick, although textures varied from fine to coarse.
- Each major building had its own scale, and its own “structural spatial module” suited to its internal needs.
- Mechanical and lighting systems were exposed, eliminating the need for dropped ceilings.
- Windows were opaque enough to eliminate the need for blinds, thereby permitting slide projection.
- Proportions were to conform to the golden section ratio in order to give consistency to the overall campus.

B. South Campus

During the second phase of the campus’ construction, the Architecture & Design Studios building was built, which was Netsch’s first attempt at Field Theory, his signature contribution to architecture. Field theory consisted of rotating simple squares into complex geometric elements radiating outward from central cores. The Behavioral Sciences Building and the Science and Engineering South building also exemplify Netsch’s Field Theory.

The South Campus of UIC represents the University’s change from a commuter school to a quasi-residential campus. With the goal of creating space uses that would attract students, faculty, staff and community residents to the campus, the University created a mixed-use development with residential, retail, office and recreational spaces. UIC’s South Campus adaptively reused over 20 existing buildings and facades and unified them with a design featuring neo-traditional brick facades on upper floors and large storefront windows located at the ground floor.
C. West Campus

The earliest buildings on the West Campus were designed with the Collegiate Gothic style, utilizing red wire-cut Illinois brick and Indiana limestone. The materials were selected for their elegance, durability, and low maintenance requirements. The buildings were substantial and durable and together created a cohesive ensemble.

The College of Medicine East and West Towers, which dominate the West Campus skyline, were designed by Schmidt, Garden and Martin, Granger and Bollenbacher Architects. These buildings were constructed of brick accented with limestone arches and recessed entrances, a characteristic of Collegiate Gothic style, while vertical lines and curvilinear ornamentation add distinctive Art Deco details. This design approach, featured on many of the oldest campus buildings, aids in creating an elegant first impression while masking the buildings' fundamentally utilitarian function.

After the Collegiate Gothic period, the design of buildings transitioned to the Art Deco style. Additional materials, such as pink granite and cast metal were introduced. And following the war, the West Campus buildings were designed in a more functional and economical approach. This is the time period when precast concrete was introduced as a major building material.
III. Design Guidelines

A. Goals of the Guidelines

The goals of these design guidelines are to create an enhanced campus environment that reflects the mission, history, and aspirations of the university. The guidelines apply to both building and landscape projects to encourage a seamless integration of new additions to the campus. The guidelines provided in this report are not intended to be prescriptive, nor limit creativity, but rather to establish a set of recommendations for the design of campus buildings and landscapes to help ensure future decisions move forward in a complementary fashion. The University may exercise its discretion in applying these guidelines.

- New development should align with the Guiding Principles of the UIC Master Plan Update: 2018 Implementation Plan.
- New buildings and landscapes should enhance the pedestrian experience of campus. Buildings should do this through ground floor activation and high visibility, while landscapes should do this by promoting gathering and lingering throughout all seasons.
- Campus will include a hierarchy of buildings with a mix of “fabric” and “focus” buildings, as well as a hierarchy and range of open spaces.
- Material palettes should contribute to a contextual and integrated aesthetic environment.
- New buildings and landscapes should prominently display functional activity and intellectual collaboration.
- Buildings and spaces should promote campus safety by design.
B. Buildings

1. SITING

The planning process identified opportunity sites throughout campus, each of which has a unique relationship to the rest of campus and to the city. The indicated development sites provide a range of sizes and flexibility for new buildings to be sited and oriented within them. New buildings should be thoughtfully designed to relate to their existing and planned context to enhance the fabric of the built environment.

Development sites have frontages that should play different roles within the campus realm:

- **Campus** - buildings or facades along campus frontages should define and activate internally oriented campus open spaces such as quads, walkways, courtyards, and student plazas.
- **Street** - buildings and building facades along street frontages should define and activate externally-oriented streetscapes and public sidewalks.
- **Freeway** - buildings and building facades along highly-visible, prominent freeway frontages should enhance UIC’s identity and elevate the university’s profile within the greater Chicago community.
- **Portals** - buildings and building facades along portals should act as thresholds between the city and the campus.

