CORVALLIS CAMPUS VISION
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
COMMITTED TO PROGRESS

In 2018 the Oregon State University adopted Strategic Plan 4.0 (SP4.0) and embraced a vision of innovation, access and leadership for its next phase. The Corvallis campus has a crucial role to play in working toward the goals of SP4.0. As OSU strives to uphold its commitments within SP4.0 and reinforce its strengths, the physical form of the campus will evolve and adapt to support those commitments. This physical form will need to integrate with a university experience defined by collaborative research and learning and a culture of inclusion and concern for environmental impact.

The Corvallis Campus Vision sets a course to guide the progress of evolution and adaptation over the next 10 years. The CCV’s vision for the campus emerged from a process of assessment and understanding, listening, developing ideas and designing recommendations. Throughout the visioning process, a variety of groups and constituents across campus and in the Corvallis community shared their perspectives on the current campus and opportunities for the future. The CCV’s recommendations align with existing plans for the Corvallis campus and adhere to a set of principles and values expressed by the campus community.

The resulting vision seeks to preserve the distinctive historic character of the Corvallis campus’s physical form while supporting OSU’s mission to promote progress through exceptional teaching, learning, research, discovery, innovation and engagement.

OSU MISSION AND STRATEGIC PLAN 4.0

OSU strives to put the resources of higher education within the grasp and ambition of all people while engaging with the public, preserving natural systems and advancing social ideals. This is how OSU promotes progress, the core element in its mission.

As a land grant institution committed to teaching, research, outreach and engagement, Oregon State University promotes economic, social, cultural and environmental progress for the people of Oregon, the nation and the world. — OSU Mission
SP4.0 VISION AND GOALS

SP4.0’s vision is for OSU to be a leader among land grant universities in the integrated creation, sharing and application of knowledge for the betterment of humankind.

In this way, the university will continue to produce graduates, scholarship and solutions that achieve maximum positive impact on humanity’s greatest challenges.

GOALS

Preeminence in research, scholarship and innovation

Transformative education that is accessible to all learners

Significant and visible impact in Oregon and beyond

A culture of belonging, collaboration and innovation

Focused on the ways the campus’s physical environment brings OSU’s diverse groups and individuals together to meet the university’s goals, the Corvallis Campus Vision’s recommendations contribute to the SP4.0 effort to sustain a place of health and well-being where every OSU individual feels emboldened to pursue their talents and ideas to their most innovative ends.

THE CORVALLIS CAMPUS VISION: PRESERVE, ENHANCE, INSPIRE

The CCV focuses on the future of the Corvallis campus’s physical environment. Its overarching strategy is to foster connections between people by strengthening the organization of buildings, open spaces and circulation.

The CCV articulates clear direction that aligns campus adaptation and development with SP4.0’s commitment to inclusive academic excellence. More specifically, it

▷ Establishes a unified direction for physical development that connects SP4.0 to ongoing planning and design of the campus.

▷ Outlines opportunities to guide the physical realization of SP4.0.

▷ Provides a vision and framework for future university policies, plans and studies related to the physical campus using guiding principles.

▷ Ensures that future development meets individual and community needs in ways that promote safety, comfort, access and collaboration.

OSU is a welcoming and inspiring place to study, work, live, play and visit. The Corvallis campus’s distinct historic character is preserved and the physical environment is adapted for a sustainable future. The campus fosters inclusion and provides flexible spaces for learning and research.

— OSU Corvallis Campus Vision Statement
Executive Summary

The CCV bridges SP4.0 with capital improvements including renovations.
CCV GUIDING PRINCIPLES

The planning team synthesized responses gleaned from the engagement process and deepened understanding through analysis of physical conditions. From this understanding came a set of principles to guide the rest of the visioning process and the CCV recommendations. These principles cluster around several themes that reflect the ethos of social and environmental responsibility in SP4.0.

