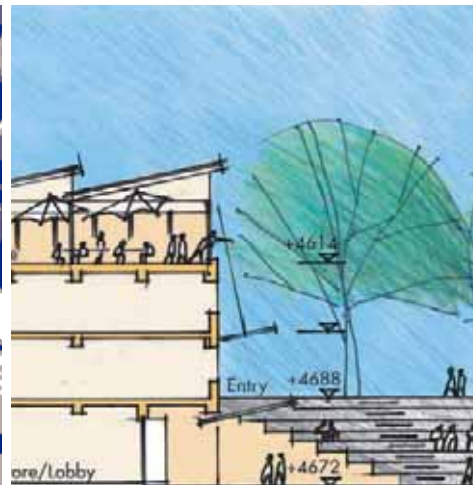
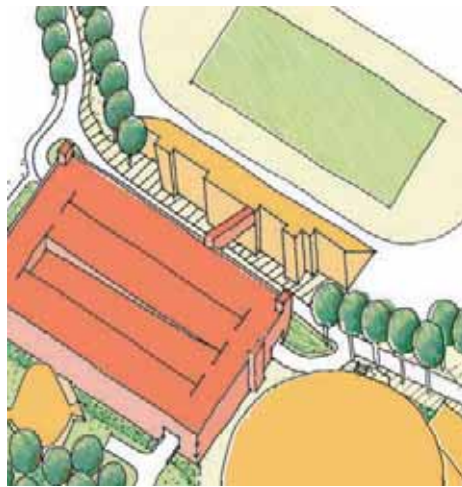


# Mid-Campus Master Plan University of Nevada, Reno





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# 1

# Purpose and Program

## PURPOSE CONTEXT PROGRAM

*The Mid-Campus Master Plan proposes a bold and attractive new idea for using available space for the future growth and development of the university.*

### PURPOSE

The Mid-Campus Master Plan for the University of Nevada, Reno envisions sites for a new campus library, a new student union, and much needed additional parking, proposing a bold and attractive new idea for using available space for the future growth and development of the university.

The plan takes a 20-year look at creating a green space through the university's Mid-Campus area, providing easy pedestrian and vehicular access to a set of soon-to-be-built facilities. The plan proposes to site a new university library slightly northwest of the National Judicial College. It also envisions a new student union building north of the library site.

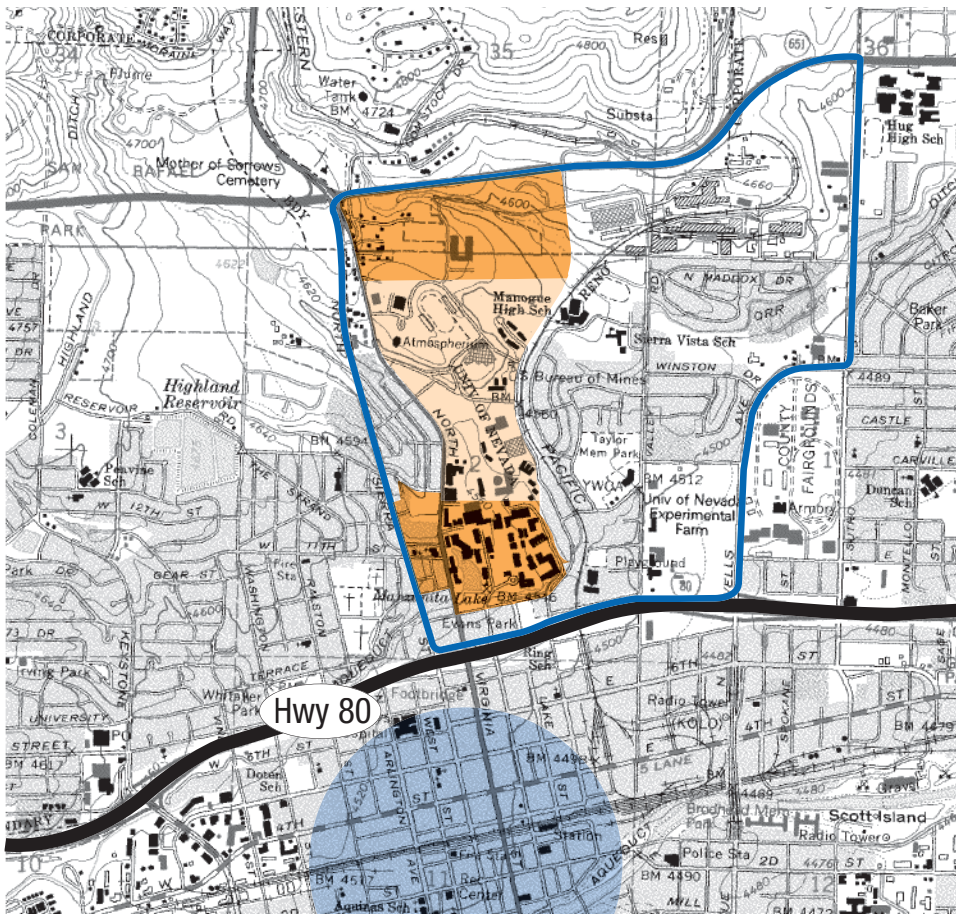
Also in the plan is a major facilities addition to Lombardi Recreation, a new yet-to-be determined classroom or office building north of the Brian J. Whalen Parking Complex, and a new, multi-level parking garage directly north of the Lawlor Events Center.

### CONTEXT

The University of Nevada is a constitutionally established, land-grant university. The university served the State of Nevada as its only state-supported institution of higher education for almost 75 years. In that historical role, it has emerged as a doctoral-granting university. The university was established in 1864 and opened in Elko Nevada in 1874. It was relocated to Reno in 1885 and the first degree was awarded (Bachelor of Arts) in 1891.

The University of Nevada, Reno offers a wide range of undergraduate and graduate programs, including selected doctoral and professional studies, which emphasize those programs and activities which best serve the needs of the state, region, and nation. By fostering creative and scholarly activity, it encourages and supports faculty research applied to state and national problems.

The university campus is four blocks north of downtown Reno. The original campus was based on a University of Virginia style quad. The oldest building, Morrill Hall, was built in 1886. Just north of the main quad the campus begins to sprawl with large contemporary buildings and a more free style organization. The unifying element of the campus architecture is primarily the use of brick. Over the years, varying styles of architecture have made their mark on the campus atmosphere. It is the desire of the university to return to a more collegiate and traditional style of architecture to help unite new buildings to the older, more historic buildings and other areas of the campus. This urban campus is currently landlocked.



#### LEGEND

- Mid Campus Study Area
- Existing Campus
- Proposed Campus Boundary
- Downtown Reno

### 1-1 Campus Context

Located north of Reno's downtown and I-80, the main campus consists of 90 buildings on 255-acres of land with an average elevation of 4,600 feet. This study focuses on the Mid-Campus, an area of approximately 80 acres, situated at the narrowest point of the existing campus.

The Mid-Campus is becoming the "new heart" of the campus, attracting a variety of facilities with high public use potential - uses complementary to the existing Lawlor Events Center, the Lombardi Recreation Center, and Mackay Stadium.

Planning for the Mid-Campus must strategically address the future desire to expand the campus east and west.

## 1-2 Cars vs People

*Dominated by cars, shuttles, and parking, the Mid-Campus starkly contrasts with the Old Quad in its orientation toward places where people circulate and gather.*



*Prior to this study, the university had numerous proposals for siting new facilities in the Mid-Campus. Some of these facilities identified the same site for development.*

## PROGRAM

This study investigates the following program needs:

- Library - 310,000 gsf
- Student Union Building - 233,000 gsf
- College of Human and Community Sciences (HCS) - 189,000 gsf
- Lombardi Recreation Center Expansion

The university will confirm the targeted student FTE for each program.

A five-year (short-range) parking plan completed in 2001 concluded that the university would need an additional 2,010 parking spaces to meet the projected demands of the entire campus population (undergraduate students, graduate students, faculty, staff, visitors, and vendors) through 2006. Adding the City of Reno requirement of an additional 500 spaces to allow for vacant spaces brings this total demand to 2,510 spaces for the entire campus.

Analysis conducted as part of the Mid-Campus master planning work indicates that campus facility construction and diminished future public vehicular access to the South Campus will displace an additional 1,150 spaces. These spaces will need to be accommodated in the Mid-Campus.

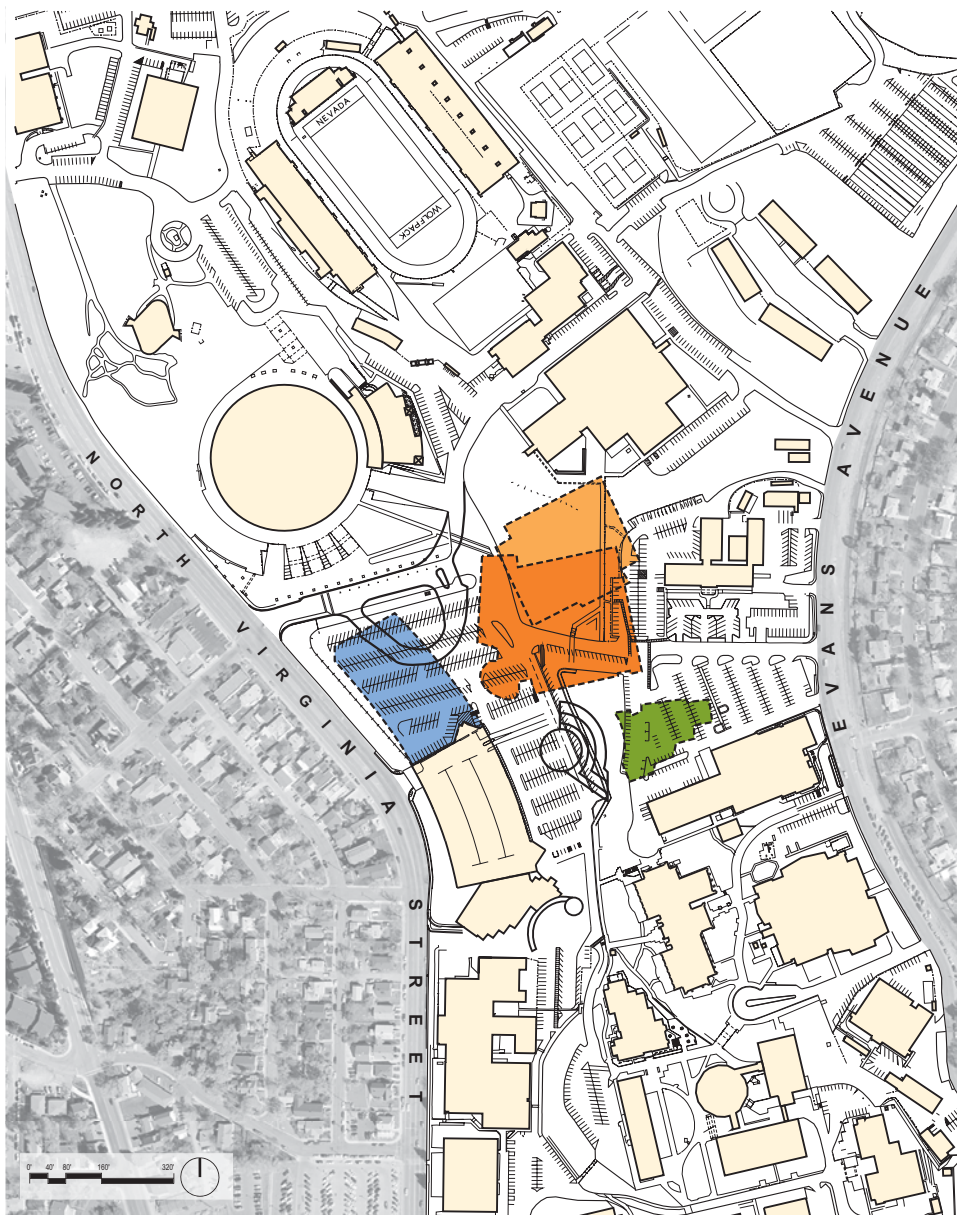
Thus, there is a campus-wide need for a total of 3,660 spaces to meet both demand and replacement. Since the parking study was completed in 2001, the university has constructed 400 new spaces, thus reducing the total campus-wide demand to 3,260.

The Mid-Campus has the capacity for one additional large structure of approximately 1,800 to 2,500 spaces.

Therefore, to sum up, the parking program:

- Replacement spaces in Mid-Campus - 1,150
- Additional spaces in Mid-Campus - 750 to 1,350, dependent on the size of the new parking structure to be built in the Mid-Campus
- Additional parking spaces to be located outside the Mid-Campus - 800 to 1,400, dependent on the size of the new parking structure to be built in the Mid-Campus.