Additional site planning recommendations are indicated in the Building Sites Regulating Plans. Important pedestrian connections and access points should be maintained or extended to reinforce the pedestrian nature of campus. Building loading and service zones should be sited, co-located, shared, and/or embedded within development blocks to screen and minimize their impact on the public realm.

### Development Sites

- **Campus**: Define & activate campus open space
- **Street**: Define & activate street
- **Freeway**: Enhance UIC’s identity & elevate profile
- **Portals**: Engage with City
- **Pedestrian Connection (Interior)**
- **Pedestrian Connection (Exterior)**
- **Service / Loading Zone**

### Frontage types & objectives:

- **Campus**: Define & activate campus open space
- **Street**: Define & activate street
- **Freeway**: Enhance UIC’s identity & elevate profile
- **Portals**: Engage with City
- **Pedestrian Connection (Interior)**
- **Pedestrian Connection (Exterior)**
- **Service / Loading Zone**

2. ALIGNMENTS & SETBACKS

Appropriate alignments and setbacks of buildings are crucial for establishing the desired character of streetscapes and open spaces. Minimum and maximum build-to lines, key alignments, and important viewsheds are established by the Alignment & Setbacks Regulating Plans. The area between the minimum and maximum build-to lines is the frontage zone, a flexible area within which the building footprint can vary and facades can project, recess, and return. Key alignments are established by existing street walls and prominent campus buildings.

An important goal of the UIC Master Plan Update: 2018 Implementation Plan is to activate and beautify UIC’s key urban corridors. Along mixed-use urban streets, a flexible and typical setback from curb to building façade is 20-25 feet to allow for a 10-foot planting and amenity zone along the curb, a 10-foot sidewalk, and an optional retail or landscape zone of 5 feet along the building (outside of the public right-of-way). In general, new buildings along main city streets should maintain a consistent street wall and establish or continue a 20-25’ curb setback, though purposeful nonconformance is acceptable for plazas, courts, expanded outdoor seating zones, or other activating landscape design features.
3. ARCHITECTURAL PROMINENCE & HIERARCHY

Successful built environments consist predominantly of context or ‘fabric’ buildings punctuated with the occasional object or ‘focus’ building. Collectively, the fabric buildings do the important work of defining the character of the campus and should seek to generally complement the massing, height, materiality, and expression of nearby buildings. Focus buildings create special points of interest by standing out from the prevailing context. They can be more sculptural, expressive, and attention seeking. The Architectural Prominence Regulating Plan indicates fabric building and focus building sites.

Primary and prominent facades of buildings, whether focus or fabric buildings, address the most important campus open spaces and city streets. These facades should be designed to read as the primary facades of the building. Main entries should be located along these facades.

Special design consideration should be given to the massing and architectural expression of certain focal points. These include corners or areas of a façade that terminate a key axis or vista, create a portal between campus and city, or frame a special view.

4. HEIGHTS

The height of new buildings should be sensitive to immediately adjacent buildings and spaces while creating or reinforcing the desired campus character as defined by the 2018 Implementation Plan. The general minimum and maximum height range for each development area is prescribed in the Building Height Regulating Plans. Changes and variety in height along a building façade are appropriate for specific functional and aesthetic purposes, as well as to limit any specific negative impacts on adjacent buildings, streets, or open spaces.
5. MASSING

Massing is the combination of a building’s three-dimensional form and size. For most new buildings on campus, massing should relate to and reflect the building’s functions and interior program. Relationships and impacts of proposed new buildings on adjacent buildings, streets, open spaces, and views should be explored and considered thoroughly throughout the design process.

Massing can be mediated through:

• Horizontal articulation by defining the base, middle, and/or top of the building
• Vertical articulation by utilizing recesses and projections to mitigate large volumes and long facades and to express structure and interior program

Fabric buildings should generally feature simple and straightforward massing appropriate for their use and typology. Focus buildings and terminated vistas can feature more expressive, dynamic, or complex forms.

6. FACADES

a) Materials & Color – West Campus

Materials and color help create a cohesive campus character. The predominant palette of existing buildings on West Campus is red brick with limestone or pre-cast trim/accents. While the stylistic expression and form of new buildings can vary, they should generally extend this palette. Areas of glass and metal (curtainwall or window wall) can express important interior spaces, highlight active ground floors, terminate vistas, and create aesthetic variety.

