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Introduction and Goals



Highline College Master Plan

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1.1 BACKGROUND & COLLEGE MASTER PLAN PURPOSE

The purpose of this College Master Plan is to outline a road map for the future development of Highline College (HC) main campus, located in Des Moines, as well as off-campus facilities. In addition to the main campus, HC has several off-site locations including:

- The Marine Science and Technology Center (MaST) located at Redondo Beach is dedicated to expanding knowledge about the Puget Sound and the surrounding environment through teaching, learning, and research.
- The HUB: Federal Way Higher Education Center, located in downtown Federal Way, is a joint partnership with University of Washington – Tacoma and the Federal Way Public Schools.
- Campus View (leased facility), located adjacent to the main campus, houses the College’s Community Education Department and the Institutional Advancement Division.
- Community-based locations, located mostly in Burien and White Center, offer personal enrichment classes, English courses for adult learners of other languages, and other basic skills programs.

This College Master Plan provides an update to HC’s previous 2016 College Master Plan, that was submitted to the City of Des Moines, for SEPA review and approval in accordance with the I-C Institutional Campus Zone requirements. It anticipates future strategic directions and educational needs of HC in the next 10 years with upcoming major capital projects, including the Welcome Center for Student Success and the Academic Pathways & Technology Center. Highline College, with assistance from McGranahan Architects and their consultant team, embarked on a year-long process to analyze its current needs to update the College Master Plan. Furthermore, the College sought input from the City of Des Moines and Sound Transit in the development of this College Master Plan.

1.2 COLLEGE MISSION AND VALUES

Highline’s College Master Plan is developed to fully align and support the overall mission, vision, and values of Highline College. As HC celebrates its 60th anniversary in 2022, this College Master Plan is significant in setting forth the future campus facility transformation.

Mission Statement

As a South King County college striving for social justice, Highline College partners with global students as they envision, plan and achieve their educational and professional goals.

Vision

Highline College creates anti-racist, equitable pathways in higher education to close opportunity gaps experienced by our students. We support employees to foster the conditions for student and workplace equity. We accept people as they are and honor the life experience they bring. We are cultivating a collaborative learning community that centers the well-being of the whole person and provides a sense of belonging. We highly regard the families and support systems that enable our success and acknowledge that by working together we are limitless.

Values

Highline College seeks to live out these values in everyday practice:

- Accessibility
- Accountability
- Cultural Responsiveness and Agency
- Environmental Sustainability
- Equity-First Focus
- Life-Long Learning
- Partnership with local and global communities
- Respect
- Social Justice
- Student-Centered Approaches
- Transparency

1.3 STRATEGIC PLAN AND CORE THEMES

Highline's strategic plan includes three over-arching initiatives:

- 1. **Access** - Increase equitable and representative access to postsecondary educational and career opportunities that lead to social and economic mobility in Highline's service area
- 2. **Learning**- Increase equitable learning, retention, completion and transfer rates, and improve labor market outcomes through the use of evidence-based innovation and high-impact practices in and out of the classroom.
- 3. **Community** - Increase breadth and depths of partnerships with K-12, other postsecondary institutions, community-based organizations, employers and governments that align with Highline's strategic priorities and contribute to economic and social vibrancy of communities it serves.

Highline's core themes build on the strategic plan:

Core Theme #1: Improve access, close equity gaps, reduce barriers

Highline College is open and accessible to all community members. Highline is committed to increasing equitable access and reducing equity gaps in all its educational programs.

Core Theme 2: Increase educational success, close equity gaps, reduce inequities

Faculty and staff at Highline College collaborate to ensure equitable progress toward educational goals. Faculty and staff evaluate and enhance the effectiveness of practices, programs, and services on a continuous basis.

Core Theme 3: Inclusive working and learning environment

Highline College creates and maintains a welcoming and inclusive environment for students, staff, and faculty, as well as valued relationships and a visible presence in the communities it serves.

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1.4 MASTER PLAN GOAL & OBJECTIVES

The College Master Plan seeks to accomplish the following:

Provide facilities that support educational programs and community needs, and promote the effective use of contemporary technology.