### CCV Guiding Principles

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY</th>
<th>Sustainability</th>
<th>The Corvallis campus should minimize its environmental impacts and support sustainability education, research, innovation and leadership.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Contiguous Natural-Resource and Agricultural Land</td>
<td>The Corvallis campus should advance the university’s legacy of natural resource and agricultural teaching and research on contiguous and accessible land.</td>
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<tr>
<td>SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY</td>
<td>Accessibility</td>
<td>The Corvallis campus should continually undertake universal-access improvements for diverse ages and abilities.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Inclusion</td>
<td>The Corvallis campus should prioritize inviting spaces that express a welcoming and inclusive campus culture.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RESPECT FOR RESOURCES</td>
<td>Fiduciary Responsibility</td>
<td>The Corvallis campus should serve as a responsible steward of public resources, tuition dollars and philanthropic contributions.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Adaptability</td>
<td>The Corvallis campus should focus on providing flexible spaces and facilities that can evolve with the needs of innovative research and learning.</td>
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</table>
## CCV Guiding Principles

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CAMPUS INTEGRITY</th>
<th>Connected Open Space</th>
<th>The Corvallis campus should support the network of usable outdoor spaces that are integrated into the campus fabric and continue this pattern in expansion and redevelopment areas.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Robust Infrastructure</td>
<td>The Corvallis campus infrastructure, including buildings, open space and utilities, should be durable, resilient and of sufficient capacity and condition to support all campus activities and services.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Distinguished Character</td>
<td>The Corvallis campus should maintain the distinctive positive aspects of the campus character and ensure that all development reinforces those characteristics.</td>
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<tr>
<th>COMMUNITY STRENGTH</th>
<th>Internal Connectivity</th>
<th>The Corvallis campus should reinforce its physical framework with circulation systems that knit the campus together and promote community cohesion.</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Public Connections</td>
<td>The Corvallis campus should encourage constructive interaction with the city and surrounding communities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Safety and Security</td>
<td>The Corvallis campus should continue to cultivate a community oriented toward campus safety and security.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
RECOMMENDATIONS: GUIDING PROGRESS

To guide the vision for a campus that fosters a unified experience and a strong community interface, the CCV balances recommendations for its campus-wide framework of organizing systems with recommendations for opportunity sites identified in the Central, East, South and West Areas.
CAMPUS-WIDE STRATEGIES FOR ORGANIZING SYSTEMS

The well-designed integration of the Corvallis campus’s strong organizing systems of Open Space, Circulation and Development makes it easy for people to access, navigate and use the campus to its fullest potential as a place of collaborative learning and innovation.

The CCV recommends strategies that build on the strengths of the Corvallis campus’s organizing systems while aligning the existing infrastructure with the university’s sustainability goals. It encourages:

▷ DEVELOPMENT that focuses on adaptation and renovation first and preserves the valued character of the campus;
▷ OPEN SPACE that preserves, enhances and expands important vital places, supports campus life and celebrates the land-based research of the university; and
▷ CIRCULATION that broadens nonvehicular travel options and improves pedestrians’ experience.

Development

The pattern and relationships among the Corvallis campus’s buildings are a fundamental component of its physical framework and immediately evident aspect of its character. The materials and scale of campus buildings, especially in the Central Area, maintains an elegance that is responsible for much of the campus’s physical distinction while state-of-the-art functionality supports on-site and distance-learning innovation. The placement, form and scale of the buildings in a parklike setting allow for daylight and views that invite circulation and activation of its gracious and plentiful open spaces.

The future of higher-education funding in Oregon and OSUs’ commitment to financial stewardship renders incremental adaptation the most fiscally responsible approach to development on this OSU campus. To meet the needs of the university’s educational and research mission and to uphold its commitment to sustainability, the CCV calls for the adaptation and renovation of existing buildings before replacement of buildings is considered. Its recommendations emphasize beneficial adjacencies between colleges and departments as well as the collaborative opportunities of integrating learning spaces into housing and creating residential sub-communities. The recommendations also promote the delineation and activation of site edges for greater safety and a more cohesive campus experience.