Permitted and encouraged materials for new buildings on West Campus:

• Brick
• Glass: transparent, translucent, fritted, lightly-tinted
• Terracotta
• Metal: aluminum, zinc, copper, painted (as accent or secondary material)
• Stone: natural and pre-cast (as accent or secondary material)
• Concrete: formed, panelized, scored, textured (as accent or secondary material)

Color Recommendations:

• Select red and/or orange hues for brick and terra cotta to complement existing brick buildings
• Apply neutral & warm tones for primary materials
• Use contrast and range of light to dark to highlight changes in plane or material
• Limit accent colors to 2 maximum and ensure they are complementary to primary colors
b) Materials & Color – East Campus

The East Campus features a range of building materials. The historic Netsch campus (North) is predominantly characterized by concrete and darker reddish-brown brick. The South part of East Campus transitions towards red and orange brick with metal and pre-cast accents in the University Village area. To help add vibrancy to the character of the East Campus, new buildings should expand the use of warm and light-colored metal panel and glass as primary materials, with concrete, masonry, and dark metal used as secondary or accent materials to add continuity with adjacent existing buildings.

Permitted and encouraged materials for new buildings on East Campus:

- Brick
- Glass: transparent, translucent, fritted, lightly-tinted
- Terracotta
- Stone: natural and pre-cast
- Concrete: formed, panelized, scored, textured
- Metal: aluminum, zinc, copper, painted

Color Recommendations:

- Select red, orange, and/or brown hues for brick and terra cotta to complement existing brick buildings
- Apply neutral & warm tones for primary materials
- Use contrast and range of light to dark to highlight changes in plane or material
- Limit accent colors to 2 maximum and ensure they are complementary to primary colors

c) Prohibited and Discouraged Materials

Certain materials do not contribute to the sense of quality, permanence, and aesthetic beauty on campus to which the university community aspires.

Prohibited and discouraged materials for the campus:

- Jumbo/oversized brick
- Mirrored, highly-tinted, or highly-reflective glass
- Fiber cement panels
- Split face block
- Synthetic stucco/EIFS
- Vinyl or aluminum siding
- Concrete block

Examples of East Campus primary and secondary materials and color (top row: Ayers Saint Gross archive image6, Drexel University College of Business building7; middle row: Eccles Theater8, Ayers Saint Gross archive image9; bottom row: Drexel University College of Business building10, UIC Lincoln Hall11).
d) Texture

Buildings should animate the streets and spaces around them and entice people to approach them and interact with them. Façade treatment techniques that utilize lighting, shadow, patterns, and material textures can enrich facades and special parts of buildings.

Lighting: Consider interior and exterior lighting that highlights important or special parts of buildings. Use lighting to add visual interest to rooftop or skyline features on focus buildings, on freeway sites, at key focal points, and along prominent facades. Balance these and any other lighting features with sustainability goals for campus.

Shadow: Create depth to facades by utilizing shadows and shadow lines. Utilize projecting eaves, cornices, bays, louvers, balconies, and other building elements to cast shadows and add dynamism to facades.

Pattern: Utilize balanced repetition and alternation of elements such as windows; material, color, or texture changes; mullions and spandrels; lighting; and textured screens to add the sense of layers, rhythm, and movement to a building.

Textured Materials: Use a range of material textures (smooth to course, flat to formed) to add dimension or emphasis to façade elements.

7. BUILDING ELEMENTS

a) Glazing/Fenestration

Windows and window patterns play a large role in animating building facades and creating the sense of vibrancy and safety.

- Ground floors should be highly transparent to create a visual connection between interior and exterior spaces.
- The percentage of glazing and window sizes for upper floors should optimize interior daylighting needs and programmatic requirements.
- Large, blank facades should be avoided unless required for specific functional purposes. Interior programs that result in such facades should be located to eliminate or minimize their negative impact on primary streets or spaces.
- Where appropriate, important interior spaces (common areas, collaboration spaces, etc.) should be highly transparent and expressed as an architectural feature in the design of the façade.