#### LEGEND

- Existing Buildings
- Proposed Library
- Proposed Human and Community Sciences Building
- Proposed Student Union
- Proposed Parking Structure

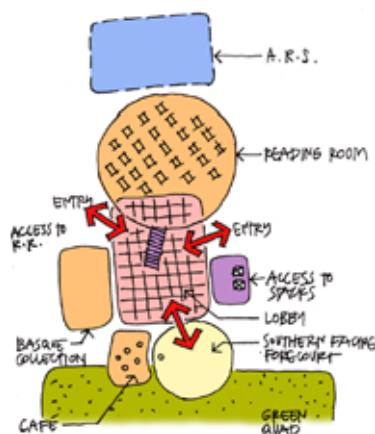
### 1-3 Past Siting Proposals

*Land in the Mid-Campus is scarce. Prior to undertaking this study, the university had numerous proposals for siting new facilities in the Mid-Campus.*

*Some of these facilities identified the same area for development, underscoring the need for the Mid-Campus Master Plan.*

## 1-4 Library

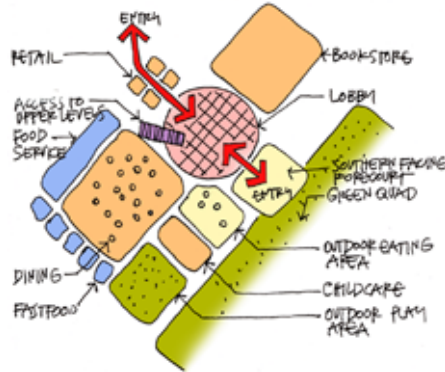
The Library program calls for a facility that is "porous" to the users, focusing the higher public uses on the library entrances and activating both interior and exterior spaces.



Library	ASF - rounded
Administration	1,970
Alan Bible Conference	880
Basque Library	4,180
Black Rock Press	2,770
Campus Computing	6,340
Center for Basque Studies	3,700
Circulation / Reserve	1,620
Collection Mantena	3,800
Current Periodicals	6,320
Document Delivery Services	1,320
Faculty Carrels & Reading Room	2,500
General Collection	98,650
Government Information Service	5,360
Graduate Student Carrels & Reading Room	2,000
Information Center	12,930
Instructional Design	3,020
Lobby	9,100
Multi-Media Center	12,380
Non-Public Areas: Mechanical, Maintenance, Wiring & Electrical Closets	19,620
Public Areas: Misc.	4,080
Public Relations & Development	360
Service Center	4,840
Shipping / Receiving	1,860
Special Collections & Archives	10,030
Special Outside Areas	0
Staff Kitchen / Lunchroom	1,700
Systems Suite	2,730
Technical Services	8,160
Webmaster	390
<b>Assignable Square Feet</b>	<b>233,000</b>
<b>Non-Assignable Square Feet @ 33%</b>	<b>77,000</b>
<b>Total Gross Square Feet</b>	<b>310,000</b>

## 1-5 Student Union

The Student Union uses will activate both the ground floor level and the upper terrace, promoting social interaction with the new quad and the Lomardi Recreation Center, respectively.



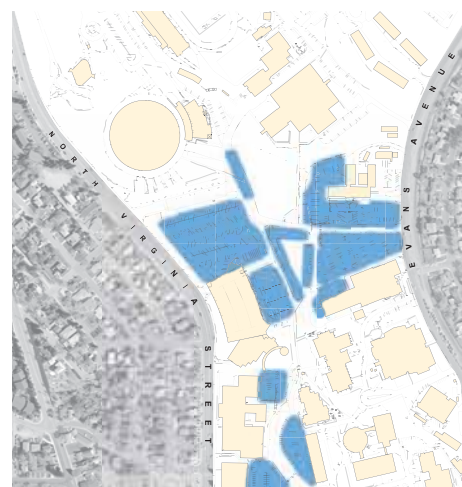
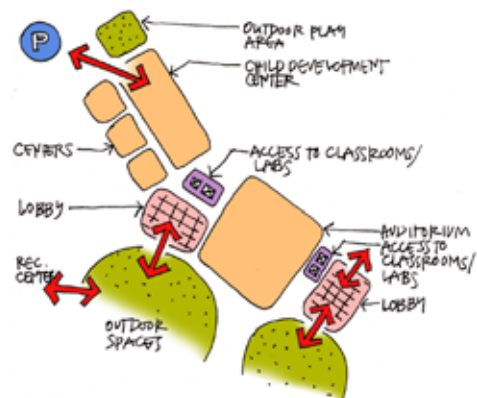
Student Union Building	ASF - rounded
Bookstore	40,000
Fast Food Services	6,000
Travel Service	1,000
Dry Cleaning	650
Convenience Store	1,000
Childcare / Babysitting	10,000
Voter Registration / Motor Vehicles Dept. Express Station	400
Motor Vehicle Repair / Inspection Drop Off / Pick Up	300
Billiards Parlor	1,000
Police Substation / Escort Service	500
Food Service / Cafeteria	20,000
Central Lounge Area	2,000
Information Center	200
Campus Information Kiosks	250
Computer Lab	4,000
Commuter Waiting Area	200
Mailroom for Students	300
Copy Center	1,500
Virtual Reality / Video Games Room	500
Large Theater Style Meeting Room	1,200
Student Radio Station / Publications Area	500
Meeting Rooms	15,000
Student Government Offices	7,500
Student Club Offices	10,000
Cultural Center	1,000
Women's Center	1,000
Administrative Offices	10,000
Student Services Offices / Student Life Offices	5,000
Student Service Offices	5,000
Large Multipurpose Room	4,000
<b>Assignable Square Feet</b>	<b>150,000</b>
<b>Non-Assignable Square Feet @ 55%</b>	<b>83,000</b>
<b>Total Gross Square Feet</b>	<b>233,000</b>

## 1-6 College of Human and Community Services

This facility houses administrative, academic, and research functions. It includes vehicular access and parking to serve off campus users.

## 1-7 Parking Displacement

New facility construction and restricted vehicular access to the Mid and South Campuses will displace over 1,000 cars.



### College of Human and Community Sciences

ASF - rounded

General Office	35,360
Research Labs (Wet)	6,912
Research Labs (Dry)	3,070
Specialty Labs	5,540
Nurse Skills Center	7,460
Computer Survey Center	7,550
Child Development Center	12,070
Faculty/Student Lounge	4,320
Auditorium, Fixed Seating	12,500
Underground Parking	23,380
Level 5 Classrooms	4,480
General Classrooms	9,340
<b>Assignable Square Feet</b>	<b>132,000</b>
<b>Non-Assignable Square Feet @ 43%</b>	<b>57,000</b>
<b>Total Gross Square Feet</b>	<b>189,000</b>

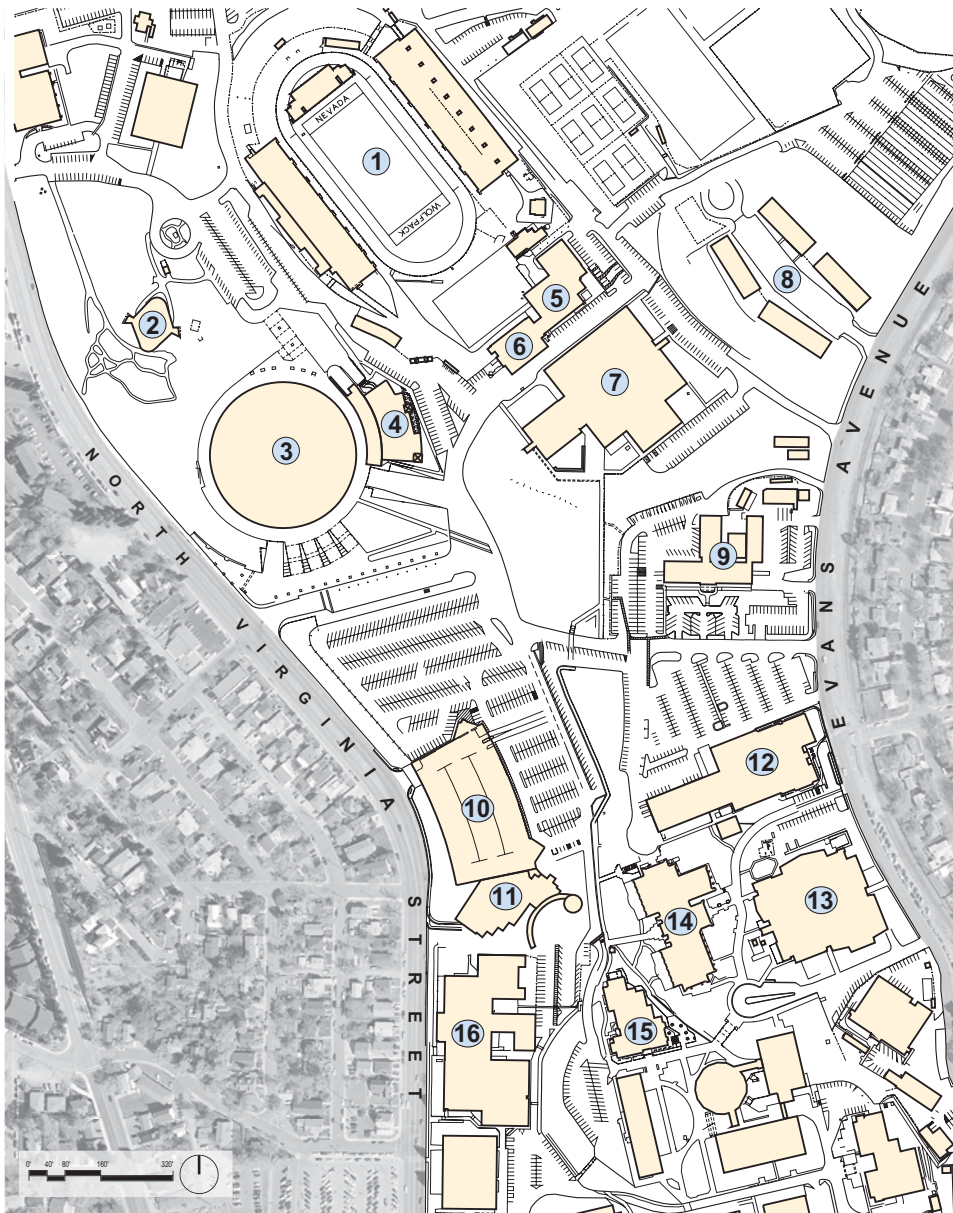
### Parking

Spaces

Projected Campus-wide demand 2001 - 2006	2,010
City of Reno Vacant Spaces Requirement	500
Parking to be displaced in Mid and South Campuses	1,150
<b>Subtotal of Campus-wide Parking Spaces Needed</b>	<b>3,660</b>
<b>Less spaces constructed since 2001</b>	<b>400</b>
<b>Net projected campus wide need for parking spaces</b>	<b>3,260</b>



## 1-8 Key Map of Existing Facilities



### LEGEND

- |                              |                                   |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| ① Mackay Stadium             | ⑨ Applied Research Facility       |
| ② Fleischmann Planetarium    | ⑩ Brian J. Whalen Parking Complex |
| ③ Lawlor Events Center       | ⑪ Student Services Building       |
| ④ Legacy Hall                | ⑫ National Judicial College       |
| ⑤ Sports Medicine Complex    | ⑬ Edmund J. Cain Hall             |
| ⑥ Cashell Field House        | ⑭ Education Building              |
| ⑦ Lombardi Recreation Center | ⑮ Reynolds School of Journalism   |
| ⑧ University Village         | ⑯ Church Fine Arts                |



# 2

## Goals and Site

RECURRING THEMES  
GOALS  
SITE CONSIDERATIONS  
PLANNED TRANSPORTATION  
EXISTING INFRASTRUCTURE

*Recurring themes express commonly held points of view or interests for the Mid-Campus.*

### RECURRING THEMES

Garnered from discussions with the Mid-Campus Steering Committee and the Mid-Campus Master Planning Team, the following recurring themes express commonly held points of view or interests for the Mid-Campus. These themes served to guide the goals and the conceptual development of the Mid-Campus.

#### **The Mid-Campus will be the future center of the University of Nevada, Reno campus**

As such, the Mid-Campus will:

- Have a high public image in both the campus community and the general public
- Serve as an icon for the campus heart
- Make strong connections to and from the surrounding community and the region
- Create a vital and active (24/7) core
- Provide a comfortable and pleasant pedestrian experience and to encourage prolonged use of the open space and facilities

#### **The Mid-Campus must project a welcoming and positive image**

As such, the Mid-Campus will:

- Create positive physical and iconic connections to the historic quad
- Emulate the collegiate feel of the existing "Jeffersonian" quad to foster order and atmosphere
- Embody the landscape character of Nevada and the region
- Support the City of Reno's desire to create a "cultural corridor" along North Virginia Street
- Use buildings and open space to frame views into the campus (i.e. not create a wall to the street)
- Integrate a water feature into the design for the Mid-Campus to recall the now buried Evans Creek
- Design the Library as a public space to promote the educational aspects of university life to the campus and the community-at-large



## 2-1 Campus Community Work Sessions

*The three-month planning process included three work sessions attended by representatives of the campus community - students, faculty, staff, and the City of Reno.*

### **The Mid-Campus will embrace sustainable open space, siting, and building practices**

As such, the Mid-Campus will:

- Use plant material appropriate to the programmed use of the outdoor spaces
- Promote the use of indigenous and xeriscape plant materials
- Recognize and build for climactic factors
- Build upon existing site features
- Site new buildings to promote pedestrian access
- Locate primary building entries to maximize solar exposure and promote year round use

### **Create a functional and complete Mid-Campus environment**

As such, the Mid-Campus will:

- Use public entrances to activate new buildings and adjacent open space
- Locate back entries and service areas to not conflict with the public realm
- Guide open space, access, and building development to promote safety and security
- Recognize that the University is becoming less of a commuter campus as more students spend increased time there (requiring a functional and complete campus "day and night")
- Resolve the specialized needs of the users (campus, community, special events, ADA, etc.)

