

Office of the President

TO MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS:

ACTION ITEM

For Meeting of November 15, 2018

APPROVAL OF UC SAN DIEGO 2018 LONG RANGE DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOLLOWING ACTION PURSUANT TO THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT, LA JOLLA CAMPUS, SAN DIEGO CAMPUS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The UC San Diego 2018 Long Range Development Plan (LRDP) for the La Jolla campus provides an updated land use plan to guide future physical development. The LRDP provides population growth projections, identifies development objectives and principles, delineates campus land uses, and estimates the new building space needed to support program growth and expansion anticipated through the 2035-36 academic year. The 2018 LRDP updates the previous LRDP, which was adopted by the Regents in 2004.

UC San Diego published its first Strategic Plan^a in 2014 which established a shared vision and mission. Campus goals are focused on enhancing the student experience, cultivating an inclusive and diverse community, expanding the campus' research prowess and impact, improving the delivery of advanced healthcare, and enriching the campus community. The campus is expanding to meet its evolving needs, as well as those of the San Diego region, the State of California, and beyond. A key focus of ongoing growth at UC San Diego is to establish the campus as a sustainable and vibrant living-learning community that will enhance both academic and social experiences on the campus.

The 2018 LRDP was presented to the Finance and Capital Strategies Committee for discussion at the July 2018 meeting. The Regents are being asked to: 1) certify the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the UC San Diego 2018 LRDP, La Jolla Campus pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA); 2) adopt the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program, 3) adopt the CEQA Findings and Statement of Overriding Considerations, and 4) approve the UC San Diego 2018 LRDP, La Jolla Campus.

RECOMMENDATION

The President of the University recommends that, following review and consideration of the environmental consequences of the proposed UC San Diego 2018 Long Range Development

^a *Defining Our Future, UC San Diego's Strategic Plan: <https://plan.ucsd.edu/>*

Plan (LRDP), as required by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), including any written information addressing this item received by the Office of the Secretary and Chief of Staff to the Regents no less than 24 hours in advance of the beginning of this Regents meeting, testimony or written materials presented to the Regents during the scheduled public comment period, and the item presentation, that the Regents:

- A. Certify the Environmental Impact Report for the UC San Diego 2018 LRDP, La Jolla campus;
- B. Adopt the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program, and make a condition of approval the implementation of mitigation measures within the responsibility and jurisdiction of UC San Diego.
- C. Adopt the CEQA Findings and Statement of Overriding Considerations; and
- D. Approve the UC San Diego 2018 LRDP, La Jolla campus.

BACKGROUND

In less than 60 years, UC San Diego has grown to encompass six undergraduate colleges and 11 divisions and schools. Named in the top 15 research universities worldwide and regularly recognized among the top ten public universities in the nation, UC San Diego fosters a culture of collaboration that leads to discoveries, advances society, and drives economic impact. The campus vision is to be a student-centered, research-focused, service-oriented public institution that provides opportunity for all.

Currently many of the UC campuses are addressing demands for higher education and preparing for future growth. Due to improved high school graduation rates, larger numbers of students in California are graduating from high school as witnessed by an increase of college-eligible students of 20 percent since 2005. UC San Diego received over 106,000 first-year and transfer student applications in fall 2017, among the highest numbers of applications in the UC system. As a result of this increased demand, in November 2015, the Regents approved a UC-wide plan to accept an additional 10,000 California residents for undergraduate enrollment over a three year period. UC San Diego specifically increased its enrollments significantly under this initiative to help meet these systemwide targets (approximately 2,000 net new undergraduate students were added between fall 2015 and fall 2017; an eight percent increase). In addition, UC President Napolitano announced a student housing initiative in 2016 aimed at supporting students and future enrollment growth across the UC system. In alignment with this initiative, UC San Diego is in the process of delivering over 5,000 new student housing beds in the near term with more housing planned as a key element of the 2018 LRDP. Accordingly, UC San Diego is updating its long-range projections to effectively accommodate growth and the need for additional facilities and space.