Examples of textures that animate streets and spaces (clockwise from top: aluminum facade treatment example12, UTRGV Performing Arts Complex13, Milken Institute School of Public Health14, Tenley-Friendship Library15, facade lighting example16, MIT Media Lab17).

Examples of glazing and fenestration that animate streets and spaces (clockwise from top left: 1200 Seventeenth office building, Washington DC18, Watermark Seaport building, Boston19, University of California-Irvine Mesa Court Towers20, James Branch Cabell Library21).
b) Loading & Service

Building loading and service should be located to eliminate or limit its negative impact on the public realm and campus experience. Whenever possible, it should be screened and shielded from view.

Appropriate screening and mitigation techniques include:

• Integrating loading bays within the building and concealing service areas with roll-up doors. Openings and doors should be designed to match seamlessly with the rest of the façade.

• Utilizing shared service courts or alleys to limit service and loading functions from primary campus spaces and public streets. Ideally, these are to be located and accessed from the side or rear of a building or building site.

• Using landscape features such as plantings, walls, and fences to minimize the impact on pedestrian ways. This is only appropriate where existing conditions do not permit other mitigation techniques (refer to subsequent landscape section for details).

Examples of building loading and service (Ayers Saint Gross archive images on top22 and bottom23).

c) Equipment

Without proper consideration, building HVAC equipment can create negative impacts on the aesthetic quality of a building.

Appropriate techniques for minimizing impacts of building equipment include:

• Rooftop or penthouse screens and scrim walls that appear to dissipate into the sky.

• Ventilation screens and louvers that are integrated into the overall façade design.

• Expressing unique forms or elements of equipment or equipment spaces as an architectural design element. This is typically most appropriate for certain lab, research, or healthcare buildings.

Examples of building HVAC equipment (clockwise from top: Leed Himmel custom louver24, Milken Institute School of Public Health25, Amherst College Beneski Earth Sciences Bldg. & Museum of Ntl. History26, Maine Medical Center Research Institute27, Dynamic Glass louvered penthouse screening28).
d) Building Signage

Building signage requires thoughtful consideration throughout the building design process. In addition to the University’s Signage Design Standards, these guidelines recommend the following approach for typical building sign types.

Rooftop Signage:
- Should be used in select, highly visible locations.
- Most appropriate on freeway-oriented frontages, main hospital buildings, entertainment and performance venues.
- Scaled to be viewed from a long distance.
- Proportioned and located to relate to building massing and façade design.

Parking Garage Signage:
- Should be consistent across campus.
- Should be designed for a first-time visitor, easy and quick to understand.
- Should clearly distinguish whether the garage is visitor and/or permit parking.
- Should display the number and location of spaces available.
- Should be scaled and designed to be seen from a slow-moving vehicle.

Pedestrian-Oriented Building Signage:
- For office, academic, & housing buildings: entry canopy signs are appropriate.
- For retail, restaurant, & student amenity buildings or spaces: canopy, storefront, projecting blade, and window signs are appropriate sign types.
- Building address numbers should be oriented and scaled for both pedestrians as well as moving cars along city streets.

Examples of parking garage signage (clockwise from top: Parking Garage, Santa Monica, blade parking sign example, Ampersand aluminum blade parking sign).

Examples of rooftop signage (top: Crosswinds Annapolis Towne Centre and middle: University of Colorado Hospital). Examples of pedestrian-oriented signage (bottom left: Amazon Go, Seattle and bottom right: Berklee College of Music).
8. HUMANIZING BRUTALIST BUILDINGS

The UIC campus has a particularly robust architectural heritage of Brutalist buildings. The University should seek to preserve and celebrate this history and character as much as possible, but also seek to enhance it to ensure these buildings meet the evolving needs of a modern university’s students, faculty, and staff.

a) Additions

Additions and significant exterior renovations to existing Brutalist buildings should:

• Contrast to the original structure by being lighter, brighter, and more transparent.
• Mitigate the interior-focused qualities of the original building while preserving a sense of its structural expression and form.
• Seek to emulate the successful aesthetic and interior quality (natural light and transparency) of the recladding of Grant, Douglas, and Lincoln Halls.

b) Lighting

Many Brutalist buildings on UIC’s campus have interesting forms and features with concrete and dark brick as the primary materials. To help add a sense of vibrancy and warmth to the campus experience, consider using architectural lighting and colored lighting to animate prominent buildings, facades, or building elements. Potential opportunities include lighting University Hall, the library, covered pedestrian passages or overhangs, and structural columns around the Central Quad.