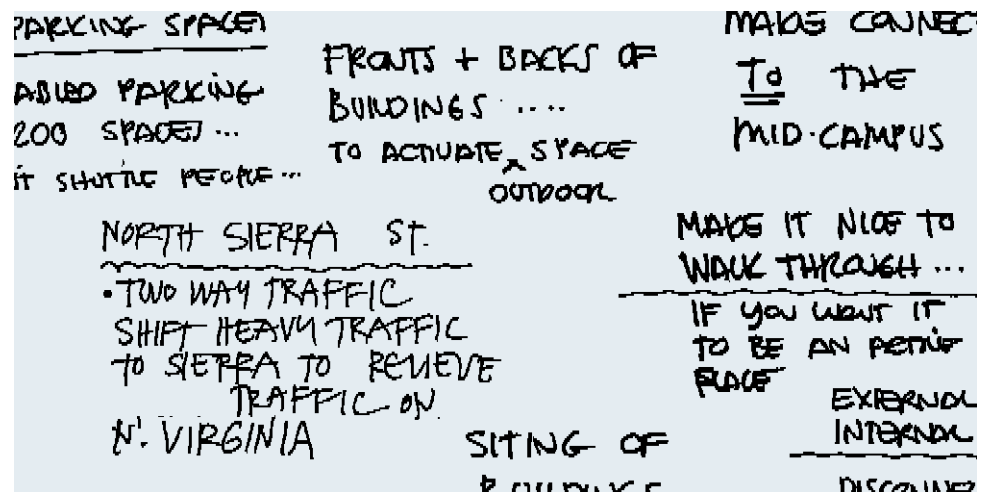
### **Provide balanced access for cars and pedestrians to this new "Gateway" to campus**

As such, the Mid-Campus will:

- Maximize the benefits to be gained from future traffic calming along North Virginia Street (made possible by shifting through traffic to North Sierra Street)
- Resolve the long queues from events campus and the resulting conflicts with the campus community
- Promote the use of bicycles which is currently limited due to poor access and the lack of support facilities
- Strategically partner with the City of Reno and the Regional Transportation Commission in locating future transit stops to support public transportation and pedestrian access to the campus
- Recognize service needs including the specialized needs of the Lawlor Event Center
- Consider campus-wide parking impacts when planning the Mid-Campus area, specifically replacement parking
- Partially address the increased demand for parking over the next nine years due to a 67% increase in evening students
- Provide ADA accessible parking and access to all facilities (e.g. 200 spaces needed for disabled attendees during events at Lawlor)
- Provide for life/safety access

## 2-2 Input Gained

Notecards documented the goals, issues, and concepts discussed in the work sessions



### Support the existing uses and the programmatic shifts that will occur in the development of the Mid-Campus

As such, the Mid-Campus will:

- Support the increased public use of the area, as the Library and the Student Union will "draw" people to the Mid-Campus area
- Strategically work with the City of Reno to relocate the Planetarium off-campus
- Create a new pedestrian core centered around the Library and the Student Union, and provide multiple points of entries to these facilities
- Provide for the university's Information Center that will relocate from the Center Street entry
- Recognize that community access to the Judicial College will increase at night and that secure parking is required
- Determine if Human and Community Sciences Building is a core campus use



## **2-3 Campus Growth**

*The campus has grown significantly since the 1930s.*

### **GOALS**

The recurring themes and further discussions resulted in the following goals for the Mid-Campus Master Plan:

#### **Create a new campus "Heart" in the Mid-Campus**

Program and site new buildings to create a new campus "Heart". This involves the location and organization of campus facilities and open space including entrances, buildings, programmed outdoor spaces, circulation elements, parking and wayfinding.

#### **Create a welcoming campus image and a new gateway at the Mid-Campus**

The image should be welcoming, inviting the broader community onto the campus and should make it inviting and functional for students, faculty, staff and visitors.

#### **Develop a campus image that is distinct to the University of Nevada, Reno**

New facilities and open spaces should build on existing site features, climate, and the distinct academic and social culture of the University of Nevada, Reno.

#### **Establish a comprehensive traffic and parking strategy**

Traffic and parking should work seamlessly to support and enhance the pedestrian and social spaces planned for the Mid-Campus area. Parking, including handicapped parking, should be convenient and safe.

#### **Develop a purposeful balance of uses at the Mid-Campus**

The collection of new programs that are slated for the Mid-Campus area should reflect the public purpose of the area, providing an emblematic and functional home for the campus' public uses.












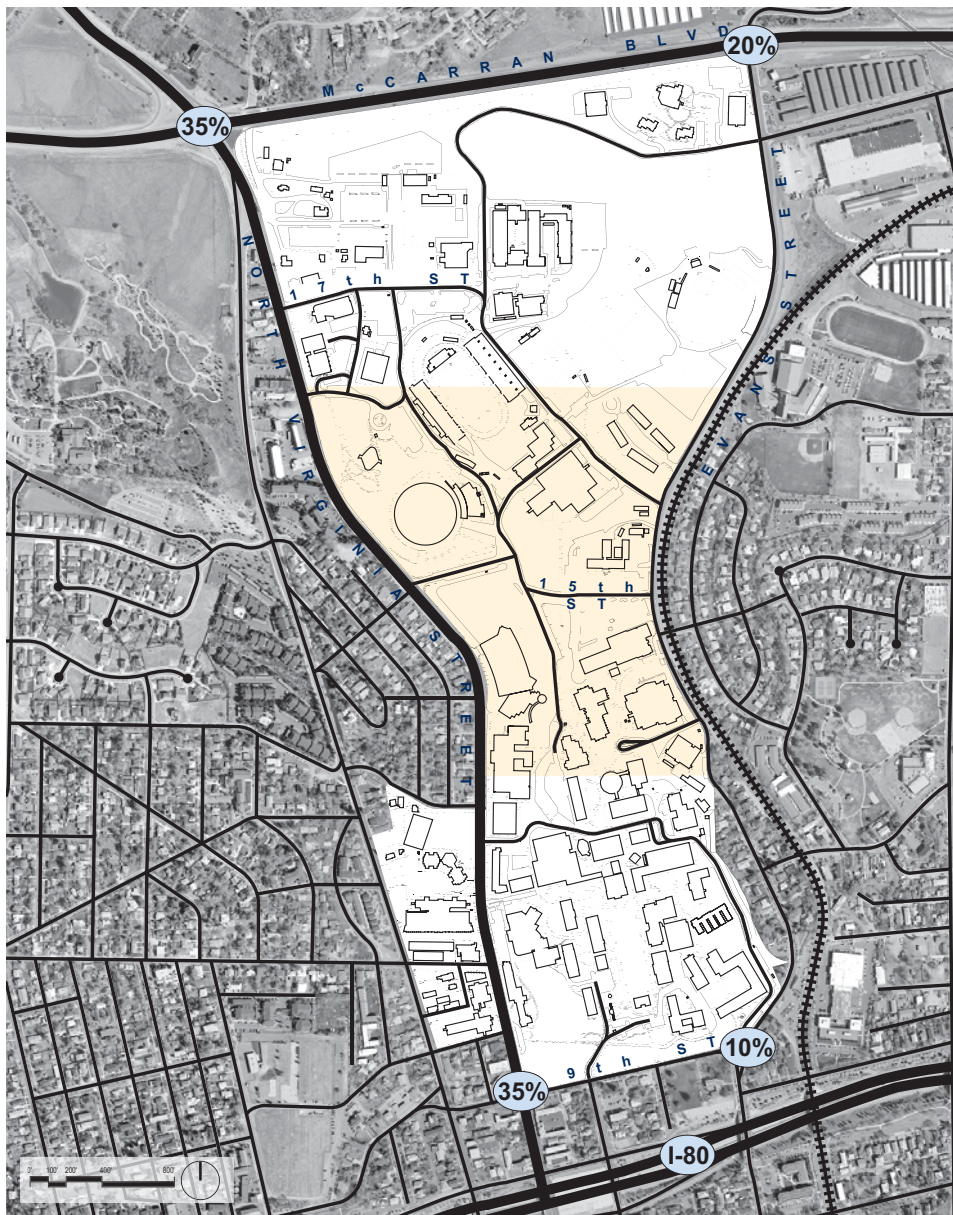
## 2-4 Existing Campus Uses

Academic and research functions dominate the older South Campus. The North Campus area has both academic/research uses and vast areas of surface parking. Events, recreation, and athletics dominate the existing Mid-Campus with bordering academic uses.



### LEGEND

	Mid Campus Study Area		Student Housing
	Academic / Research		Student Services/ Community Facilities
	Administration		Parking Structures
	Athletics		Non-University
	Facilities		



#### LEGEND

- Mid Campus Study Area
- Primary Circulation
- Secondary Circulation
- Railway
- 20% Distribution of Traffic

## 2-5 Existing Circulation and Distribution of Traffic

North Virginia Street on the west, Evans Street to the east, McCarran Boulevard at the north, and 9th Street on the south frame the campus boundaries. McCarran Boulevard is classified a high access control arterial and North Virginia Street, Evans Avenue, and 9th Street are classified as low access control arterials in the 2030 Regional Transportation Plan.

The majority of university-related vehicles arrive from Interstate 80 and McCarran Boulevard and enter the campus off of North Virginia Street. Traffic is concentrated along this street due to access provided to campus parking facilities. Based on Fall 2002 data, approximately 70% of all traffic with destinations at the campus use North Virginia Street to access the university, confirming the importance of this street.



## 2-6 Historic Character

*Many participants in the planning process expressed the desire to emblematically embrace the architecture and open space of the historic South Campus in the Mid-Campus Master Plan.*



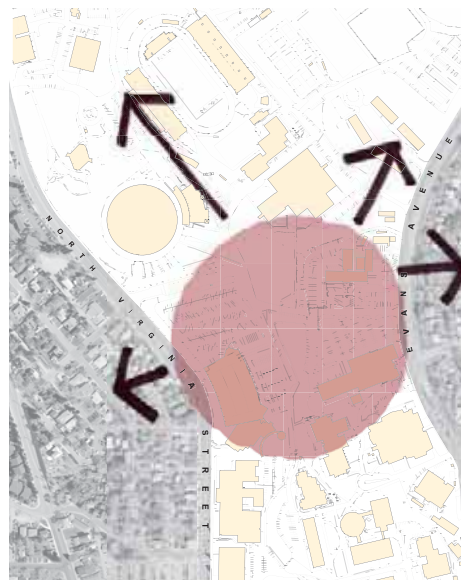
## SITE CONSIDERATIONS

The Mid-Campus is literally the “pinch point” of the campus - less than 1,200 feet wide (east-west) compared to the overall campus’s length of 5,200-plus feet (north-south). This narrowing of the campus is further exacerbated by the terracing of the land that limits ease of access through this area. The extensive paving and parking characteristic of the Mid-Campus starkly contrasts with the older quad area of the campus that the campus community wishes to emulate.

The following diagrams illustrate these and other considerations used to form the development of the master plan for the Mid-Campus.

## 2-7 Central Location

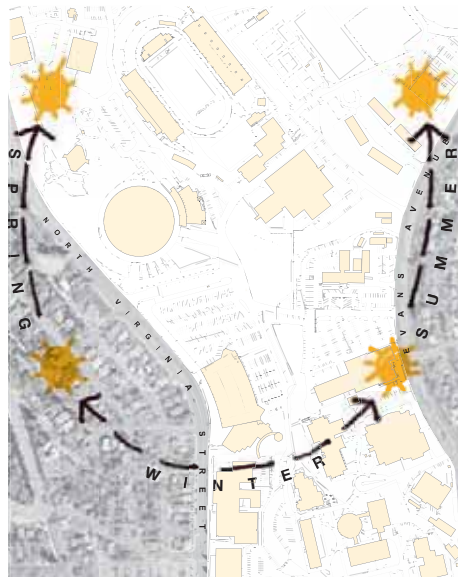
*Mid-Campus area is the geographic center of the existing campus. The master planning must recognize that as the campus grows, connections to the north, to the east, and to the west will increase in importance.*





## 2-8 Informal Seating

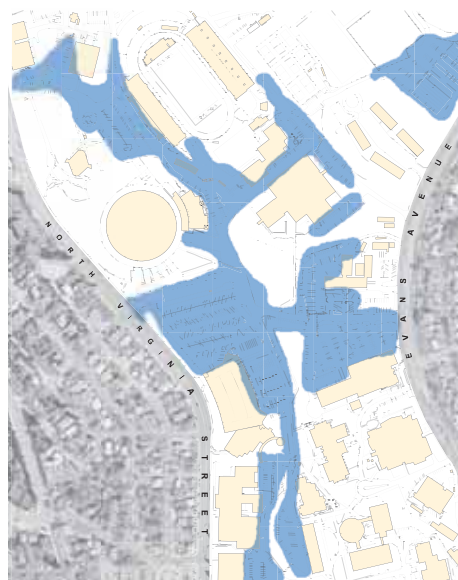
*Accessways, stairs, and other site features can provide informal seating areas and places of interaction.*



## 2-9 Solar Orientation

*Public building entrances will need to maximize their orientation to the south and southwest to facilitate year-round use.*

*The existing library steps serve as a prime example of orienting and designing access to serve as informal seating, thus encouraging campus community interaction*



## 2-10 Dominant Paving

*Asphalt and parking characterize the Mid-Campus. Little significant vegetation or useable pedestrian open space exists.*