The 2018 LRDP is not intended to be a detailed implementation plan and does not constitute a commitment to enrollment targets, specific development projects, construction schedule, or capital funding requests. However, future projects proposed under the 2018 LRDP are expected

to be consistent with the development and population projections contained in the LRDP, and with the land uses proposed for the campus. In addition, future projects will be evaluated for consistency with UC San Diego's Physical Design Framework (which will be updated with conforming changes following approval of the 2018 LRDP), with the Ten-Year Capital Financial Plan (which is updated annually), and would require subsequent project level environmental review pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

As reflected in Table 1, the 2018 LRDP plans for a projected regular academic year student headcount enrollment of 42,400 at UC San Diego by the 2035-36 academic year (an increase of approximately 6,600 students over the campus's current enrollment). This projected growth necessitates that the campus plan for additional facilities to accommodate the programmatic needs of academic, research, and other supporting functions. UC San Diego has undertaken the 2018 LRDP to update enrollment and population projections and has prepared a new Environmental Impact Report (EIR) in compliance with Section 21080.09 of CEQA. The proposed 2018 LRDP plans for as much as 8.9 million gross square feet of new space to be added in support of projected growth. Table 1 summarizes the key growth parameters of the 2018 LRDP:

TABLE 1

	Total Student Headcount	Total Campus Population	Total Gross Square Footage	Student Housing Beds
Approved Under 2004 LRDP	29,900	49,700	19,159,000	13,300
Anticipated Under 2018 LRDP	42,400	65,600	27,886,300	25,850
Existing (Fall 2017)	35,800	51,800	18,920,300 ¹	19,450 ²
Net New Projected Under the 2018 LRDP (by 2035)	+6,600 ³	+13,800 ⁴	+8,966,000 ⁵	+6,400
¹ Existing Gross Square Footage (gsf) includes projects (3,257,000 gsf) approved under the 2004 LRDP.				
² Undergraduate and graduate student housing; includes 5,530 beds approved under the 2004 LRDP (Mesa Nueva, Nuevo East and West and North Torrey Pines Living and Learning).				
³ Student population growth under the 2018 LRDP is based on the following assumptions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recent growth in undergraduate students has been pronounced; between fall 2013 and fall 2017, the campus saw an increase of almost 5,000 undergraduate students. Optimal population for an undergraduate college is 4,000 students; presently the six undergraduate colleges are over capacity, and an additional two colleges are anticipated to be needed by 2035, or roughly 32,000 undergraduates for planning purposes. Optimal percentage of graduate students is 25 percent of total student enrollment to maintain important research, teaching assistant, and graduate fellow roles. 				
⁴ Total campus population growth includes increases in instructional faculty due to a desire to meet a 19:1 student-to-faculty ratio and in support staff affiliated with academic and student life programs and management of campus infrastructure and resources. Anticipated growth in research, clinical and healthcare initiatives also correlates with increases in staff and researcher positions.				
⁵ Development growth anticipated under the 2018 LRDP is based on planning studies and site capacity analyses, and is also largely due to the planned increase in on-campus housing for students and faculty/staff. The anticipated housing square footage represents almost half of the growth in total development. Historical development growth on campus was also considered; between 2005 and 2015, the campus saw over a 40 percent increase in gross square feet.				

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Academic Context - The instruction and research programs at the San Diego campus are organized into three major areas: the General Campus, the Health Sciences, and Scripps Institution of Oceanography. The General Campus, comprising 24 undergraduate and graduate departments and three graduate professional schools, is responsible for all undergraduate and most of the graduate education in the academic disciplines. The Health Sciences include the School of Medicine, the School of Pharmacy, and UC San Diego Health. The Health Sciences' departments engage in research, clinical/patient care activities, and instruction through its professional medical and pharmacy programs and its graduate academic programs. Scripps Institution of Oceanography is home to an interdisciplinary program that conducts research and education on the oceans and the atmosphere, marine biology, and earth sciences for both graduate and undergraduate students.