Examples of Brutalist building additions (clockwise from top: UIC Douglas Hall, UMass Claire T. Carney Library building front and side, and National Arts Center, Ottawa).

Examples of architectural lighting incorporated into Brutalist architecture (top to bottom: Council House Lights, Perth and National Arts Centre, Ottawa).
C. Landscape

1. LANDSCAPE APPROACH

The campus landscape is a defining feature of the collegiate experience. Improvements to the landscape can contribute to more understandable wayfinding and branding, create meaningful gathering places throughout campus, improve the overall campus setting, and create a sense of place with consistent materials and details. At UIC, the landscape has the potential to be the element that links together campuses with different character. The landscape guidelines provided in this report are not intended to be prescriptive, nor limit creativity, but rather to establish a set of recommendations for the campus landscape to help ensure future decisions move forward in a complementary fashion.

a) Diversity of Spaces

The diversity of scale, character, and uses of outdoor spaces within a collegiate campus add to the richness of the experience. These outdoor spaces can span from active campus greens to intimate building courtyards. It is the variety of these experiences that make the campus memorable. The master plan identifies several landscape typologies for the UIC campus, including quadrangles and lawns, plazas, courtyards, and promenades.

Quadrangles and lawns are typically the iconic spaces that are synonymous with the institution. They are large, centrally located spaces that support large-scale gatherings for impromptu and ceremonial events. A simple and rational network of pedestrian paths supports desire lines. These spaces are reinforced with building entrances that open into the Quad. A simple palette of trees and turf best suits these areas. However, the addition of foundation plantings along the edges of the space can create a transition between buildings and open spaces.

Plazas are typically located at building entries and the major crossroads of pathways on campus. These spaces are often flanked by buildings with active first floor functions such as retail, lobby, or performance spaces. They are important gathering spaces for smaller scale groups and serve as places to see and be seen. Plazas are often dominated by paving to support heavy pedestrian activity and use of a combination of fixed and movable seating for flexibility. They provide opportunities to add special site features including water features, sculpture, and outdoor fireplaces. These active spaces contribute to a sense of shared community life.

Courtyards are intimate, small-scale spaces surrounded by building and/or walled edges. These spaces primarily support the users of the adjacent buildings. They can successfully include fixed or movable seating for flexibility and special site features like fountains or sculptures. Courtyards can have diverse planted palette that supports stormwater management and seasonal interest. These spaces create small intimate gathering spaces.

Campus Promenades are discussed in more detail in the following section.
b) Campus Promenades
A unique element of both the West and East Campus are major linear pathways that connect the campus. Transforming these walkways into memorable Campus Promenades is a key component of the master plan. The Campus Promenades run through the center of campus, linking the buildings along their path, and defining a unique character that is part of the UIC experience. These Promenades have special features associated with their detailing including the materiality of the walkway and the adjacent benches. These special features are described in more detail in the Campus Standards section of these guidelines. The alignment of the campus Promenades is highlighted in the plan below.

c) Campus Activators
Campus activators are inviting outdoor furnishings that encourage people to stop and enjoy exterior spaces. The addition of these special elements adds vibrancy to the campus experience. Activators encourage social interaction by providing a place for people to stop and linger. They can extend outdoor activity across the seasons with the addition of outdoor firepits, ice skating rinks, and seasonal color. Activators in the form of moveable seating provide spaces for outdoor learning. With the addition of light, color, and shade, activators create memorable places that promote activity throughout the day and into the evening.

The addition of flexible furniture and landscape elements at key locations provide opportunities to meet and enjoy the campus. Selectively adding these elements close to food, major building entries and gathering spaces allows for casual conversations and everyday experiences to be taken outdoors. A combination of moveable furniture, firepits, special bench seating, and hammock groves work together to create these nodes across campus. Several potential locations for these elements have been identified and are shown in the map below.