The CCV principles of Accessibility, Adaptable, Contiguous Natural-Resource and Agricultural Land, Distinguished Character, Fiduciary Responsibility, Inclusion, Internal Connectivity, Public Connections, Robust Infrastructure, Safety and Security and Sustainability guide its recommendations for preserving and enhancing the Corvallis campus’s development system.
Open Space

The Corvallis campus’s open spaces provide places for OSU’s communities to gather, celebrate, recreate and engage in education and research. The simplicity and elegance of its primary open spaces—the quadrangles—establish character and provide important organizing elements of the campus form. Other open spaces throughout campus serve different purposes and have their own distinct landscape character.

The CCV’s recommendations apply to several types of open spaces. These range from vital open spaces—including those designated for permanent protection, such as Memorial Quad and the 30th Street Mall—to connective spaces and recreation and athletics fields. The recommendations include open-space activation strategies and emphasize the importance of the campus’s robust tree canopy as a marker of OSU’s distinguished character and core strength in Earth-systems research.

The CCV principles of Accessibility, Adaptability, Connected Open Space, Distinguished Character, Inclusion, Internal Connectivity, Public Connections, Robust Infrastructure, Safety and Security and Sustainability guide its recommendations for preserving and enhancing the Corvallis campus’s open space system.
Circulation

The Corvallis campus’s circulation system is fundamental to the campus experience because it organizes access through its spaces and places and establishes important wayfinding. The simple orthogonal orientation of streets and direct routing of walkways to buildings help form an understandable, easily navigable network, allowing people to reach their destinations with confidence and a sense of safety.

Building on OSU’s Transportation Plan, the CCV calls for circulation that prioritizes the accessibility and safety of nonvehicular travel as well as reduced traffic and parking. It proposes mobility hubs located on key routes and destinations in the Central Area. In addition, its recommendations include strategies for clarifying campus edges and frontages, which will reinforce campus identity, promote wayfinding and create inviting interfaces with the surrounding community. Its streetscape recommendations support climate-neutral transportation within the fundamental structure and character of the Corvallis campus.

The CCV principles of Accessibility, Adaptability, Distinguished Character, Inclusion, Internal Connectivity, Public Connections, Robust Infrastructure, Safety and Security and Sustainability guide its recommendations for preserving and enhancing the Corvallis campus’s circulation system.

*Circulation Framework

Mobility Hub

Potential External Guidance
Opportunity Site
Potential Structured Parking
Potential Structured Parking or Other Use
OSU Building
Non-OSU Building
All Modes
Ped-Bike Only
Ped Only
Pedestrian/Bicycle Priority Zone Overlay
All Mode Gateway*
Ped-Bike Gateway*
Portal*
Campus Boundary

*Gateways = entrance to locations to campus
Portals = internal locations with a transition in facility use or restrictions place on certain modes
(Source: OSU Transportation Plan)
Other campus-wide systems are important contributors to campus function and help to meet campus goals. Campus-wide Utilities, Sustainability, and Safety and Security are addressed at a general level in the CCV. More specific strategies and policies are provided through Capital Planning and Development and Public Safety.

**Utilities**

Campus-wide utilities are adequate to support the adaptation, renovation and development for another 10 years, after the completion of current maintenance projects for the electrical system. Strategies for strengthening and updating existing utility infrastructure should align with OSU’s Climate Action Plan and the president’s 2019 Call for Action to Address Climate Change.

The CCV principles of Adaptability, Fiduciary Responsibility, Robust Infrastructure and Sustainability guide these strategies for preserving and enhancing the Corvallis campus’s utilities infrastructure.

**Sustainability**

The CCV includes several specific strategies to support the university’s goals for reducing its carbon footprint:

- An explicit commitment to renovation and adaptation of existing buildings before constructing new.
- Comprehensive strategies for utilities, such as promoting the university’s clustered district heating and cooling approach.
- Focus on a compact campus, enhanced pedestrian opportunities and bicycle routes and the development of mobility hubs to promote reduction in the use of single-occupant vehicles to and around campus.