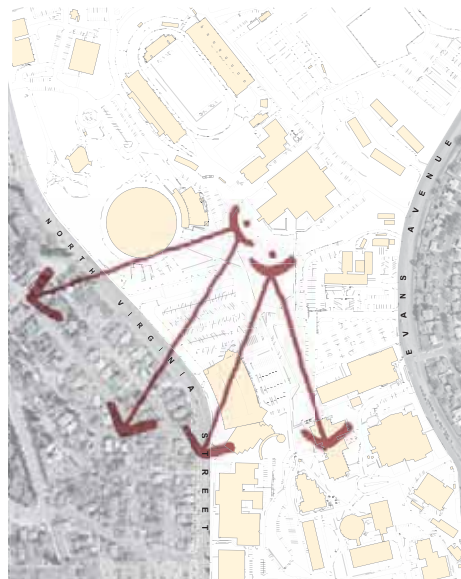
## 2-11 Views

*Views adjacent to the Lombardi Recreation Center afford spectacular views of the mountains and downtown Reno.*



## 2-12 Views

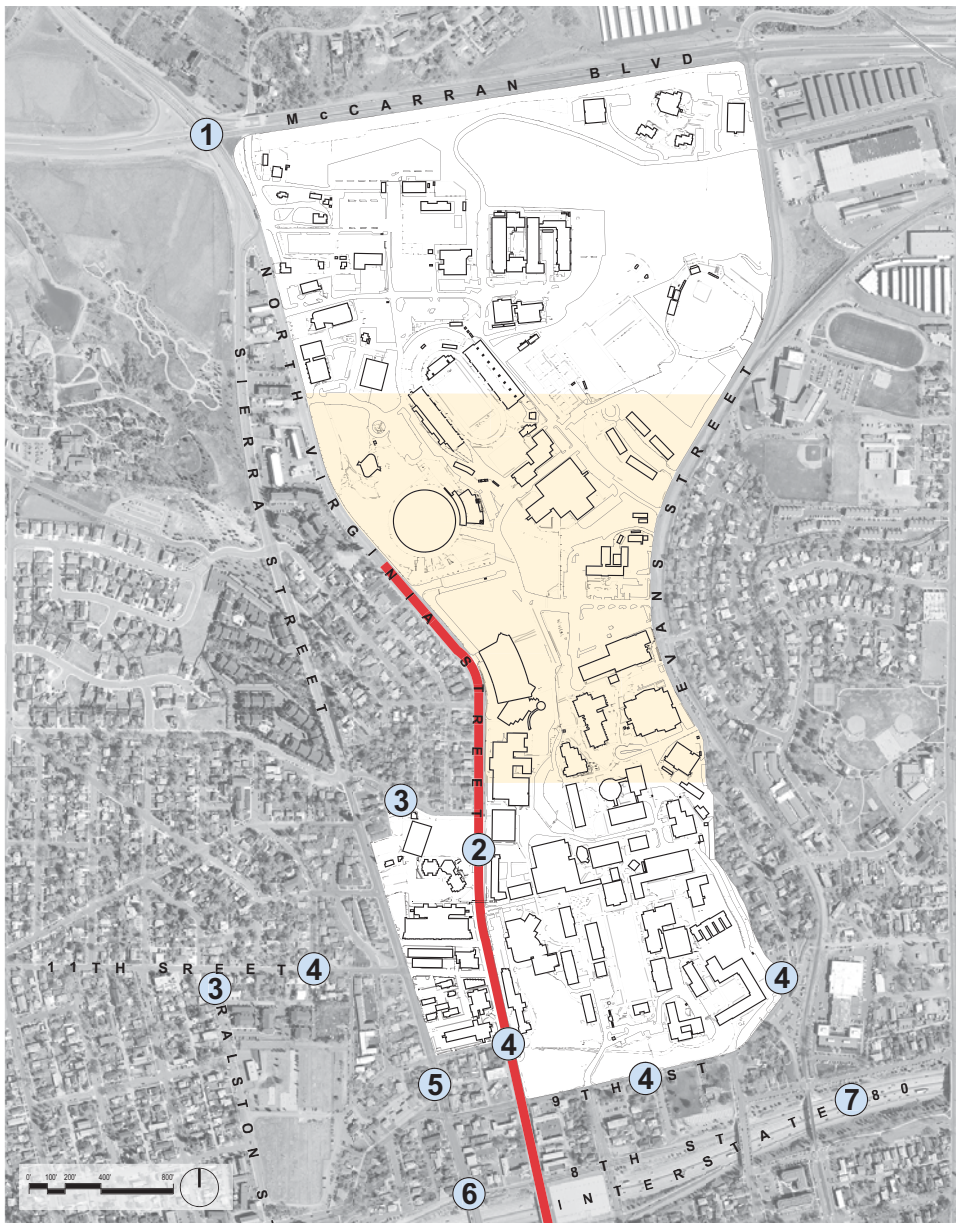
*Located on lands rising in northern and eastern directions, the site affords external views of the campus and of downtown Reno and the mountains.*



## 2-13 Topography

*Topographic changes of 20-25 feet from one plateau to another characterize the Mid-Campus. A significant embankment runs north from the School of Journalism creating a small-scale but dramatic terrace. Steps are a common element in the Mid-Campus due to the topography,*





#### LEGEND

- Mid Campus Study Area
- 1** Grade Separated Intersection: North Virginia Street and McCarran Boulevard
- 2** Bus Rapid Transit: Virginia Street
- 3** Bike Routes: Ralston Street, College Drive
- 4** Construction of Bike Lanes: North Virginia St, 9th St, 11th St, Evans Avenue
- 5** Conversion of North Sierra Street to Two-Way Traffic: Maple Street to 9th Street
- 6** Intersection Improvements: 8th Street and Sierra Street
- 7** Widening of Interstate 80 through Downtown Reno: 6 to 8 Lanes

## 2-14 Planned Transportation Improvements

*Several significant transportation improvement are planned in the campus vicinity.*

*Please refer to the accompanying text and to the Appendix for more detail.*



## 2-15 Parking

*Parking in the Mid-Campus must address those of the immediate campus community, the campus-wide community, and the demands presented by public events.*



## PLANNED TRANSPORTATION

Several significant transportation improvement plans are anticipated in the campus vicinity.<sup>2-1</sup>

### **Grade Separated Intersection: North Virginia Street and McCarran Boulevard (1)**

One of twelve intersections along the entire length of McCarran Boulevard planned to be reconstructed as a grade-separated intersection, this two-level intersection would allow left-turn movements at an upper level separate from through movements. Implementation of the intersection improvement should result in decreased vehicle delay and improved air quality at each of the twelve locations.

### **Implement Bus Rapid Transit on the Virginia Street Corridor (2)**

The project would provide bus service operating with frequencies and speeds comparable to a light rail system. It is a strong possibility that the university would become the north terminus of the bus rapid transit line for the near-future.

### **Construct Bicycle Lanes (3 and 4)**

New bicycle lanes and routes are identified for North Virginia, 9th, 11th, and Evans Streets in the campus area. Bike routes are planned for College Drive and Ralston Street. Improvements are intended to create a more bicycle and pedestrian-friendly corridor to the University and will include conversion of West Eleventh Street for one eastbound and two westbound lanes. The conversion will also include the addition of bicycle lanes on the north and south sides

of the street, widening of sidewalks, construction of planted parkways on the north side, and provision of on-street parking on the south side.

### **Convert North Sierra Street to Two-way Traffic between 9th Street and Maple Street (5)**

Convert this short segment of North Sierra Street to two-way operations to reduce traffic volumes on Maple Street/Eastbound I-80 ramps, Center Street, 8th Street, and on Virginia Street in front of the university. The project will help balance increased traffic as university enrollment grows and potentially reduce congestion adjacent to the Walgreens development at Interstate 80. Two northbound and two southbound travel lanes, and exclusive turn lanes where warranted, would be provided between 9th and Maple Streets.

### **Improve 8th Street/Sierra Street Intersection (6)**

The project would involve reconfiguring 8th Street between Virginia and Sierra Streets to add a third westbound lane along the north curb. This lane could eventually become a shared through/right or right-turn lane after construction of the project, converting the segment of North Sierra Street to two-way traffic.

### **Widen I-80 Through Downtown Reno (7)**

The project would widen Interstate 80 from six to eight lanes through the downtown interchanges (Wells, Center, and Sierra Streets). Some interchange modifications may occur.

<sup>2-1</sup> Sources:  
City of Reno *Central City Master Circulation Plan*  
and *2030 Regional Transportation Plan*



#### LEGEND

<span style="display:inline-block; width:20px; height:10px; background-color:yellow; border:1px solid black;"></span> Mid Campus Study Area	<span style="display:inline-block; width:20px; height:2px; background-color:lightcoral; border:1px solid black;"></span> Electrical
<span style="display:inline-block; width:20px; height:2px; background-color:orange; border:1px solid black;"></span> Sewer	<span style="display:inline-block; width:20px; height:2px; background-color:orange; border:1px solid black;"></span> Communications
<span style="display:inline-block; width:20px; height:2px; background-color:limegreen; border:1px solid black;"></span> Storm	<span style="display:inline-block; width:20px; height:2px; background-color:purple; border:1px solid black;"></span> Gas Line
<span style="display:inline-block; width:20px; height:2px; background-color:blue; border:1px solid black;"></span> Water	

## 2-16 Infrastructure

*While the highlighted utilities are significant in character, they do not limit the development potential of the area.*

*Please refer to the accompanying text and to the Appendix for a more complete mapping of the utilities.*

## 2-17 Shuttle

*The Mid-Campus Master Plan will integrate the shuttle system with the pedestrian circulation system.*



### EXISTING INFRASTRUCTURE

Significant utilities as shown on record drawings obtained for the Mid Campus are those that (1) are relatively large and therefore expensive to relocate, and/or (2) present potential challenges in relocation due to physical constraints, impact on areas beyond the mid-campus, or other reasons. While the highlighted utilities are significant in character, they do not limit the development potential of the area.

#### Gravity Lines

Non-pressure pipes, such as sanitary sewer and storm drains, are constrained by the available fall from upstream point to downstream point. Increase in pipe length is limited due to the minimum slope required to maintain capacity. The City of Reno requires vehicular access to City owned manholes. The principal gravity lines within the Mid-Campus are an 18" sanitary sewer and a 48"-54" storm drain flowing generally north to south across the Lawlor parking lot and east of the Whalen parking garage.

#### Pressure Lines

Water and gas are not constrained by grade, but must maintain required separations from other utilities. Relocation requires special care in addition to temporary shutdown of a portion of the system. The principal pressure lines within the mid-campus include 6" and 8" water mains in the Lawlor parking lot north of the Whalen garage, along the top of slope west of Mackay Stadium, extending southerly to Lombardi.

The various hot water lines (HTHWS and HTHWR) are believed to be no longer in use.

#### Dry Utilities

Electric, telephone, cable TV, and communication have relocation costs in proportion to the size of the utility, e.g. the voltage, number of services, etc. Relocation requires temporary disruption of service. There is a 25 kV electrical primary north and west of Applied Research Facility. There are telephone, communication, and/or fiber optic lines in the west and south Lawlor parking lot, along the bottom and top of slope east of Lawlor, along the north and west of the Applied Research Facility, west of Fleischmann Planetarium, and west of Mackay Stadium.

Once buildings are sited a field survey should be performed to verify locations and sizes of the utilities in the affected area, and a preliminary plan and cost estimate for relocation of those utilities should be developed.





## **2-18 South Campus**

*The South Campus exemplifies the quality of campus environment envisioned for the Mid-Campus.*

# 3

# Plan and Framework

## CONCEPT PLAN FRAMEWORK ELEMENTS

*The Mid-Campus Master Plan presents a balance of buildings, open space, and circulation to create a cohesive campus experience for the University of Nevada, Reno*

### CONCEPT PLAN

The Mid-Campus concept plan presents a balance of buildings, open space, and circulation to create a cohesive campus experience for the University of Nevada, Reno. The following highlight several of the key urban design goals of the concept plan.

#### New Center of Campus Life

The proposal for the Mid-Campus area reflects the University's desire to shift the center of student life north to the geographic center of the campus. As the new location for the library and student union, this shift recognizes that future development will occur to the north, to the east, and to some extent to the west of the current campus boundaries. The historic quad and South Campus will continue to be the center of undergraduate academics and administrative life.

#### Synergy Between New and Existing Uses

The success of the Mid-Campus depends not only on the development of improved facilities and new amenities, but also on the less tangible qualities of the arrangement of buildings and open spaces to support student life and nurture social interaction. New buildings share common forecourts with prominent relationships to the new quad. The new library and student union will create a heightened synergy with the existing recreation facility.

#### New Arrival

The 15th Street entry will become a new major public entrance for the campus. The arrival sequence for vehicular traffic presents an easily navigated experience for visitors to the University and to special events when arriving and parking on campus. Both North Virginia Street and 15th Street provide access to major parking structures.

#### New Quad

The Mid-Campus Plan centers around a major new campus "quad" similar in scale, in length, and in width to the historic quad in the South Campus. The quad gives shape to and is defined by the new library and student union to the east and the existing parking structure and new buildings to the west.

#### Terraced Landscape

The existing embankment that crosses through the Mid-Campus presents a formidable opportunity and challenge to the design of buildings and site grading in the area. The concept plan uses the topographic feature to create a unique place where terraces overlook the new campus quad, creating planted linkages to the Nevada landscape.