UC San Diego's academic programs continue to evolve and advance as knowledge unfolds, new fields emerge, and societal needs are redefined. Academic planning at UC San Diego views the collaborative, interdisciplinary symbiosis of research and teaching as a tremendous competitive edge upon which to build the campus' future. Recognizing that the University must identify and implement solutions that are necessary to ensure UC San Diego's continued level of excellence, the campus completed its first Strategic Plan in 2014, which established a shared mission and vision for the campus's future. Under the 2014 Strategic Plan, the campus has dedicated itself to advancing four research themes: 1) *Understanding and Protecting the Planet*, 2) *Enriching Human Life and Society*, 3) *Exploring the Basis of Human Knowledge, Learning, and Creativity*, and 4) *Understanding Cultures and Addressing Disparities in Society*. These research themes apply across many disciplines and are areas in which UC San Diego has great depth and experience and that have the most potential for positively impacting society.

UC San Diego Health - UC San Diego operates one of the five UC Medical Centers, with facilities on the East Campus in La Jolla and at Hillcrest. In order to adapt to and thrive in a rapidly changing healthcare environment, UC San Diego Health developed a comprehensive clinical strategic plan in 2013. As the region's only academic medical center, the clinical strategic plan sets a goal to develop an integrated healthcare delivery network to efficiently serve patients and to continually provide demonstrably superior clinical care. At the La Jolla campus, this may translate into the development of expanded healthcare services, clinical research opportunities, and other support functions. The UC San Diego Health – La Jolla campus is located on the East Campus and is included in this LRDP. A separate LRDP is currently under development for the Hillcrest Campus – located approximately 13 miles south of the La Jolla Campus. While physically separated, these two locations function under a complementary two-campus strategy that also incorporates other strategically located services throughout the San Diego region.

2018 LRDP Development Objectives - The 2018 LRDP considers projected student enrollment, overall campus population growth, and the anticipated space needs and land uses associated with expansion of UC San Diego's academic, research, public-service, and ancillary programs through the 2035-36 academic year. The 2018 LRDP is intended to provide a general land use and capacity plan to achieve the best possible balance between aesthetics, sustainability, and

functionality, to guide stewardship over the development of UC San Diego's spectacular location, and to attain appropriate integration with the surrounding community. The following key growth targets are discussed in the LRDP:

- Accommodate student enrollment growth up to 42,400; while allowing flexibility to adapt to enrollment priorities, under the 2018 LRDP undergraduate student enrollment would increase from 21,900 (2004 LRDP) to 32,000 students, and graduate and professional student enrollment would increase from 8,000 (2004 LRDP) to 10,400 (in order to achieve a desired target of 25 percent of total student enrollment);
- Increase in total campus population up to 65,600 (includes staff, students and faculty);
- Expand on-campus housing to accommodate up to 65 percent of total eligible students, provide housing for staff, faculty, and affiliates and develop two new colleges; and
- Construct up to 8.9 million gross square feet (gsf) of net new space (approximately half of this would be attributable to housing expansion).

UC San Diego's academic and research direction will emphasize and balance the demand to meet the instructional needs of students, fulfill the research mission critical to academic excellence, and strengthen the University's public service responsibilities. Enrollment growth is driven by a directive to absorb a reasonable proportion of the increasing enrollments in the UC system as a whole, as mandated by the State of California under the Master Plan for Higher Education. The corresponding growth is necessary to support the overall University mission while sustaining the core strengths of the campus. Key LRDP development goals include the following:

- Optimize existing campus building space and improve utilization through renovations, repurposing, and modernization efforts;
- Recognize land as a limited and valuable resource and optimize usage of the few remaining development areas;
- Target future development in areas that strengthen programmatic relationships, allowing resources and support to be shared;
- Activate and enliven the campus through strategic mixed-use and transit-oriented development, improved public spaces, expanded campus services, and additional on-campus housing to facilitate a living-learning campus environment;
- Expand multi-modal connections and Transportation Demand Management (TDM) programs to optimize trip reduction benefits of the light rail transit system (operational in 2021), reduce automobile commuting, and coordinate campus plans with the regional transportation programs;
- Recognize the importance of campus open spaces that form a balance with the built environment and continue to be responsible stewards of natural and biological resources;
- Ensure that areas of high visual quality, key visual sensitive zones and key vantage points throughout campus are maintained;

- Minimize impacts of campus growth on surrounding neighborhoods and ensure that campus-community communications are effectively maintained and enhanced; and
- Minimize environmental impacts of growth through the implementation of sustainable development practices related to campus planning, design, construction, and operations in accordance with the UC Sustainable Practices Policy, campus Design Guidelines and other policies.

Physical Planning Principles - Physical expansion of the campus will require UC San Diego to manage its evolving urbanization so that aesthetic and functional considerations are properly balanced. In 1989, UC San Diego completed a comprehensive urban planning analysis called the Master Plan Study that provided the urban planning framework for the 1989 and 2004 LRDPs. As the campus has developed over the last three decades, the manifestation of this planning framework has become more evident within the built environment. The 2018 LRDP continues to build upon this framework and embraces the following five complementary planning principles:

- *Neighborhoods*: The geographic and architectural building blocks of the campus are defined as Neighborhoods. The continued development of compact, clearly demarcated neighborhoods will facilitate efficient land use and give the campus a human scale.
- *University Center*: UC San Diego is not located in or adjacent to a traditional “college town.” Thus, to achieve the services and atmosphere of a college town, the campus has developed one of its neighborhoods as a “town center.” This area, designated as the University Center, comprises approximately 30 acres within the geographic center of the campus. The University Center affords a location within walking distance of many neighborhoods in the western area of campus, and will be conveniently accessible from the future light rail transit (LRT) station in Pepper Canyon.
- *Academic Corridors*: To facilitate the physical integration of academic programs and to provide a consistent basis for locating future academic facilities, “academic corridors” are designated. Each of the five corridors is related to existing disciplinary clusters.
- *Open Space Preserve*: Natural resources comprise an integrated open space system called the Open Space Preserve (OSP). The OSP consists of four types of land preserves with distinct qualities of vegetation, topography, and geography. These are ecological reserve, urban forest, historic grove, and restoration lands.
- *Connections*: An integrated system of roads, paths, public entries, landmarks, view corridors, and landscape features ties the campus together in a manner compatible with the smaller scale and distinct atmospheres of the neighborhoods. To further enhance these connections, improvements to campus signage and wayfinding will be implemented to ensure efficient and intuitive access to facilities on the campus. With the introduction of light rail transit in 2021, including two stations on campus, these connections will be even more critical; specifically with respect to improved pedestrian and bicycle connections.

Land Use Designations - The land use plan will guide the siting of new campus facilities. Consistent with the approach taken in preceding plans, the LRDP focuses on UC San Diego's three main geographical areas: Scripps Institution of Oceanography and the portions of the campus west and east of Interstate 5. The 2018 LRDP describes land use categories that reflect those activities that will be predominant in any given area; i.e., the primary programs, facilities, and activities in a general geographic area. In addition, other associated or compatible uses are allowable within any given area defined by a predominant use. Ten land use categories distributed among UC San Diego's 1,158 acres of land are identified below:

- Academic use areas primarily include classrooms, class and research laboratories, and ancillary support facilities (such as administrative, housing and dining facilities, parking, and facilities supporting academic operations). Academic use facilities are located primarily within the core of the West Campus and Scripps Institution of Oceanography portions of the campus.
- *Academic Mixed-Use* land areas primarily include facilities for academic and administrative activities that generally serve the campus community as a whole; e.g., classrooms, admissions, registration, University Extension, student services, etc. Housing may also be a use included in this category.
- *Community-Oriented* use areas primarily contain facilities that are associated with or support academic, research, community partnerships or public-service programs that also are regularly used by the general public and support UC San Diego's public service mission; e.g., the Birch Aquarium at Scripps, The Preuss School, and the La Jolla Playhouse.
- *Science Research* signifies a land use primarily intended to accommodate research partnerships with entities whose activities are compatible with University-based research programs and entail collaboration with UC San Diego faculty, graduate students and researchers.
- *Housing* land uses primarily denote residential areas intended to accommodate students, faculty, staff and other campus affiliates. The West Campus predominantly houses undergraduate students. The majority of graduate and professional student housing is located within the Mesa Housing Neighborhood on East Campus.
- *Academic Healthcare* land uses primarily include clinical and medical research, teaching facilities, and patient care associated with UC San Diego Health – La Jolla. The majority of these facilities are located on the East Campus and include the Jacobs Medical Center, Moores Cancer Center, Altman Clinical and Translational Research Institute, Sulpizio Cardiovascular Facility and the recently completed Koman Outpatient Pavilion.
- *Administrative* land uses primarily involve general administrative and institutional support functions that typically occur in office facilities.
- *General Service* includes operations, security and safety, and maintenance of University

facilities; e.g., central garage and shuttle fleet maintenance, shops supporting general maintenance activities, materials handling, police and security, utility plants, service yards, recycling areas, storage, etc.

- *Sports and Recreation* denotes major playing fields and other sports and athletic facilities and recreational open space.
- *Open Space Preserve* denotes open space areas that have ecological or aesthetic value and are subject to special constraints on development; e.g., canyons determined to have biological or habitat value, the eucalyptus grove that winds through the campus, and restoration lands that consist of slopes, canyons, and bluffs.

Table 2 summarizes the 2018 LRDP Land Use Plan acreages:

Table 2		
<i>Land Use Category</i>	<i>Total Acreage</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
Open Space Preserve	335	28%
Academic	244	21%
Housing	215	19%
Sports and Recreation	93	8%
Academic Healthcare	76	7%
Academic Mixed-Use	54	5%
Science Research	50	4%
Community-Oriented	40	4%
General Services	25	2%
Administrative	25	2%
<i>Total :</i>	<i>1,158 Acres</i>	<i>100%</i>

The campus has analyzed development capacity of the remaining developable areas for LRDP planning purposes based on known program objectives, identification of logical expansion and development areas, and assuming reasonable densities to provide future flexibility as capital opportunities arise. Based on this analysis under the 2018 LRDP, the campus has the physical capacity to accommodate 8.9 million gsf net new development. This projected growth accounts for the potential removal of approximately 1.2 million gsf of buildings that are beyond their useful life and/or are located in low-density strategic redevelopment areas.

Although the 2018 LRDP maintains the basic land uses described in the 2004 LRDP, a few changes are noteworthy (as summarized below):

- The prior Medical land use has been renamed Academic Healthcare;
- The Surface Parking land use has been eliminated as parking is proposed to be an ancillary use permitted within all land use categories (except Open Space Preserve). The 2018 LRDP proposes continuing the phased transition away from reliance on land-intensive surface parking lots to structured parking served by shuttles, and within walking distance of selected campus facilities;

- The existing Mixed Use land use has been updated to Academic Mixed Use to allow for future mixed use developments on West Campus;
- The prior Academic/Science Research Park land use has been updated to Science Research;
- The prior Park land use has been renamed Open Space Preserve;
- In the 2004 LRDP, an overarching housing goal was to house up to 50 percent of eligible students. In the 2018 LRDP, that aspirational goal has been increased to 65 percent to address UC initiatives, increasing demand for affordable student housing, and to align with regional housing and smart growth objectives in the San Diego region; and
- The Mid-Coast Trolley light rail transit alignment is integrated to identify the location of the trolley and two new stations on campus that are currently under construction on both West and East Campuses, which complements land uses near the stations that allow for transit-oriented development consistent with smart growth/sustainability policies.

