

INTRODUCTION

The statutes of the State of Florida call for the State's public universities to update their master plans every five years. The plan described herein is the five-year update of the master plan for the University of South Florida St. Petersburg (USFSP) campus adopted in 1995 (as amended in 1998 and updated in 2002, 2004, and 2009). The Campus Development Agreement between the University of South Florida Board of Trustees and the City of St. Petersburg (April 13, 1998) is based on the master plan as updated in 2004, and authorizes development through 2010-2011. The plan addresses future enrollment and facility needs to the year 2015-16, and sets the framework for the next five years beyond the terms of the Campus Development Agreement.

The baseline year of the update is 2005-2006, which marked the tenth anniversary of adoption of the 1995 plan. The update planning process has been undertaken over a period of nearly four years in reflection of significant strategic and administrative changes at the University made prior to and during the update planning process.

THE 1995 MASTER PLAN

The 1995 Plan projected a ten-year (2005-2006) enrollment of approximately 3,000 full-time equivalent (FTE) students. The existing and projected enrollment at the St. Petersburg campus in 1995 was essentially upper division undergraduates. Graduate students comprised approximately 13 percent of the total enrollment. There was, at the time, no resident enrollment. The 1995 Plan projected a potential ten-year growth of building facilities on campus in the order of 352,000 gross square feet (GSF), roughly an 82 percent expansion of the then inventoried total of 425,000 GSF of USF academic, research, support, and recreational space. The total amount of space within the land use area of the campus was calculated to be approximately 926,000 GSF in 1995. That space included facilities occupied by other agencies and institutions, such as USGS and various other marine-oriented agencies on the Peninsula. Based on that total, the projected USF space would have constituted growth in the building area on campus land of about 38 percent. To accommodate that growth and make provisions for long-range growth beyond the ten-year horizon, the plan laid out an organized building development pattern in which new facilities would occupy open and underutilized sites while also being located to frame active, interconnected urban campus open spaces.

The 1995 Plan recommended that future facilities be developed at generally higher densities than had been the case to that time, to support the necessary facilities growth in a way that would conserve land resources and enhance the interaction between and among functions of the University. New quadrangles, courtyards and pedestrian

concourses were planned to link the various areas of the University together and to form a framework for building development. The plan embraced the relationship between the campus and other agencies and institutions within or adjacent to the campus, such as USGS, All Children's Hospital, Bayfront Medical Center, the Poynter Institute, Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission, and others. The University has programmatic linkages at various levels with the agencies and institutions, which the plan endeavored to reinforce by improvements in the spatial and circulation connections with those entities.

The fundamental principles of higher density, enhanced linkages between areas and an improved open space structure were adopted and have formed the implementation framework for growth and change since 1995. The fundamental planning principles are refined in the Campus Master Plan Update in keeping with the changes that have occurred at the institution.

CHANGES SINCE 1995

Changes at USFSP's campus since 1995 have occurred at two levels – one is in the strategic initiatives and new mission directions undertaken by the University during the period; and the other is the development of facilities and campus improvements implemented by the University as a result of the 1995 plan and 1998 amendment and subsequent plan updates.

Governance:

As a result of an act of the Florida State Legislature, a new governance structure for Florida's public universities took effect on July 1, 2001. The public universities are now governed by the Florida Board of Governors, and appointed University Boards of Trustees, rather than by the former Florida Board of Regents. In addition, USFSP together with USF Sarasota/Manatee and USF Lakeland (USF Polytechnic) have become fiscally autonomous from USF Tampa, so that those campuses independently manage the budgets necessary to serve community needs. USF's honors college, New College at the Sarasota campus, received independent status when it became New College of Florida, the state's eleventh public university. In addition, in June 2006 USFSP received separate accreditation, making it an autonomous institution within the larger USF system.

