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Office of the President
October 26, 2013

Members, Board of Trustees:

ESTABLISH PRINCIPLES FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION
OF THE
CAMPUS MASTER PLAN

Recommendation: that the Board of Trustees establish principles for the implementation of the Campus Master Plan - Update 2013.

Background: The Campus Master Plan – Update 2013 was developed with the recognition that the campus, in its entirety, is more than the mere functional arrangement of buildings, roads, walkways, parking lots and landscapes. It defines a collective experience of place and community, which is an essential part of the teaching, research and learning experience for students, faculty, and staff. Perhaps more than any other single aspect of the University, the physical environment has the power to embody and express the purpose and mission of the University of Kentucky. The campus can be a rich expression of tradition and history, a fundamental resource to the current educational experience, and an invaluable reference point in helping to define the future.

The Master Plan Principles, attached hereto, establish the foundation and priorities for the development of the University of Kentucky campus and are intended to be applied in conjunction with the campus framework plan and campus district strategies. These principles were developed through consultation with the University community and direction from the University's master planning committees. The principles link the physical development of the campus with the University's mission, and will assist in decision-making around campus improvements.

Action taken: Approved Disapproved Other _____

Master Plan Principles; Campus Master Plan – Update 2013

Master Plan Principles

1. Academic Environment

Create a 21st century learning environment that supports the technological, social, economic and creative needs of today's students. A dynamic academic environment includes flexible teaching and learning spaces, modern laboratories, and opportunities for informal learning outside the classroom and across the campus. The master plan facilitates opportunities to enhance the academic environment by concentrating academic activity within the campus core, connecting teaching and learning spaces, integrating academic and student life, and creating opportunities for learning in outdoor settings.

2. Campus Life

Enhance the student life experience and reinforce campus community in strong residential districts, both on and off campus. A strong campus life experience is key to student success. The master plan articulates strategies to enhance student life and create a dynamic living and learning environment.

3. Community

Forge partnerships to strengthen the neighborhoods surrounding the campus and downtown. The University has an important impact on the neighborhoods that surround the campus, and plays a key economic and cultural role in the community. The University should continue to work with its neighborhood and Urban County Government partners to strengthen surrounding areas, contribute to the local economy, and incorporate community impact into decision-making. The master plan articulates planning policies and design strategies to further these initiatives.

4. Growth

Establish a long-term plan for growth management consistent with the University's mission, and that efficiently utilizes land resources. The University campus must accommodate academic, research, health care, student life, sports and recreation, and administration and support functions within a defined land area. The University has also established a growth boundary to mitigate the impacts of campus development on surrounding neighborhoods. The master plan articulates strategies to accommodate current and future uses efficiently, while preserving the quality and character of the campus environment.

5. Mobility

Facilitate safer and more efficient mobility in support of the master plan land use and landscape concepts. Mobility systems include pedestrian circulation, bicycle circulation, transit service, vehicular circulation, and parking. The master plan defines accessible, safe, efficient and attractive mobility systems for the campus, while preserving pedestrian priority in the campus core.

6. Landscape Structure

Establish a legible open space and landscape structure that improves the campus environment and reinforces campus identity. The University campus contains a range of open space elements and high-quality architecture but the existing landscape structure could be better defined. The master plan strengthens the landscape structure to create a more cohesive campus environment.

7. Sustainability

Integrate sustainability in every aspect of planning. The University of Kentucky's Statement on Sustainability recognizes the critical need "to engage the University community to create policies and programs that will simultaneously advance economic vitality, ecological integrity and social equity, now and into the future." The master plan creates the opportunity to demonstrate leadership in this "triple bottom line", and will help to advance sustainable initiatives within several key areas – mission, energy, landscape, ecology, mobility, community and economic development.