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Introduction and Goals



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1.1 BACKGROUND & COLLEGE MASTER PLAN PURPOSE

The purpose of this College Master Plan is to provide a guideline for the continued development of Highline College's (HC) Des Moines campus illustrating HC's most current needs, priorities, and plan for improvements. It addresses off-campus facilities in addition to the Des Moines campus, and it provides a comprehensive perspective of the College's future capital program. This College Master Plan is being submitted to the City of Des Moines, WA for SEPA review and approval in accordance with the I-C Institutional Campus Zone requirements. Its audience includes Highline College's municipal partners, interested members of the general public, and the State Board of Community and Technical Colleges (SBCTC).

HC, with assistance from McGranahan Architects and their consultant team, embarked on a process to analyze its current needs and update the College Master Plan. Furthermore, the College met with the City of Des Moines and with Sound Transit, for input regarding potential future development and the College Master Plan. This master plan outlines a vision of the HC campus and prioritizes facilities development for the next 12- 13 years.

In addition to the main campus, HC has several off-site locations including the following:

- 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 Department of Community and Employment Services and Community Education, located in the Outreach Center (a leased facility at Pacific Highway), offers personal, professional, and economic development, personal enrichment, business and computer classes, and customized training.
- Community based locations for personal enrichment classes, Adult Basic Education/English as a Second Language (ABE/ESL), and other courses.

1.2 COLLEGE MISSION AND VALUES

HC's most recent strategic plan was adopted July 20, 2006. As in the cases of the 1996 and 2001 strategic plans, this plan was the result of a planning process that systematically involved the surrounding community. Forums were held throughout HC's service area and HC's administrators visited community service clubs, city managers, mayors, school superintendents, and city councils. Also, feedback from questionnaires and surveys were incorporated into the final draft before the plan was submitted to campus members and committees for review. The College's mission statement was most recently updated in August 2013.

Mission Statement

As a public institution of higher education serving a diverse community in a multicultural world and global economy, Highline College promotes student engagement, learning, and achievement, integrates diversity and globalism throughout the college, sustains relationships within its communities, and practices sustainability in human resources, operations, and teaching and learning.

Vision

Highline College is valued as the educational crossroads where dreams are shaped, communities created and excellence achieved.

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Values

Highline College is committed to these values:

- Access: We believe education should be available to all who seek it.
- Collaboration: We value teamwork, joint responsibility and ownership.
- Community: We value our community and are dedicated to serving its educational needs.
- Diversity: We respect the rights and perspectives of the diverse populations, who live, learn and work in our community.
- Excellence: We strive for the highest quality in all our programs and services.
- Integrity: We believe in honesty and trustworthiness in all our college practices.
- Internationalization: We value a global perspective and respect cultural diversity.
- Learning: We develop an interactive, creative and learner-centered environment that supports student success.

1.3 STRATEGIC PLAN AND CORE THEMES

Highline's strategic plan includes four initiatives:

1. Achieve excellence in teaching and learning.
2. Enhance a college climate that values diversity and global perspectives.
3. Strengthen and expand the presence and role of the college within the communities it serves.
4. Sustain an open, honest and collaborative environment that is responsive to the needs of the college community and that promotes good stewardship of the college's financial resources.

Highline's core themes build on the strategic plan:

Core Theme #1

Promote student engagement, learning and achievement.

Highline is a learning community where students are empowered to pursue their own educational pathways through innovative curricula, quality instruction, and student services. Students engage with their peers and community to experience multiple perspectives, practice civic responsibility, and contribute to the global community.

Core Theme #2

Integrate and institutionalize diversity and globalism throughout the college.

Highline is an institution in which issues of diversity and globalism are central to decision-making, integrated throughout curriculum and pedagogy, and considered in all interactions among faculty, staff and students. Faculty and staff are culturally competent, all students progress and achieve at comparable rates, and a positive campus climate exists for all.

Core Theme #3

Build valuable relationships and establish a meaningful presence within Highline College's communities.

Highline College, in collaboration with community partners, identifies community needs, and develops, implements, and maintains programs based on those identified needs.

Core Theme #4

Model sustainability in human resources, operations, and teaching and learning.

Sustainability calls for policies, procedures, and strategies that meet society's present needs without compromising the welfare of future generations. Sustainability encompasses the intertwined ideals of viable economies, social equity, and ecological integrity. For the college, sustainability calls for us to use our resources — human, physical and financial — to improve the future success of the college, minimize our impact on the environment, and model sustainability for students.

1.3 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 technology, e.g. projectors, computers, wireless connectivity, and allow for various seating configurations to provide a comfortable environment. Some classrooms may be specialized and sized to accommodate particular kinds of instruction such as a sleep laboratory, life sciences laboratory, computer laboratory, simulation labs, and other. Education includes 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, 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 & 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 future.

- **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.

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

HC 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 Theme #3, "Build valuable relationships and establish a meaningful presence within Highline College's communities" by acknowledging the partnership between HC, the local government jurisdictions in which it operates, and community partners; and Core Theme #4, "Model sustainability in human resources, operations, and teaching and learning", by constructing energy efficient, sustainable buildings and infrastructure that support teaching and learning.

1.4 SUMMARY

HC 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:

Highest Priority Capital Project (Short Term Plan)

- Health and Life Sciences Building (Renovation of Building 26; Replacement of Buildings 5 and 11)

Future Capital Project Proposals (Mid Term Plan)

- Engineering, Arts, and Faculty Offices (Renovation of Building 23; Replacement of Buildings 15 and 18)
- Welcoming Center and Classroom Building (Replacement of Building 16)

In addition to the above major capital projects, a Residence Hall could potentially be developed in the Mid Term Plan. 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 four 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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