#### LEGEND

- |   |                                  |   |  |
|---|----------------------------------|---|--|
|  | Existing Buildings               |  | 1 New Library                          |
|  | New Buildings                    |  | 2 New Student Union                    |
|  | Future Development Area          |  | 3 Lombardi Recreation Center Expansion |
|  | 15th Street Arrival              |  | 4 New Parking Structure                |
|  | Primary Pedestrian Connections   |  | 5 Central Quad with Water Feature      |
|  | Secondary Pedestrian Connections |  | 6 Mid Campus Steps                     |
|  | Plazas and Walks                 |  | 7 Viewing Terrace                      |
|  | Green Corridor                   |  | 8 Stadium Walk                         |
|   |                                  |  | 9 Mountain Views                       |
|   |                                  |  | 10 View to Library                     |
|   |                                  |  | 11 View from Highway                   |

### 3-1 Urban Design Goals

The urban design goals serve as the physical foundation to the master plan, expressing new facility siting, pedestrian and vehicular circulation flows, and significant open space improvements.



### **3-2 Pedestrian Walks**

*Pedestrian walks throughout the campus should be inviting to the users, providing comfortable and safe access to the campus' functions.*



## **FRAMEWORK ELEMENTS**

### **A Green Corridor**

A central green corridor through the Mid-Campus connects the North Campus to the South Campus. This spine becomes the major pedestrian thoroughfare activated by building entrances, programmed outdoor spaces, and supporting circulation elements.

### **The Central Quad**

Central to the Mid-Campus image and function, new buildings face onto the quad with entries oriented to activate this new tree-lined, majestic space. The prominent visibility of the quad from the adjacent streets will invite the community and give order to new and existing facilities. The design of the quad will incorporate and recognize numerous functions ranging from programmed events, to informal play, to a place to study in a contemplative setting.

### **Water Feature**

Recognizing the desire to emulate the landscape of the region, a new water feature consisting of a 'runnel' and fountain will recall the location of the historic Evans Creek that once traversed this portion of the campus.

### **Mid-Campus Steps**

A new open space, framed by the planned library and student union, creates an active space at the heart of student life. The "amphitheater-steps" (reminiscent of the

existing library steps) face southwest and traverse almost 20 feet of grade change from the quad level to the upper levels along Evans Street.

### **15th Street Arrival**

A newly tree-lined 15th Street will become a new vehicular and pedestrian entry to campus. A new information booth at the drop off at the northern end of the new quad will help orient first-time visitors.

### **New Buildings**

The siting of the new library and student union along the escarpment underscores the importance of their public functions, takes advantage of near and distant views, and physically links the Mid-Campus areas separated by the escarpment.

### **Student Union**

The new Student Union faces the 15th Street approach with a new bookstore opening out at the street and quad level. Three stories above, a roof terrace at the same level as the Lombardi Recreation Center will provide a terrific venue for outdoor dining and studying with a phenomenal view of downtown Reno and the mountains.

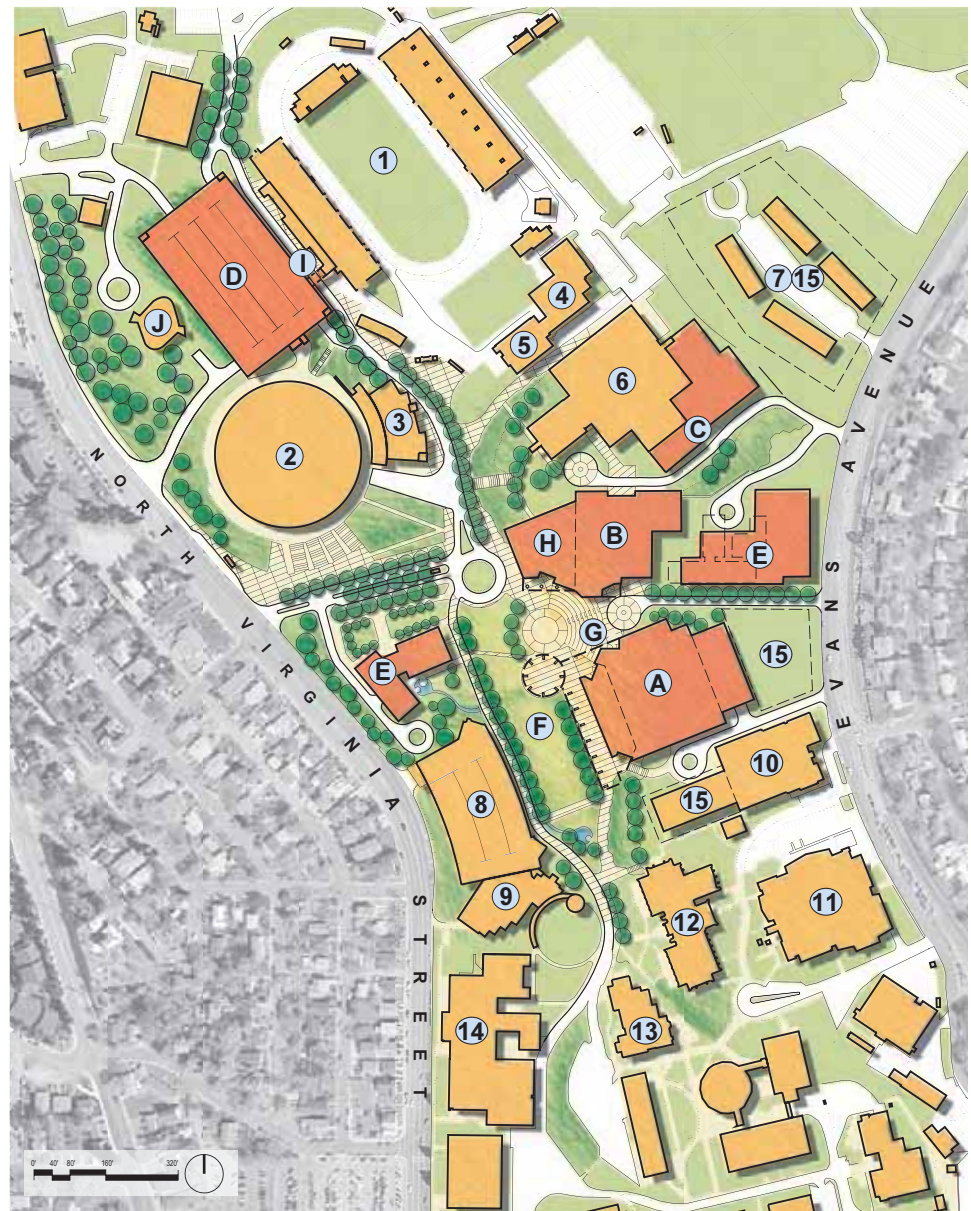
### **Library**

The library will face onto the quad along a view corridor to North Virginia Street. A two-story rotunda will announce the significant common role of the library to the university.



**3-3 Axonometric  
Mid-Campus  
Master Plan**

### 3-4 Illustrative Mid-Campus Master Plan



#### LEGEND

- |                                   |  |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| ① Mackay Stadium                  | Ⓐ New Library                          |
| ② Lawlor Events Center            | Ⓑ New Student Union                    |
| ③ Legacy Hall                     | Ⓒ Lombardi Recreation Center Expansion |
| ④ Sports Medicine Complex         | Ⓓ New Parking Structure                |
| ⑤ Cashell Field House             | Ⓔ Future Building                      |
| ⑥ Lombardi Recreation Center      | Ⓕ Central Quad with Water Feature      |
| ⑦ University Village              | Ⓖ Mid Campus Steps                     |
| ⑧ Brian J. Whalen Parking Complex | Ⓗ Viewing Terrace                      |
| ⑨ Student Services Building       | Ⓘ Stadium Walk                         |
| ⑩ National Judicial College       | ⓵ Planetarium                          |
| ⑪ Edmund J. Cain Hall             |  |
| ⑫ Education Building              |  |
| ⑬ Reynolds School of Journalism   |  |
| ⑭ Church Fine Arts                |  |
| ⑮ Future Development Site         |  |





#### LEGEND

- Buildings
- Open Space

### 3-5 Existing Buildings and Open Space

*Figure ground of existing buildings and open space exhibits the disjointed character of the Mid-Campus.*

### 3-6 Proposed and Existing Buildings and Open Space

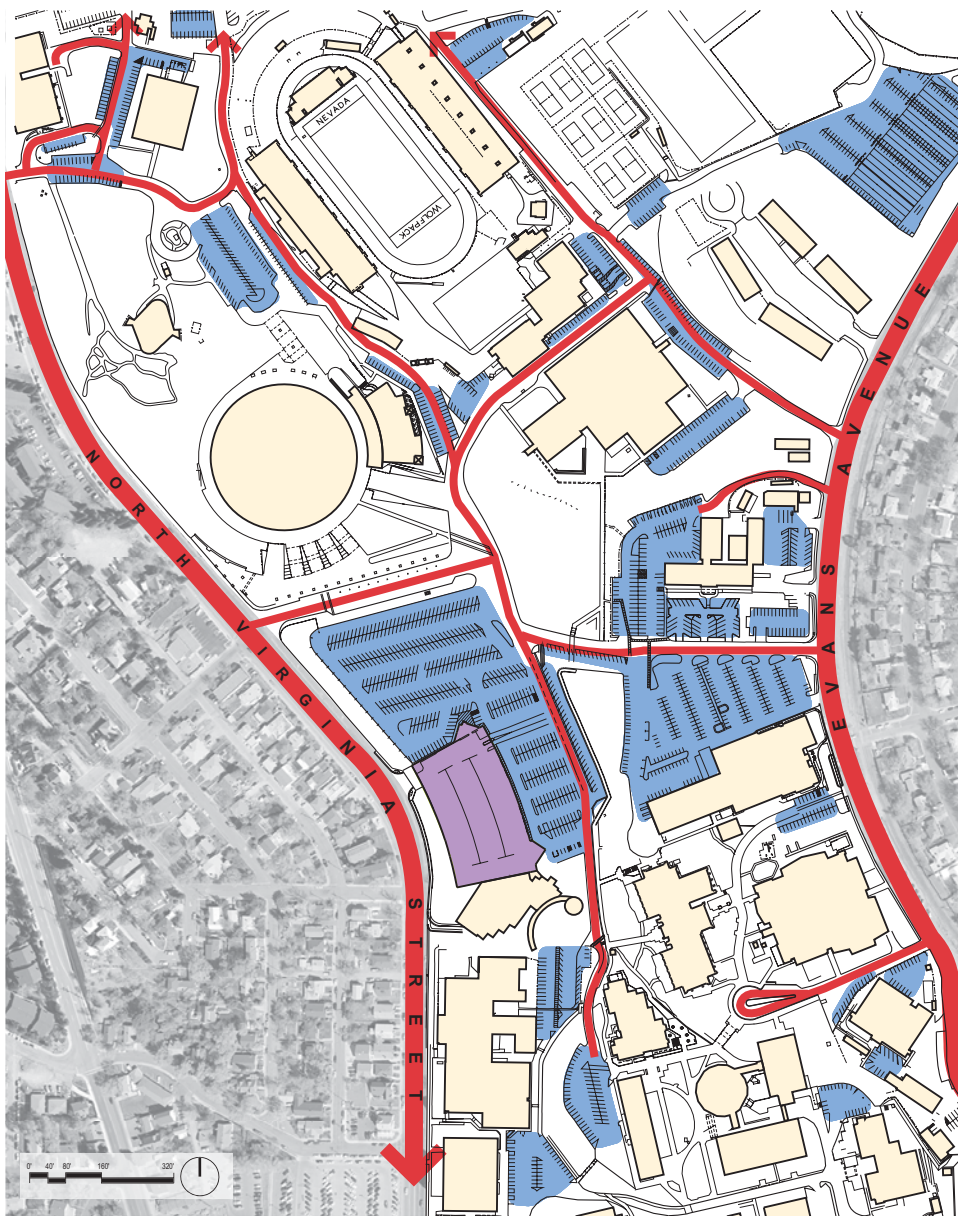
*The siting of new facilities favors the development of significant open space elements for the Mid-Campus.*