Transportation, Circulation, and Parking - UC San Diego has a comprehensive transportation demand management (TDM) program with close to 58 percent of existing commuters arriving on campus via alternative transportation (a 23-percent increase since 2001). To accomplish its longstanding goals of diminishing the use of single-occupancy vehicles, achieving maximum use of alternative modes of transportation, and reducing the impacts of campus growth on the community, the campus plans to continue to encourage the use of alternative modes of transportation, including campus-operated shuttles, public transit, ride sharing, carpooling, ride hailing, and bicycles. Construction has begun on the light rail transit (trolley) blue line, with stations located on both the West and East Campuses that will further expand regional access to the campus. Emphasis on last-mile connections between key campus destinations and the trolley stations will be important. Further, the campus has set aside land for future construction of freeway direct access ramps from Interstate 5 to Voigt Drive that would provide direct high-occupancy-vehicle access to the campus from future express lanes to be developed within the Interstate 5 corridor.

Greenhouse Gas Reduction Strategy - Under the UC Sustainable Practices Policy, which includes the President's Carbon Neutrality Initiative, UC San Diego is committed to reducing its Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions. A GHG Reduction Strategy is being prepared to ensure that the 2018 LRDP is implemented in alignment with the UC Sustainable Practices Policy and the UC San Diego Climate Action Plan and is included in the 2018 LRDP EIR. The GHG Reduction Strategy sets forth a framework for determination of future individual projects' consistency with the Strategy; establishes a process for ongoing monitoring and revision; and enables streamlining of subsequent CEQA documents. The Strategy would include specific GHG reduction measures organized around energy use associated with campus operations and construction. Approval of the 2018 LRDP and certification of the 2018 LRDP Environmental Impact Report (EIR) by the Regents indicates endorsement of the GHG Reduction Strategy.

PUBLIC OUTREACH

In addition to extensive outreach efforts including campus/community presentations and open houses, discussions with agencies (local, State and federal), local elected officials, and maintaining an LRDP project web site, the proposed 2018 LRDP includes a section on community planning principles. These were produced in collaboration with UC San Diego's Community Advisory Group (CAG) to reinforce the campus's commitment to work and communicate with local communities regarding its future development. The CAG was formed in 2015 to provide a focus on potential community concerns that may arise from implementation of the 2018 LRDP. The 2018 LRDP proposes that ongoing CAG meetings would occur on a regular basis to facilitate effective campus-community communications, which was well-received by the CAG members. Much of the input received during public outreach focused on community character and the campus-community interface, student housing, open space, and traffic/transportation. This input was incorporated into the LRDP and addressed through the new Perimeter Development Zone, where specific project design considerations are required; the 2018 LRDP's student housing goal; the Open Space Management Program; and integration of the future light rail service and other Transportation Demand Management programs that are articulated in the 2018 LRDP objectives.

CEQA COMPLIANCE

A summary of the CEQA process and the environmental impacts of the proposed 2018 LRDP are provided in Attachment 2. Pursuant to CEQA and University of California Procedures for Implementation of CEQA, an EIR for the UC San Diego, La Jolla Campus 2018 LRDP has been prepared. The EIR and CEQA Findings/Overriding Considerations, provided in Attachments 4 and 5, have been prepared to support the University's determination regarding project impacts, mitigation measures, and CEQA alternatives.