Strategic Initiatives/New Mission Directions:

USFSP has embarked on two strategic mission initiatives that have had significant effect on the character of the campus. The first is that USFSP has become a four-year undergraduate institution, adding a full freshman and sophomore level to campus enrollment. The second initiative was to introduce on-campus student housing with a

goal to accommodate up to 850 campus residents. The two integrally related initiatives will increase the proportion of “traditional” full-time students at USFSP while maintaining a robust, non-traditional commuter enrollment. The campus has taken on a 24-hour vitality and collegiality, with greater demand for social and recreational support space. It fosters better daytime utilization of academic space while continuing to utilize the campus facilities during the evening hours to serve the preponderance of working students.

In 2001, the University initiated a *Comprehensive Study of the Residence Life Program/Housing System on the USF St. Petersburg Campus* to determine the feasibility of introducing student housing on the campus. In 2006, the first phase of a three phase student housing program was completed with the opening of a 354 bed facility.

With the advent of students residing on campus and significant enrollment increases the demand for parking increased as well. So in 2003 USFSP engaged the services of Chance Management Advisors, Inc. to initiate a Comprehensive Parking Master Plan. This resulted in the construction of the first phase of a 7 level, 1500 car parking structure that was completed in 2006 and provided the USFSP campus with 1160 new parking spaces.

Campus Facilities Development Since 1995:

The 1995 projection of approximately 353,000 GSF of new building space over a ten-year period was unchanged in quantity in the 1998 amendment, but was altered in its allocation. Approximately 67,500 GSF for a west classroom building and 15,000 GSF for a daycare center were subtracted from the 1995 projection, and 52,500 GSF was added for a “Pediatrics Research Center” and 30,000 GSF for a “Teaching Enhancement Center.” The Campus Development Agreement, effectuated in 1998, authorized development of 79,200 GSF of academic space through 1998-1999, and 273,800 GSF of academic and support space through 2003-2004 (for a total of 353,000 GSF).

Approximately 124,000 GSF of new facilities were added to the campus land in the five years after 1995. Of that amount, 50,450 GSF is part of the USF campus inventory.

In addition to the USFSP expansion, the Children’s Research Institute (formerly the Pediatrics Research Center), a 48,500 GSF shared research facility jointly funded by All Children’s Hospital and the State of Florida, is a USF Tampa facility and was completed in 1999-2000 on a site west of Fourth Street South and south of Sixth Avenue South. The Peter Rudy Wallace Florida Center for Teachers (formerly the Teaching Enhancement Center), a facility accommodating conferences and short courses for Florida public school teachers and the USFSP Journalism Program, was completed in

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2000-2001. The 19,500 GSF building is located at the northwest corner of Sixth Avenue South and Second Street South. Also, the USGS facility, which is not a USF facility but which occupies leased land on campus, was expanded twice with facilities of 25,400 GSF and 15,000 GSF. The growth of USGS was not included in the program projection in the 1995 plan, nor is it part of the program total of 107,450 GSF noted above. The total development since 1995 constituted 30 percent of the total authorized in the Campus Development Agreement.

In 2009 USFSP added the Science and Technology General Academic Facility which is a 34,072 GSF facility that provides classroom and laboratory space for the College of Arts and Sciences and the College of Marine Science.

In early 2010 we completed Harborwalk, which is a system of pedestrian walkways and central lawn area around which future academic and support facilities will be located. This area includes a memorial fountain and seating areas which provide a central gathering area for the campus.

For 2011, a Multi-Purpose Student Center is currently under construction along the Harborwalk. This 92,767 GSF facility will contain Phase II of student housing accommodating an additional 196 students. The building will also contain food service and banquet facilities. In addition to this, the Campus Activities Center is currently being renovated and remodeled to house student support services and health services. Finally, the university completed its purchase of the former Dali Museum from the City of St. Petersburg and they named it Harbor Hall. Plans are to renovate this facility and utilize it for our newly created Verbal and Visual Arts program. The properties purchase along with and adjacent to Harbor Hall are being rejuvenated to provide secure parking for staff and faculty. The parking across from Harbor Hall (Lot #11) will provide reduced parking rates for staff which is a welcome gesture in these challenging economic times.

An ambitious vision and hard work has transformed the University since the prior Master Plan update. This is a testament to the conviction of creating a truly unique University campus that welcomes its partners within the community to play an active role in the University experience. To quote a well know lyric – “the best is yet to come”.