#### LEGEND

- Buildings
- Open Space





#### LEGEND

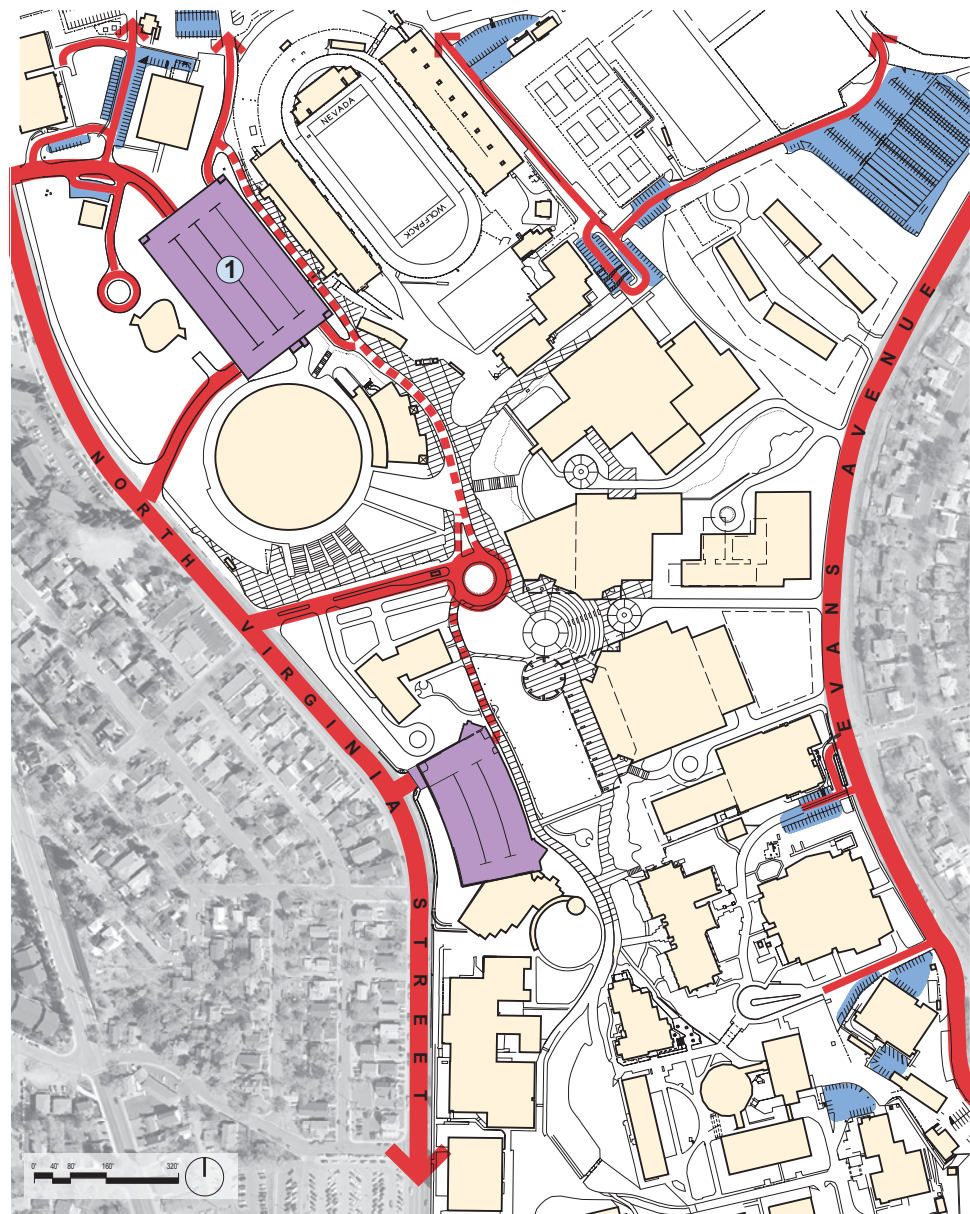
- Primary Vehicular Circulation
- Secondary Vehicular Circulation
- Parking Structure
- Surface Parking

### 3-7 Existing Vehicular Circulation and Parking






*The Mid-Campus is currently open to public vehicular access along streets and within large parking areas.*

### 3-8 Proposed Vehicular Circulation and Parking

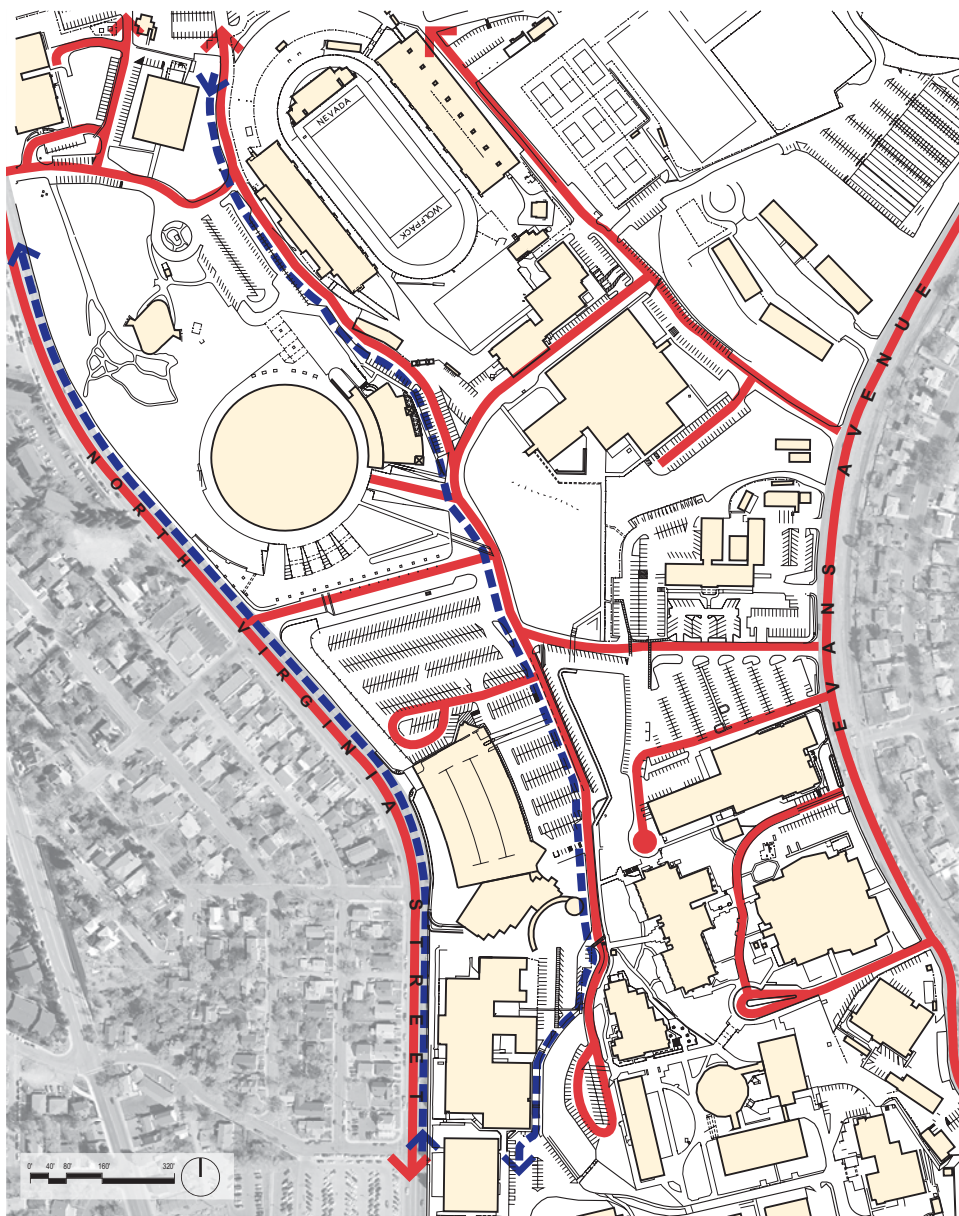
*The Master Plan will limit public vehicular access in recognition of the high pedestrian use the Mid-Campus will support in the future. A new major parking structure (1) will be sited north of the Lawlor Events Center.*



#### LEGEND

-  Primary Vehicular Circulation
-  Secondary Vehicular Circulation
-  Access During Events
-  Parking Structure
-  Surface Parking





#### LEGEND

- Emergency Vehicular Circulation
- - - Shuttle Circulation

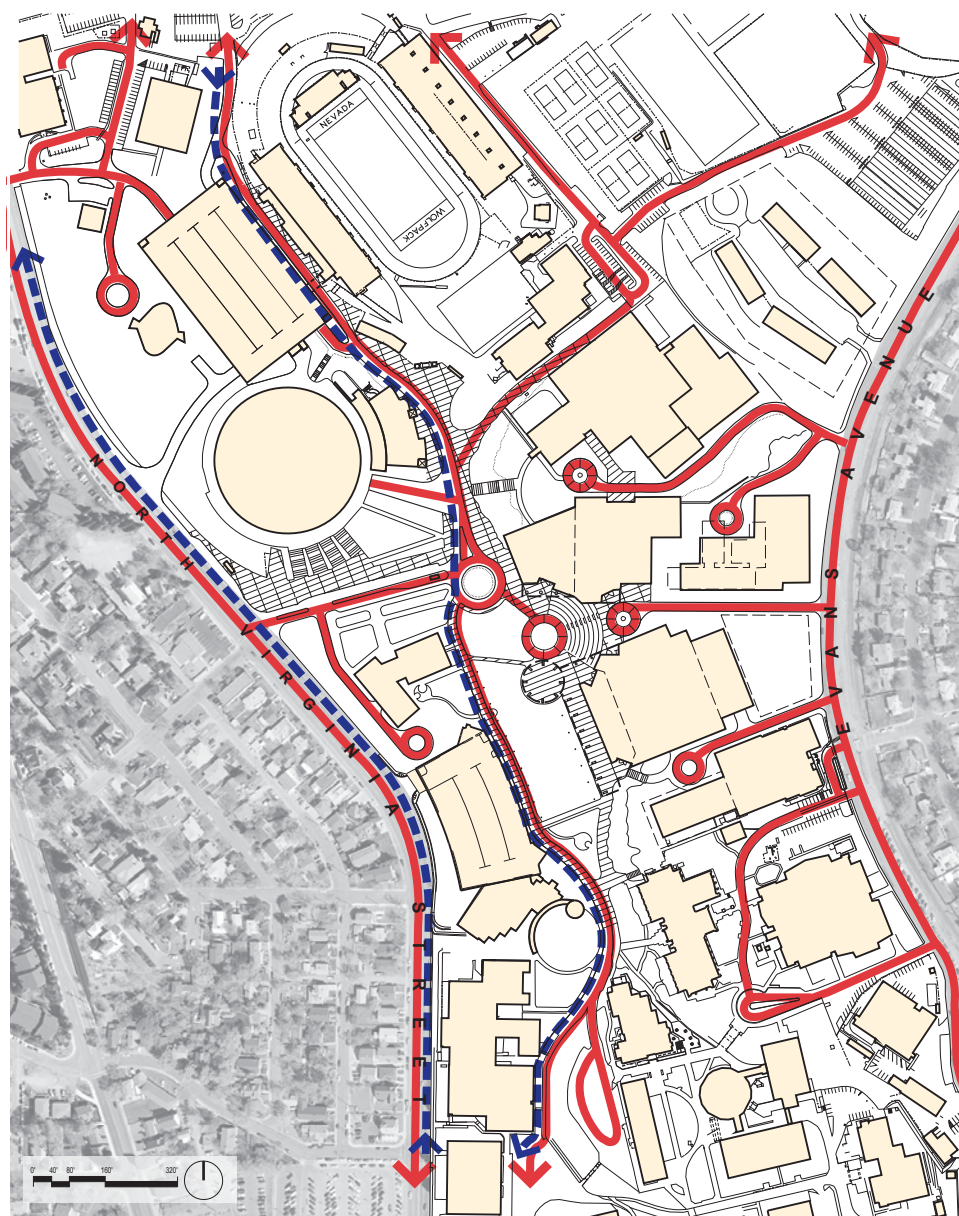
### 3-9 Existing Shuttle, Service, and Emergency Access

*The existing pattern of vehicular ways allows access for shuttles, service, and emergency vehicles.*




### 3-10 Proposed Shuttle, Service, and Emergency Access

*This ease of access will continue via the use of roads and pedestrian ways.*



#### LEGEND

-  Emergency Service
-  Shuttle Service



#### LEGEND

- Primary Pedestrian Circulation
- Secondary Pedestrian Circulation
- Open Space

### 3-11 Existing Pedestrian Circulation and Programmed Open Space

*Currently, pedestrian circulation and open space lack function and importance in the Mid-Campus.*