Example of campus activators: a RIT Global Village and Global Plaza firepit (top) and Philadelphia Navy Yards hammocks (bottom).
2. STREETSCAPES

Streets are a key component of the open space framework. Streets connect the East and West Campus and create campus edges and links to the adjacent community. Streets provide a strong sense of place and contribute to the campus and neighborhood identity. They are sustainable and integrate best management practices. The following pages outline the approach to streets including the benefits of trees and the value of green streets. Typical street sections have been developed for the varying street conditions at UIC, including campus streets, perimeter streets, and median streets.

a) Power of Trees

Trees added to the streetscape have great impact. They have beneficial environmental aspects including reduced heat gain in an urban setting but just as importantly, trees have great-perceived safety impacts for pedestrians. There is an added sense of security from the simple addition of a traditional tree lawn. Trees planted between the pedestrian sidewalk and the edge of curb provide a much-appreciated separation between pedestrians and vehicles.

Healthy and well-established canopy trees provide a beautiful setting for the pedestrian and driver alike. There are several methods that help establish healthy street trees. The foremost of these is providing adequate soil volume for the mature growth of the tree. The larger the soil volume, the greater growth the tree will have. In cases where there is limited real estate to provide adequate soil for the tree, the addition of structured cells that allow for root growth under adjacent sidewalks and hardscape is suggested.

b) Green Streets

Green Streets integrate best management practices for stormwater management and safely accommodate the mobility needs of all users. Planting strips and tree pits are opportunities to capture runoff from the adjacent streets and/or sidewalks and return the runoff into the groundwater immediately. Green Streets are designed to provide percolation of the run-off into the groundwater system as opposed to the run-off being directed straight to the stormwater sewer system.

c) Campus Streets (street conversions)

Campus Streets intersecting core campus spaces should have an emphasis on pedestrian circulation while accommodating vehicles. These streets can support raised, tabletop crossings that prioritize pedestrians. Changes in the pavement material at these crossings add a visual cue for drivers that they are entering a pedestrian zone. Bump-outs allow for narrower crossings and have the added benefit of slowing traffic due to the narrower travel lanes. Street trees, benches, and pedestrian scale lighting all contribute to the character of these streets.

d) Perimeter Streets

Campus Perimeter Streets create a defined edge of campus by implementing consistent materials, plantings, banners, and signage. Expanding the campus landscape material palette to these edges helps identify the UIC campus within the city. These streets provide an opportunity to add banners, signage, and gateways for campus. Perimeter Streets are part of the arrival experience to campus and help establish first impressions to visitors.
e) Median Streets

The Median Streets at UIC are also perimeter streets to campus. As such, they have similar characteristics, including the opportunity to define the edge of campus by implementing consistent materials, plantings, banners, and signage. Median Streets have the added benefit of adding consistent UIC planting material and banners within the median itself.

f) Pedestrian Crossings

Pedestrian Crossings should be designed in a manner that prioritizes pedestrian safety. Using the work that has been designed for W. Harrison Street as an example, crosswalks should be designed to minimize the width of the pedestrian street crossing with bump-outs and medians that provide pedestrian refuge zones where possible. Changes in the pavement material and crosswalk painting act as a visual cue for drivers. These visual additions will alert the drivers of vehicles that they are entering a pedestrian zone.

Crosswalks have the added potential to be a branding opportunity for the campus by bringing UIC branded materials and messaging out to the street. Consider the addition of unit pavers, painted installations, or stamped concrete within the crosswalk. Consistently addressing crosswalks in this manner throughout campus has the added benefit of delineating campus within the larger city context.
3. CAMPUS STANDARDS

a) Existing UIC Furniture

The existing UIC campus standards are identified on the following page. This furniture brings added warmth with materials that complement the existing campus architecture. Future projects should comply with these standards.

- Pacifica Bench: Forms + Surfaces
- Tangent Table Ensemble: Forms + Surfaces
- Trio Picnic Ensemble: Forms + Surfaces
- Emerson Bike Rack: Landscape Forms
- Inverted “U” 16” wide bicycle rack
- Tapered precast concrete pole
- Rincon Light Bollard: Forms + Surfaces
- Bigbelly Station with Custom Wrap

b) Expanded Palette

An expanded palette of site furniture is suggested for special areas on campus where the campus community gathers. This expanded palette includes complimentary special wooden seating. This consistent use of wood and concrete complements the existing UIC campus standard furnishings. This expanded palette gives a variety of seating and lounging opportunities while also adding a sculptural, playful, and memorable aspect to the space.

