
THE GEORGE
WASHINGTON
UNIVERSITY

WASHINGTON, DC

Facilities Planning & Transportation and Parking

2021 Mount Vernon Campus Planning
Community Engagement

May 12, 2021 at 4:00PM



Agenda

- Welcome & Introductions
- Process Overview Review
- SCFMP - MVC Design Manuals
- Open Discussion and Thoughts
- Current Issues / Concerns Update
- Important Online Resources
- GW Community Engagement Contact Information
- Next Working Group Meeting Date

Process Overview Review

- Create a format for discussion, information sharing, and problem-solving
- Cooperative and beneficial dialogue and shared analysis on opportunities to improve operations and community relationships
- Working Group focus on collaboration around plans and issues related to:
 - Physical campus facilities
 - Existing and proposed development,
 - Landscaping
 - Renovations
 - Transportation and Parking
- Alignment with roles, responsibilities and ground rules for Working Group

SCFMP - MVC Design Manuals

Strategic Campus & Facilities Master Plan (Reviewed on 4/14)

- Architecture Design Manual
- Landscape Design Manual
- Streetscape Design Manual

Architecture Design Manual

Guiding Principles

SCALE + FORM

Maintain the residential scale of campus by reducing the volume of large buildings with smaller and more domestic-scaled massing.

RESPOND TO EXISTING TOPOGRAPHY

Design buildings to work with, and take advantage of existing site topography, while ensuring universal accessibility.

ARCHITECTURAL CHARACTER

Design new buildings to complement the existing architecture on campus. Honor and maintain the integrity of buildings that display significant historic character.

Landscape Design Manual

Guiding Principles

IDENTIFY

Give distinction to the campus while connecting to the fabric of Mount Vernon

COHERE

Reduce fragmentation and create coherence through a consistent material palette, spatial organization, and furnishings.

DIVERSIFY

Provide a diverse range of scales, programs, and thermal comfort for all seasons.

SUSTAIN

Integrate water management and sustainable initiatives throughout campus.

ENGAGE

Engage students, faculty, staff, and visitors with one another

PROMOTE ACCESSIBILITY

Achieve universal accessibility throughout Mount Vernon to meet and exceed ADA accessibility standards.

Key Landscape Areas

- Mount Vernon East Quad
- Hillside Gardens
- West Quad
- Perimeter Areas

Streetscape Design Manual

Key Issues

- Pedestrian routes are unclear and circuitous
- Lack of universally accessible pedestrian paths and impediments for pedestrians with mobility issues or in wheelchairs
- Oversized and poorly designed roadways around existing quad
- Lack of sidewalk signage and lighting along most roadways
- Chronic flooding of low-lying areas due to high degree of runoff from roadways

Guiding Principles

PRIORITIZE THE PEDESTRIAN

Ensure pedestrian safety by transforming existing vehicular streets into pedestrian walkways that also function as emergency vehicle access paths.

REINFORCE CONNECTIONS TO NATURE

Improve health and wellness initiatives on campus by introducing visible entrances and walking paths into and across campus open spaces. Provide comfortable seating areas and appropriate lighting and signage along walkways and shared roads.

REALIZE EQUITY + SUSTAINABILITY GOALS

Integrate universal design principles to provide accessible and safe routes across campus. Utilize porous paving and existing topography to improve stormwater management on campus.

Open Discussion and Thoughts

May 12, 2021

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Current Issues/Concerns Update

Actions items from 2/25/21 Quarterly Community Meeting:

- Hand Chapel mechanical equipment noise - **UNDERWAY**
- Landscape buffer along W Street - **UNDERWAY**
- Fence/gate downstream from Hand Chapel - **UNDERWAY**
- Noise from athletic field adjacent to West Hall – **UNDERWAY**

Follow-Up Action Items from Working Group Meetings:

- Post presentation materials and Working Group contact list - **COMPLETE**
- Compile past historical campus plan materials for Working Group reference - **UNDERWAY**
- Include Vern community access in Transportation Working Group discussion - **COMPLETE**
- Identify a Working Group Co-Chair to represent the community at the 4/8/21 meeting - **COMPLETE**
- Identify strategies to address air horns and directional placement of speakers - **UNDERWAY**
- Incorporation of large trees (i.e. mature) in lieu of young trees that requires years to develop – **UNDERWAY**
- Address evasive and management of landscaping and vegetation adjacent to Berkeley Terrace – **UNDERWAY**

Important Online Resources

Mount Vernon Campus Plan

go.gwu.edu/MVCPlan2021

Newsletter signup

go.gwu.edu/mvcneighborssignup

Online Reporting Tool

go.gwu.edu/onlinepublicreport

Bicentennial

bicentennial.gwu.edu

MVC Community Feedback:

[Community Feedback](#)

**GW COVID-19 Response, Spring
Planning & FAQs:**

coronavirus.gwu.edu

coronavirus.gwu.edu/top-faqs

GW COVID-19 Dashboard:

coronavirus.gwu.edu/dashboard

GW Community Engagement Contact Information

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