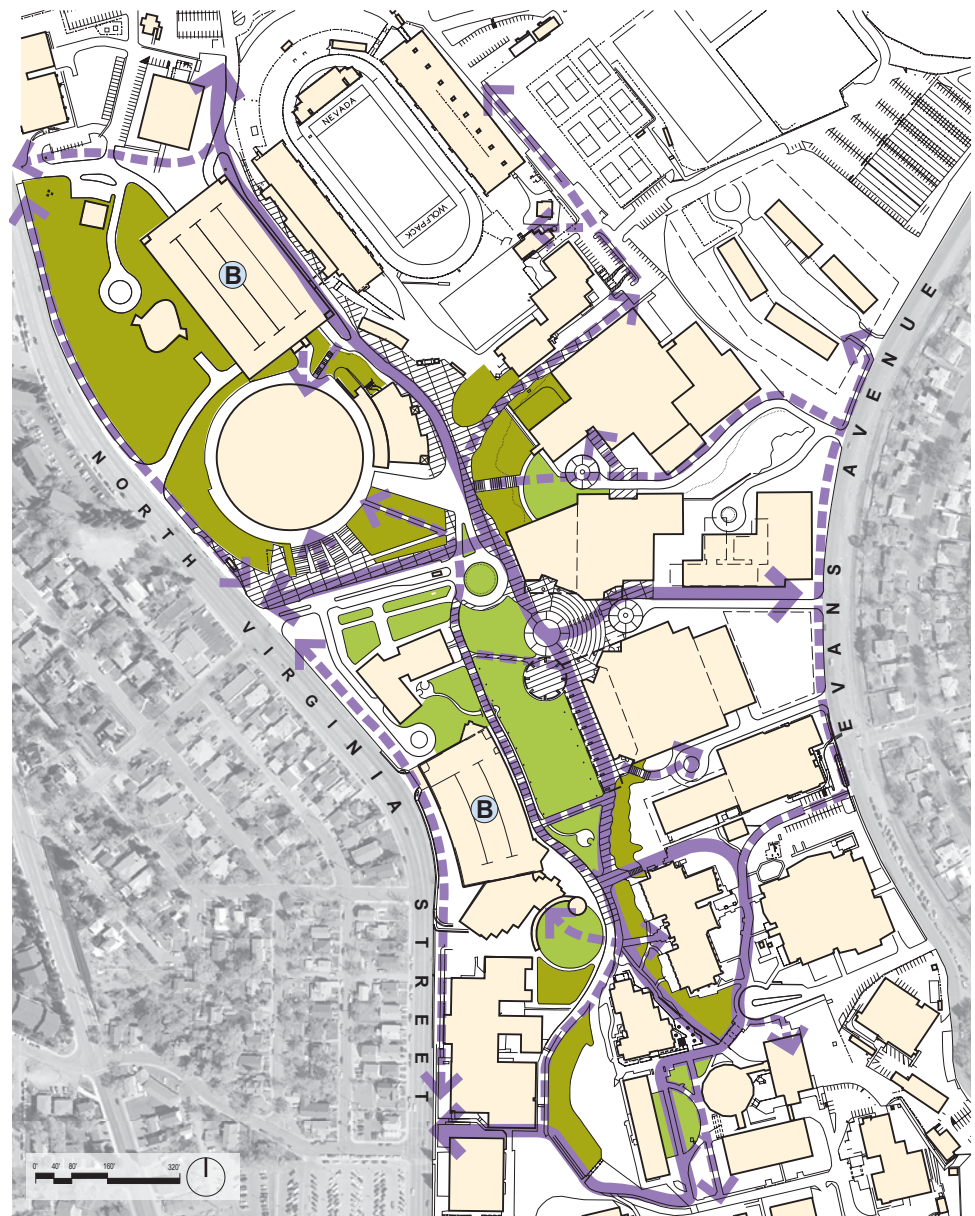


### 3-12 Proposed Pedestrian Circulation and Programmed Open Space

The Mid-Campus Master Plan proposes to create a hierarchy of pedestrian circulation, recognizing the importance of connections to the existing and planned expansion areas of the campus. The plan identifies a hierarchy of open space for both programmed uses and to recall the regional character of the Nevada landscape.

While the university does not currently prescribe bicycle routes, the Mid-Campus Master Plan proposes:

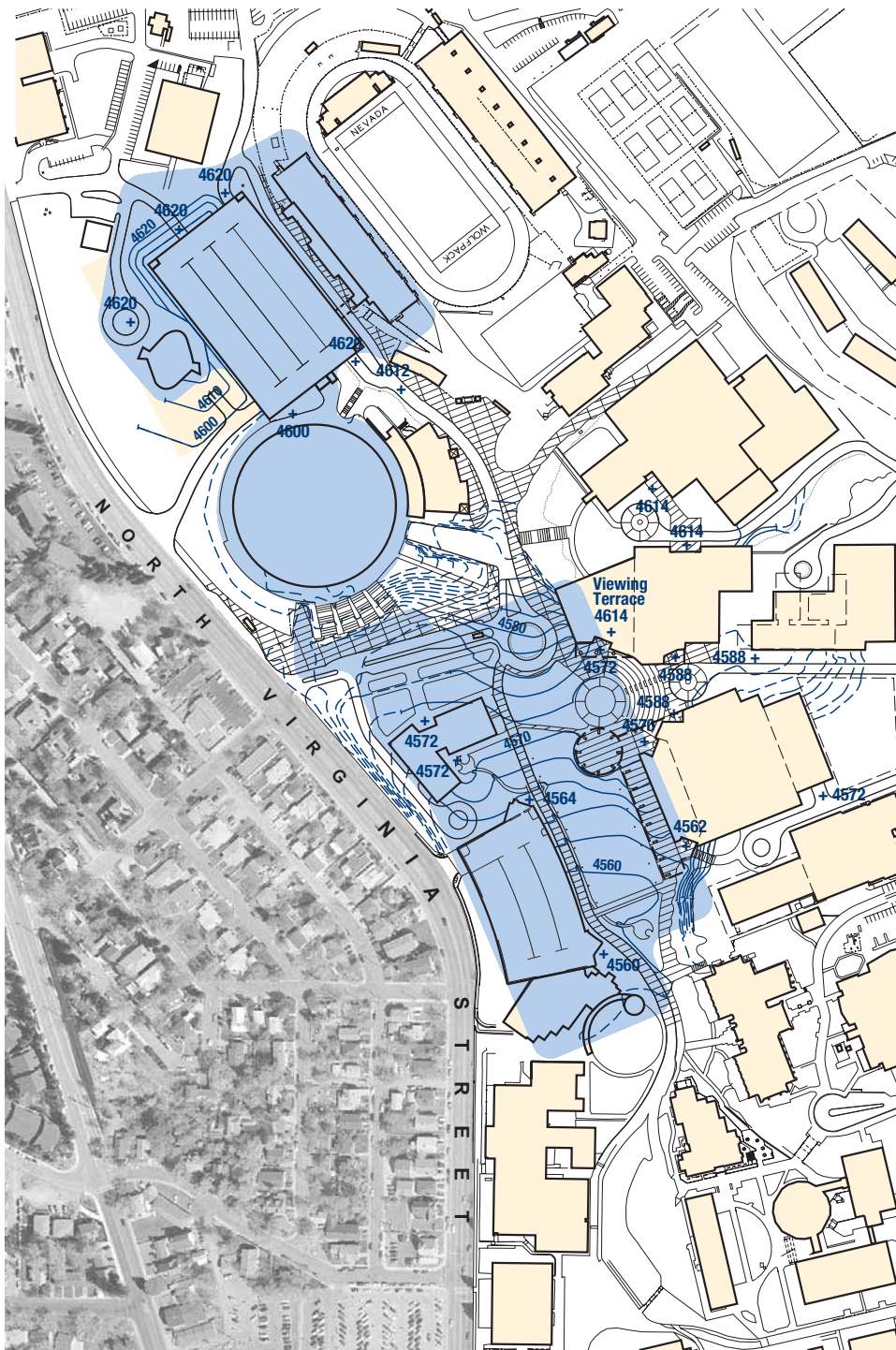
- Shared use of pedestrian ways for bicycles
- Secured and weather-protected "24/7" storage in the major parking structures
- Bicycle parking at major facilities



#### LEGEND

- Primary Pedestrian Circulation
- Secondary Pedestrian Circulation
- Programmed Open Space
- Regional Landscape
- B Secure and Weather Protected Bicycle Parking





#### LEGEND

	Existing Contours
	Proposed Contours
	Spot Elevation
	Areas of ADA Access

### 3-13 Proposed Concept Grading Plan

The Master Plan sites new facilities and the new parking structure to provide access to a variety of "plateaus" in the Mid-Campus. Each of these areas will be developed to allow ADA access.

The figure highlights two of the more significant areas of ADA access (i.e. areas with slopes of less than 5%). These areas provide access to adjacent buildings which, in turn, provide elevators to each building's upper levels, and to adjacent buildings. The new student union serves as an example as it will provide access to both the new quad and the viewing terrace shared with the Lombardi Recreation Center.

# 4

## Guidelines

### GUIDELINES IMPLEMENTATION STEPS

The university considers the Mid-Campus Master Plan a work in progress. In the upcoming months, the university will further their reviews and discussions with the City of Reno and its neighbors.

Implementation of the projects will be subject to review by the university to assure compliance with the programmatic and physical mandates of the projects, both for the specific users and the campus community.

#### GUIDELINES

To be successful, the physical and programmatic development of the Mid Campus should follow several important, yet simple guidelines. These guidelines address the strategic location of highly

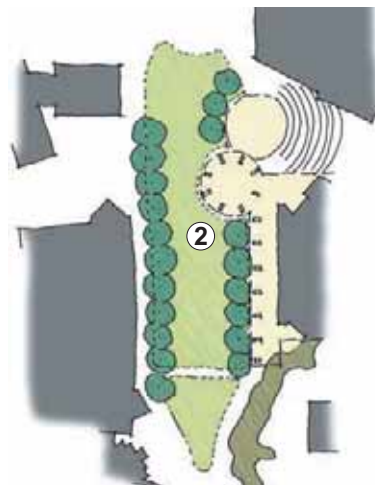
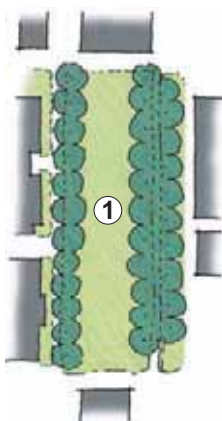
public and active uses, the physical massing and fabric of the new facilities, and the development of a signature open space element - the new quad.

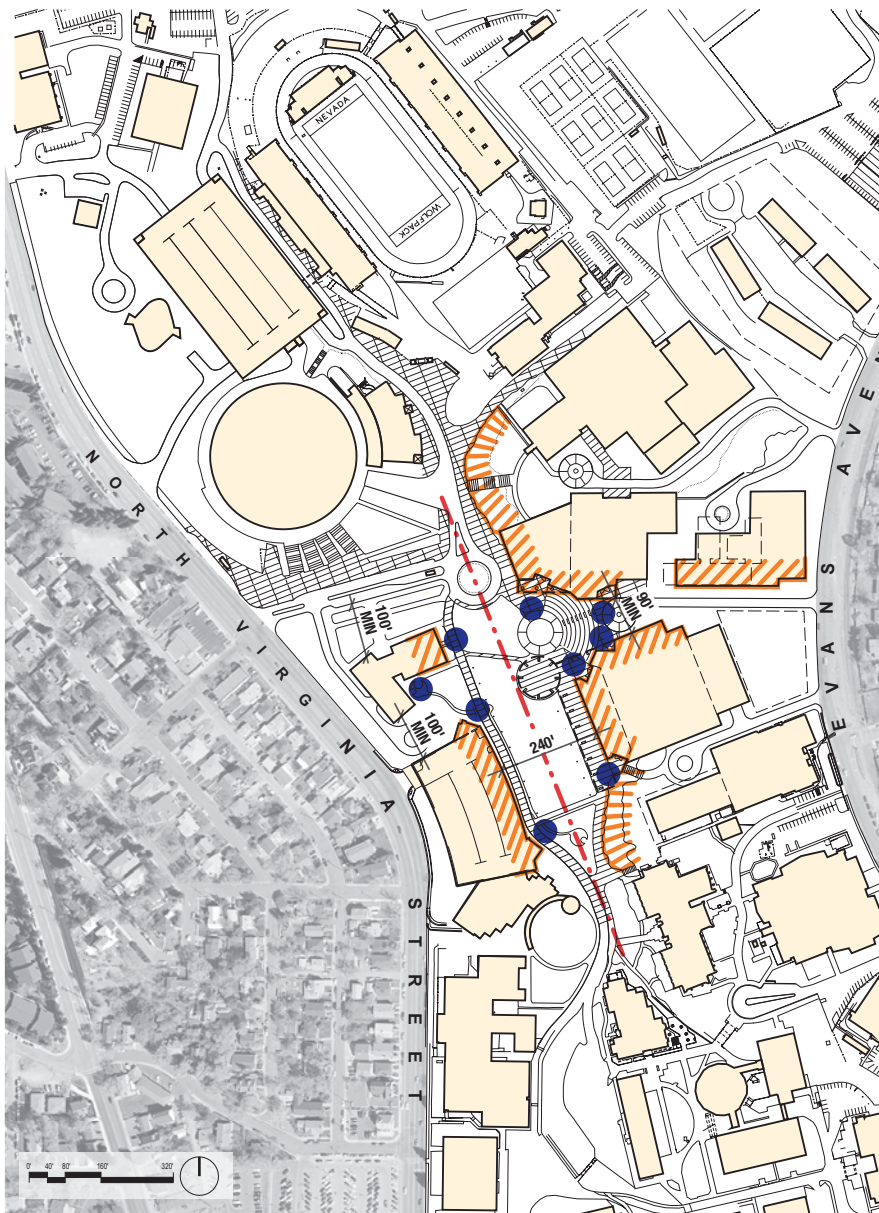
#### IMPLEMENTATION STEPS

Implementation of several of the key projects is dependent on the construction of the new parking facility for which the plan identifies a minimum of 1,800 spaces. This capacity may be able to reach 2,500 spaces. The university anticipates undertaking a signalization study that will be included in the appendix of this report.