- Social Seating: Streetlife
- Universe System: Landscape Forms
- Longo: Escotet
- Surf Isles: Streetlife

c) Campus Promenade Bench

A special bench is suggested for use along the Campus Promenade walks. This bench reinforces the Campus Gateway designs with folding metal panels painted in UIC red. The bench will become a memorable moment along the Campus Promenades.
d) Landscape Screening
Several locations on campus would benefit from screening techniques to help mediate exposed loading, service, and back-of-house functions. There is not a one-size-fits-all approach to solve each of these challenges, but rather a kit-of-parts that can be referenced and chosen from for each unique situation. For the purposes of this report, we have chosen three exposed loading docks that are located along Halsted Street and suggested three different design approaches to each.

Fencing and plantings: Where existing fencing is part of the adjacent building design, consider expanding the fencing to the edges of the service drive to help minimize the perceived size of the drives and dock. Plant the area between the fence and the sidewalk with grasses or shrubs to minimize views toward the loading docks and minimize the scale of the hardscape.

- Add tall grass/shrub planting between the sidewalk and the fence.

EXISTING CONDITION

PROPOSED CONDITION

Loading drives: Size drives to loading to be as narrow as possible to minimize their visual impact. Keep loading dock doors closed when not in use. Keep storage and waste associated with loading to a minimum, particularly in visible locations.

- Minimize width of drive by eliminating extra paving and expanding lawn.
- Move fencing and add gates to new pavement edge.
- Add tall grass/shrub planting between the sidewalk and the fence.

EXISTING CONDITION

PROPOSED CONDITION

Shrubs as hedge: In places where real estate and orientation allows, plant hedges of shrubs to block views of the loading or service area. Consider evergreen species that provide year-round screening.

- Add tall grass/shrub planting between the sidewalk and the fence.

EXISTING CONDITION

PROPOSED CONDITION

Example of effective landscape screening at UNC School of Dentistry.
e) Pathway Hierarchy

Campus Pathways act as a feature for campus by using a well-defined and consistent palette of material unique to UIC. The scale of pathways should respond to anticipated use. Creating a pathway hierarchy of primary and secondary walkways delineates major walkways on campus. The use of a consistent palette of material further delineates campus within its larger context. All pathways on campus should be designed with universal accessibility in mind.

Currently, the existing pathways on campus are a standard scored concrete. In special areas, a unit paver Tectura Design’s 11-13/16 square pavers in a Tectura UG-60 finish has been identified. The design guidelines propose the addition of these special pavers as a banding on the outside edge of the existing scored concrete walkways as a more cost-effective way to designate primary walkways. Secondary walkways are suggested to remain scored concrete. The use of the Tectura pavers along the primary walkways and at building entries helps knit the campus together with a consistent palette of materials while also highlighting special places and pathways.
4. SIGNAGE

a) Gateway

Gateways help create a welcoming environment and positive first impressions for campus visitors. Gateways help distinguish the campus from its local surrounding and establish a sense of arrival. They further improve navigation of campus by providing clear landmark presence at integral locations at campus edges. UIC recently completed a study of campus gateways. The locations and designs of those gateways are highlighted below.

b) Button Signs

A smaller scale button sign works in concert with the larger gateway proposals to help reinforce the campus identity. Whereas the gateways signs are meant to be a large monumental threshold for campus, the button size has a comfortable human scale. These signs celebrate the UIC circle logo in a 3D condition. The button signs are suggested to be located in pedestrian scale environments within the campus core, as highlighted in the plan below.

c) Pedestrian way-finding/building identification

Campus Signage provides much-needed wayfinding clarity on campus while also welcoming individuals to the campus. Signage is primarily intended for first-time or infrequent visitors and is divided into two hierarchies: vehicular signage and pedestrian signage. Vehicular signage guides to parking and key destinations, while pedestrian signage provides orientation and guidance to destinations when traveling on foot. The system of signs and messages reinforces the institutional brand while delivering clear and simple navigational guidance.
The section below outlines the proposed UIC signage system:

Clockwise from top left: campus building sign, vehicular wayfinding sign, pedestrian wayfinding sign, monument sign, monument co-branded sign, campus parking lot sign.
Accessible Landscapes

Universal access should be a priority with the development of outdoor spaces. UIC has the benefit of level topography, however it is still beneficial to identify campus-wide routes that are key accessible connections. After extreme weather events, these routes should be the first to be cleared of snow or storm debris. The Campus Promenades should be identified as accessible routes.

Furniture placement should be welcoming to all campus users. The additions of a pad adjacent to a campus bench allows for a person in a wheelchair to pull-up and have the same experience as the person on the bench. Placing furniture with enough distance to allow easy wheelchair navigation is also key to providing a campus welcoming to all.

5. ART ON CAMPUS

Art on campus adds to the beauty and experience. However, careful consideration should be given to the long-term maintenance, siting, and appreciation of the art. With the addition of new artwork to campus, consider developing an endowment for maintenance and oversight of the piece. Creating a design review for selection or approval of donated pieces will allow UIC to have experts in the field evaluate, and potentially help site the piece. Celebrate the art on campus by creating a self-guided tour and map that allows users to view all pieces. Consider strategically locating art within a common campus zone or along an arts walk for easy interpretation.

6. MEMORIAL TREES

Alternative approaches to donations of memorial trees on campus can provide flexibility for unforeseen tree failure or future campus construction. To provide an opportunity for individuals to make donations, consider consolidating funds toward a campus wide tree initiative that supports the on-going planting and maintenance of campus trees. This common fund could support the installation of larger landscape gestures including malls, groves, and alleys (Cherry Border, Magnolia Grove, Elm Walk). Donations can be memorialized in pavers adjacent to the landscape features as well as written catalog of donations.

7. PLANTINGS/SEASONALITY

Plantings can add value within rain gardens, windbreaks and green roofs, which serve to clean runoff and reduce heating/cooling needs. Using the existing Campus Grounds Design Standards as a basis, suggested plant material has been identified on the following pages. Species that thrive in the USDA Plant Hardiness Zone 5/6 and have good success in urban conditions have been included. Invasive exotics have been excluded. An emphasis has been placed on selecting plant material that has seasonal interest, even in the winter months. Ornamental grasses and shrubs add structure throughout the seasons with added color from perennials and bulbs in the spring, summer, and fall. Drought tolerant native and adopted species are suggested as a method of water conservation.
**Evergreen Trees**

- Picea glauca var. densata – Black Hills Spruce
- Picea Pungens – Blue Spruce
- Taxodium distichum – Bald Cypress

**Understory Trees**

- Hydrangea paniculata ‘Jane’ – Panicle Hydrangea (deciduous shrub)
- Spiraea betulifolia ‘Tor’ – Spiraea (deciduous shrub)
- Taxus x media ‘Densiformis’ – Yew (evergreen shrub)

**Seasonal Interest**

- Cornus alba ‘Sibirica’ – Red Twig Dogwood
- Ilex verticillata – Winterberry

**Understory Trees**

- Cornus mas – Cornelian Cherry
- Syringa reticulata ssp. reticulata – Japanese Lilac Tree
Shrubs

Calamagrostis × acutiflora ‘Karl Foerster’ – Reed Grass

Sporobolus heterolepis – Prairie Dropseed Grass

Panicum virgatum ‘Shenandoah’ – Switch Grass

Pennisetum rubrum – Purple Fountain Grass

Perovskia atriplicifolia Little Spire – Russian Sage

Hosta August Moon – Hosta (partial shade)

Pennisetum rufescens ‘Shenandoah’ – Switch Grass

Pennisetum rubrum – Purple Fountain Grass

Perovskia atriplicifolia Little Spire – Russian Sage

Hosta August Moon – Hosta (partial shade)

Echinacea pallida – Pale Purple Coneflower

Perovskia atriplicifolia Little Spire – Russian Sage

Hosta August Moon – Hosta (partial shade)