The CCV principles of Adaptability, Fiduciary Responsibility, Robust Infrastructure and Sustainability guide these strategies for preserving and enhancing sustainability on the Corvallis campus.
Safety and Security

A targeted effort to improve lighting and pedestrian routes and adding ground-floor active uses to adjacent buildings in the South and West Areas will increase their sense of safety and help to address community concerns expressed during the CCV visioning process. At the same time, the 10 principles of Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED), a nationally recognized approach to creating safe and accessible public spaces, should continue to be promoted on the campus. These principles have already proven successful on campus in a variety of areas such as natural surveillance and territorial reinforcement of the Hawley/ Buxton/ Poling/ Cauthorn inner courtyard and reduction of hiding places through vegetation management.

*In addition to Safety and Security, the CCV principles of Inclusion and Internal Connectivity guide these strategies for preserving and enhancing safety and security on the Corvallis campus.*
OPPORTUNITY SITES AND RECOMMENDATIONS BY CAMPUS AREA

The CCV complements its recommendations for the campus-wide organizing systems with recommendations tailored to the character of the Central, East, South and West Areas. In each area, key initial opportunity sites for physical adaptation, redevelopment, enhancement and activation are identified. The configuration of each opportunity site should reinforce the open space and circulation systems in support of a cohesive campus experience and a strengthened physical framework.
Central Area

The Central Area’s characteristic buildings and grand open spaces should continue to draw the OSU’s communities together. Its existing connectivity and overall accessibility should serve as a model for other campus areas.

The CCV has identified three strategies to support adaptive development in the Central Area:

▷ An improved NW Monroe Avenue edge with an overall increase in physical and visual porosity, including more welcoming entries to buildings and better established routes into the campus
▷ Improvements to the primary east-west pedestrian connection and enhanced outdoor-use spaces in the engineering cluster
▷ Greater activation of open spaces throughout
▷ Implementation of Community Hall slope to accommodate accessible routes

East Area

The East Area should be a graceful, welcoming campus edge for the adjoining neighborhood while fostering a rich student-life environment of living, academic and extracurricular collaboration and innovation.

The CCV has identified strategies to support adaptive development in the East Area:

▷ An enhanced student-housing zone with a central open space
▷ Connectivity that reinforces campus edges and aligns with city streets
▷ An improved north connection to the lower campus quad and an east-west connection to the Central Area
▷ Potential for Education & General functions to be integrated with residential uses and enhance live-learn opportunities

The CCV principles of Accessibility, Distinguished Character, Inclusion, Internal Connectivity, Public Connections, Safety and Security and Sustainability guide the proposed enhancements in the Central Area.

The CCV principles of Distinguished Character, Inclusion, Internal Connectivity, Public Connections and Safety and Security guide the proposed enhancements in the East Area.
South Area

The South Area should continue to host important celebrations of OSU’s identity through athletic events and support active modes for all along SW Western Boulevard. Its rich student-life environments should include easy access to functions north of SW Washington Way.

The CCV has identified five strategies to support adaptive development in the South Area:

▷ Streetscape improvements and a more identifiable campus edge along SW Western Boulevard
▷ A strengthened gateway and sense of entry at SW 26th Street and SW Western Boulevard
▷ An improved student-housing zone with a communal open space
▷ The potential for integrated Education & General functions
▷ Athletics facilities and parking with convenient public access.

West Area

The West Area should continue to function as a research, learning and partnership zone, supporting OSU-specific activities as well as collaborations with other government, NGO and corporate entities. West of SW 35th Street, the university’s Natural Resource/Agricultural Research activities should be clearly identified and celebrated.

The CCV has identified four objectives for adaptive development in the West Area:

▷ Improved campus connections across SW 30th Street
▷ Marking and celebration of land-based research west of SW 35th Street
▷ Reconfiguration of Peavy Fields and adjacent buildings and pedestrian corridors
▷ Improved north-south pedestrian connections