#### 4-1 Old and New Quads

*The adjacent diagrams illustrate the relative size of the existing South Campus quad (1) with that proposed for the Mid-Campus. (2) The scale and breadth of these open spaces provide a sense of identity to these two important areas of the campus.*





#### LEGEND

-  Edges
-  Entrances
-  Centerline

## 4-2 Urban Design Guidelines

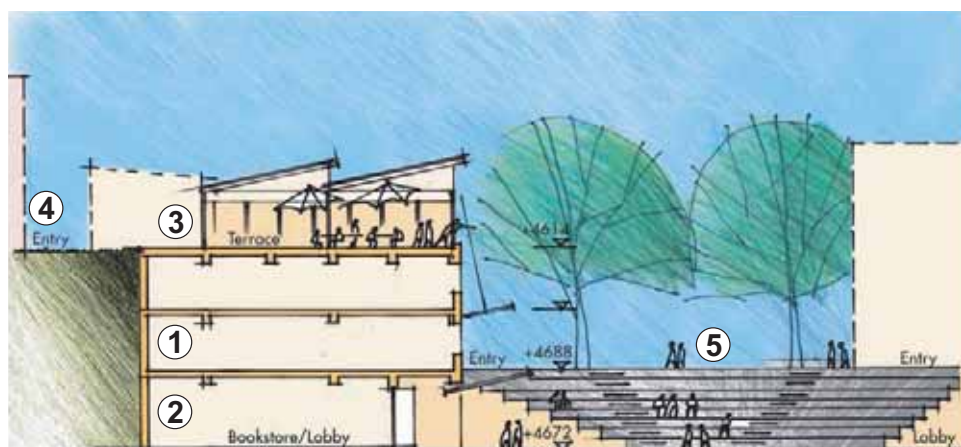
*New facilities will create edges to frame views, define significant open spaces, and to concentrate public uses and entrances to activate these spaces.*



### 4-3 Student Union

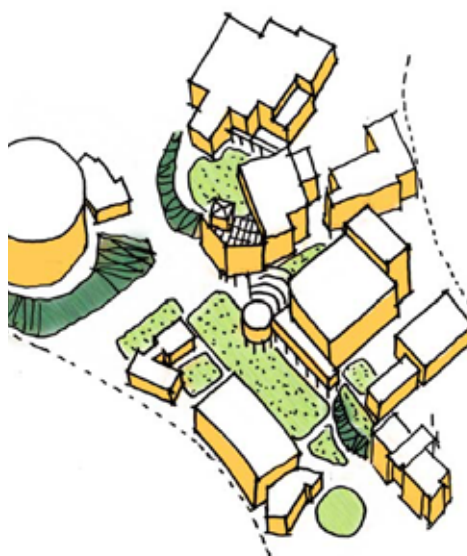
The student union (1) will:

- Locate a bookstore (2) and other community uses at the ground floor
- Locate a viewing terrace (3) on top of the student union, level with the Lombardi Recreation Center (4)
- Share with the Library "amphitheater-steps" (5) for access to upper levels and informal gathering



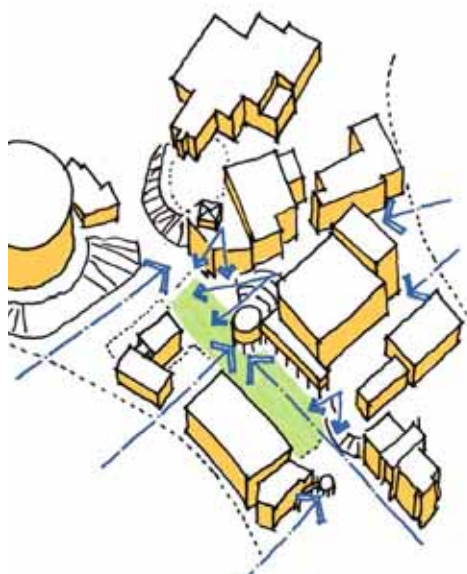
### 4-4 Jefferson's Academical Village

The arrangement of open spaces in the Mid-Campus area will compose a central and formal campus "Quad" flanked by more informal secondary open spaces. Jefferson's concept of an "Academical Village" at the University of Virginia is reflected in the University of Nevada, Reno's original quad.

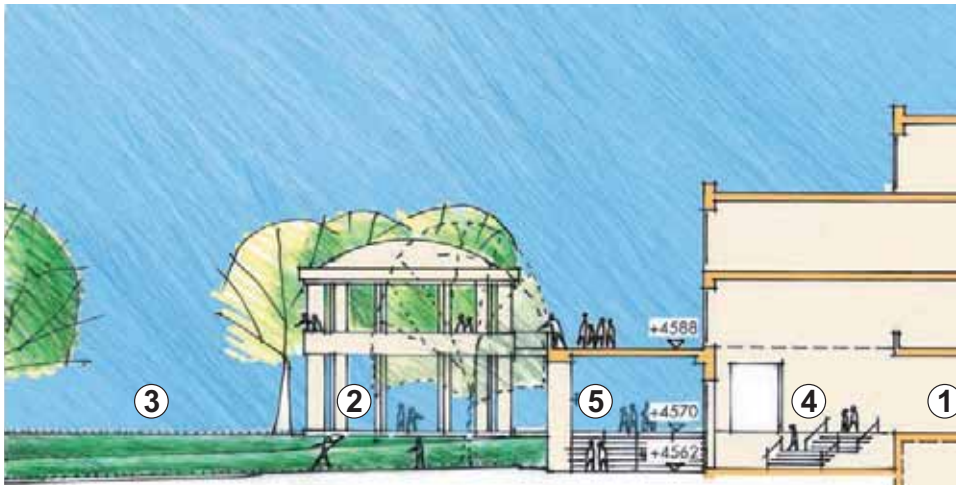


### 4-5 Views

Site new facilities to identify the Mid-Campus in distant views (e.g. from Interstate 80); to announce the campus to the public (e.g. active and transparent facilities viewed from North Virginia Street); and to orient users on the campus.







#### 4-6 Library (1)

- Extend pavilion (2) into the new quad (3) (not beyond the quad's midpoint)
- 35 feet maximum height for pavilion
- Multi-level lobby (4) and an arcade (5) facing quad
- "Transparent" architecture (light, airy, and high) for maximum light penetration into public spaces



#### 4-7 Architectural Elements Related to the Pedestrian

Recognizing the diverse needs of the university as a contemporary institution, the Mid-Campus should be built on the notion of a diverse architectural form linked by pavilions, arcades, porches and colonnades.



#### 4-8 Architectural Character

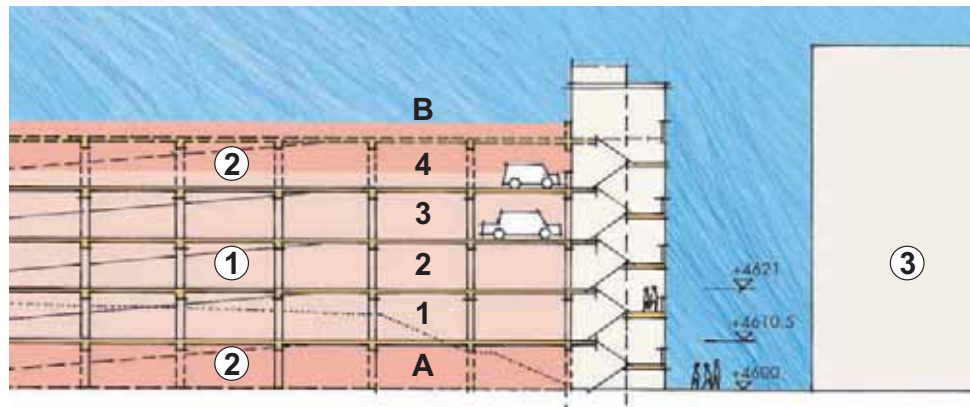
To reflect the highly recognized and desired campus character of the university, buildings should reflect the architectural character and materials of the older campus buildings that surround the campus' original quad. Brick should be used as one of the unifying elements in the new facilities.



#### 4-9 Parking Structure

The parking structure:

- Provide a minimum of 1,800 parking spaces
- Provide ADA access to the Lawlor Events Center
- Not exceed the height of the Lawlor Events Center (3)
- Provide pedestrian bridge connection(s) to Mackay Stadium seating

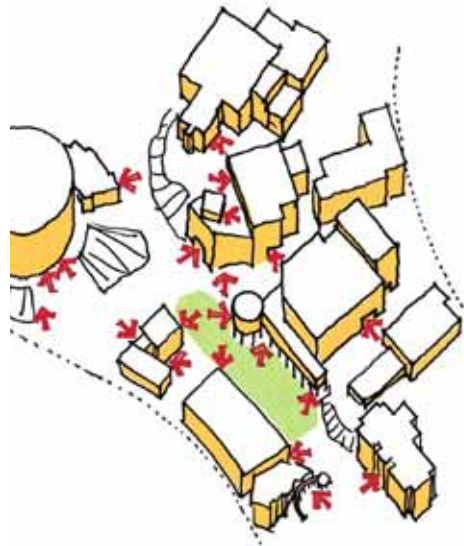


(1) Parking levels 1-4 will accommodate 1,800 spaces

(2) Adding parking levels A and B will increase the capacity to 2,500 spaces

#### 4-10 Active Accessible Ground Level

Buildings should be transparent, locating active uses to face and access primary pedestrian areas and travel ways. Locate primary entrances to take advantage of sunny southern exposures, maximizing year-round use.

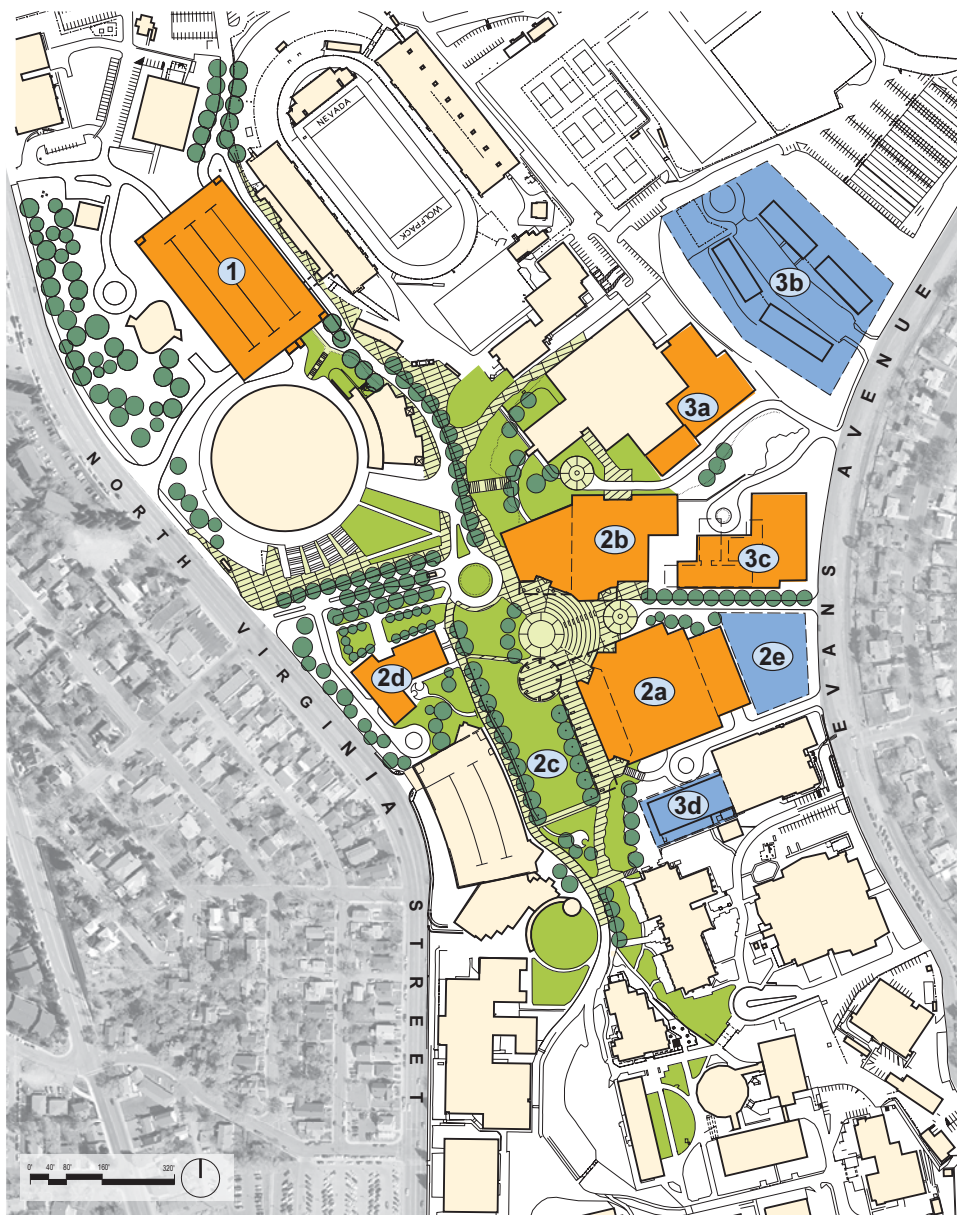


#### 4-11 Landscape Character

The landscape in the Mid-Campus area should reflect programmed uses and the landscape aesthetic of the region, i.e., tree-lined paths and lawns for shade, large open lawns to support active and flexible uses, small intimate spaces for conversation and contemplation, and informally-planted sloped areas that characterize this region's landscape.







#### LEGEND

- Existing Buildings
- New Buildings
- Future Development Area

#### 4-12 Implementation Steps

The following groupings of implementation steps reflect the sequence of improvements required to implement the Mid-Campus Master Plan.

- (1) New parking structure to replace surface parking and to partially address future campus-wide demand

After the construction of the new parking structure, the following projects may be implemented, together or independent of each other:

- (2a) New library
- (2b) New student union
- (2c) New quad
- (2d) New 80,000 gsf facility - use to be defined
- (2e) For library expansion or other use to be determined

The following projects do not require construction of the parking structure. Specific additional implementation steps are noted:

- (3a) Lombardi Recreation Center Expansion
- (3b) For future use to be defined. Dependent on relocation of housing
- (3c) For future use to be defined. Dependent on relocation of the Applied Research Facility
- (3d) Future expansion of the Judicial College. Dependent on removal of the existing one-story building

# 5

# Contributors

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