All classrooms should incorporate the latest learning technology, e.g. classroom presentation equipment and displays, including audio and video capability and interactive equipment, computers, ubiquitous wireless connectivity, and allow for hybrid and various seating configurations to provide a comfortable environment. Some classrooms may be specialized and sized to accommodate particular kinds of instruction such as a collaborative teaching laboratory, life sciences laboratory, computer laboratory, simulation labs, and others. Education includes PATHWAYS and Advising support services to enable students to appropriately select classes and academic programs. These support services require spaces that house functions in support of student development and success, including faculty offices, enrollment, advising, job placement, intercultural student support, financial aid, etc.

Also important to the proper and efficient operation of HC is appropriate space for technology (secured server rooms, telecommunications, and technical hardware), administrative (financial services, cashiering, security, etc.), and maintenance functions (equipment repair and storage, supplies storage, crew assembly and dispatching, etc.).

Encourage enrollment by presenting a safe, accessible, welcoming environment.

HC cannot fulfill its mission if prospective students and community members experience difficulty locating and moving around the Des Moines campus or other HC locations. Environmental factors include campus entrances and exits, exterior and interior signage, vehicular circulation and parking, universal access, and logical building and room numbers.

The campus and HC-controlled facilities should be navigable by those who speak and read in languages other than English and free of obstacles for the physically disabled. Security lighting and communications systems (call boxes, intercoms, telephones, alarms, etc.) should be broadly deployed around the grounds and in all structures. Buildings with services or programs that interface frequently with prospective students and the public should be attractive, easily identifiable, and located near the campus' entrances. Finally, the campus and HC-controlled facilities must be places to which people willingly come, stay and where they are inspired to achieve their desired goals.

Promote environmentally sound college operations.

The campus and HC-controlled facilities should have easy access to public transit and HC should construct or reconstruct energy efficient structures, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, minimize the use of new materials and maximize the use of recycled materials, and generate or apply alternative energy technology. View corridors and green spaces should be maximized. Landscaping should minimize the use of potable water for irrigation, promote the use of native plants, provide habitat for wildlife and reduce storm water runoff while being maintained for safety.

Strengthen HC's ties with the communities in which it operates.

Highline College attracts large numbers of people to its Des Moines campus each weekday and often on weekends. HC should work with the surrounding jurisdictions to permit modern structures that enhance learning, reduce the consumption of municipal and utility services, and minimize the effects of HC's activities on nearby neighborhoods. Similar collaboration should occur in other jurisdictions in which the College has a significant physical presence.

The College Master Plan goals support the College's Mission and Strategic Plan. In addition, the College Master Plan is consistent with the spirit of HC's Core Themes- building valuable relationships and establishing a meaningful presence within Highline College's communities by acknowledging stakeholder partnerships between HC, the local government jurisdictions

in which it operates, and our community partners. Additionally, the college is a model for sustainability with regards to resources, operations and constructing accessible, energy efficient, sustainable buildings and with infrastructure that support exceptional teaching and learning.

1.5 SUMMARY

Highline College has developed a prioritized list of future capital projects after an analysis of program needs, enrolment trends, and Facilities conditions. The next major capital project priorities are outlined below:

Sound Transit Campus Improvements (Short Term Plan - 2023-2025)

- East Campus Entrance Improvements

Highest Priority Capital Project (Mid Term Plan - 2025-2029)

- Welcome Center for Student Success (Replacement of Buildings 6, 13, 14, 15, 16, & 18)

Next Major Capital Project (Long Term Plan - 2029-2033)

- Academic Pathways and Technology Center (Replacement of Buildings 12A, 12B, 17, 27 & 28)
- Student Activity Center (Certificate of Participation)

HC also seeks to continue development of satellite locations to maximize opportunities to better serve our local communities.

After this section, the Master Plan document is organized into six sections and an appendix. These sections include:

- Existing Conditions Analysis
- Programs Needs Analysis
- Implementation Plan
- Preservation Plan
- Design Guidelines
- Drawings and Diagrams
- Appendix

The appendices support the information presented in the sections that follow this Executive Summary.

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