Key to Acronyms

CAG	Community Advisory Group
CEQA	California Environmental Quality Act
EIR	Environmental Impact Report
GHG	Greenhouse Gas Emissions
LRDP	Long Range Development Plan
MMRP	Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program
SOC	Statement of Overriding Considerations
TDM	Transportation Demand Management

ATTACHMENTS

Exhibit 1:	UC San Diego Existing Conditions / Major Facilities
Attachment 1:	Long Range Development Plan Land Uses
Attachment 2:	Environmental Impact Summary
Attachment 3:	2018 UC San Diego Long Range Development Plan:

	http://lrdp.ucsd.edu/campus/proposed/index.html
Attachment 4:	2018 UC San Diego LRDP EIR http://lrdp.ucsd.edu/campus/review/final.html
Attachment 5:	CEQA Findings and Statement Overriding Considerations

Major Facilities

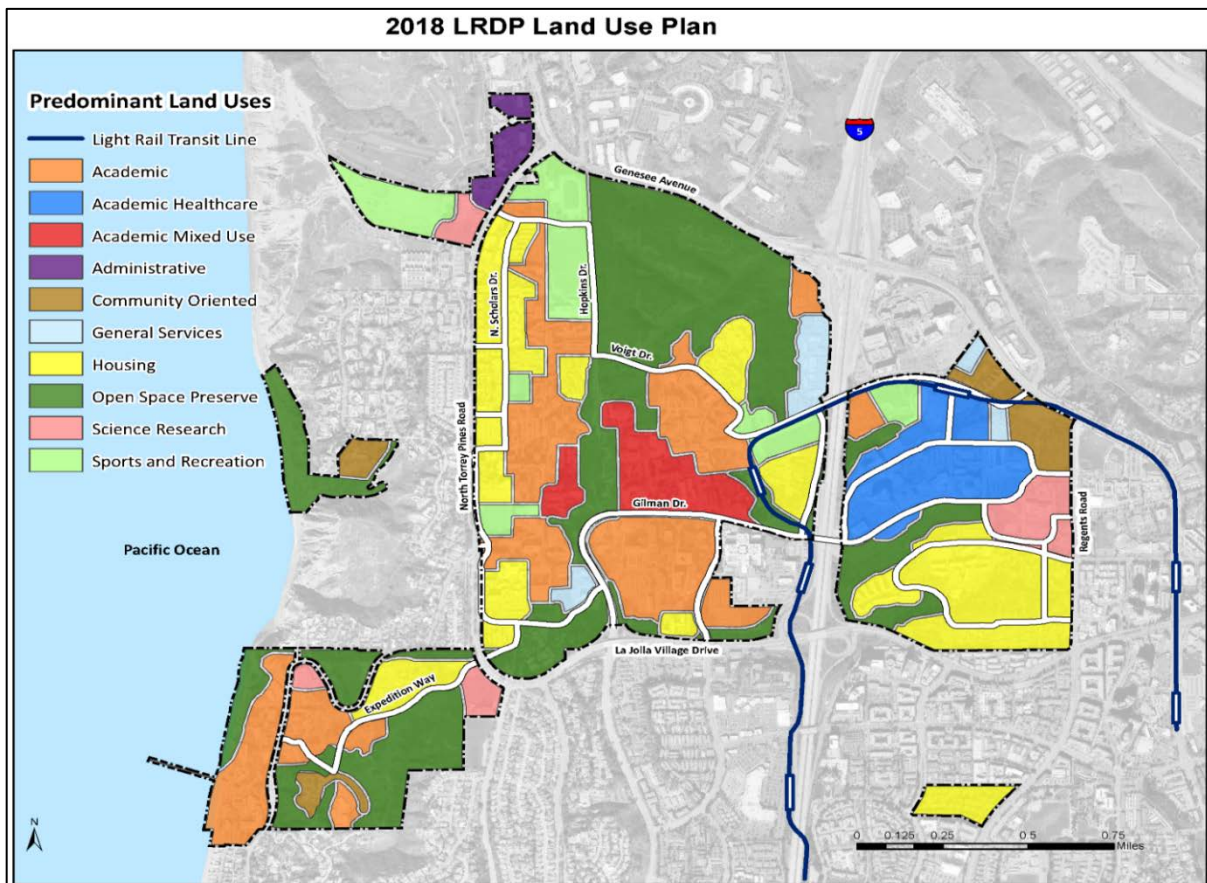
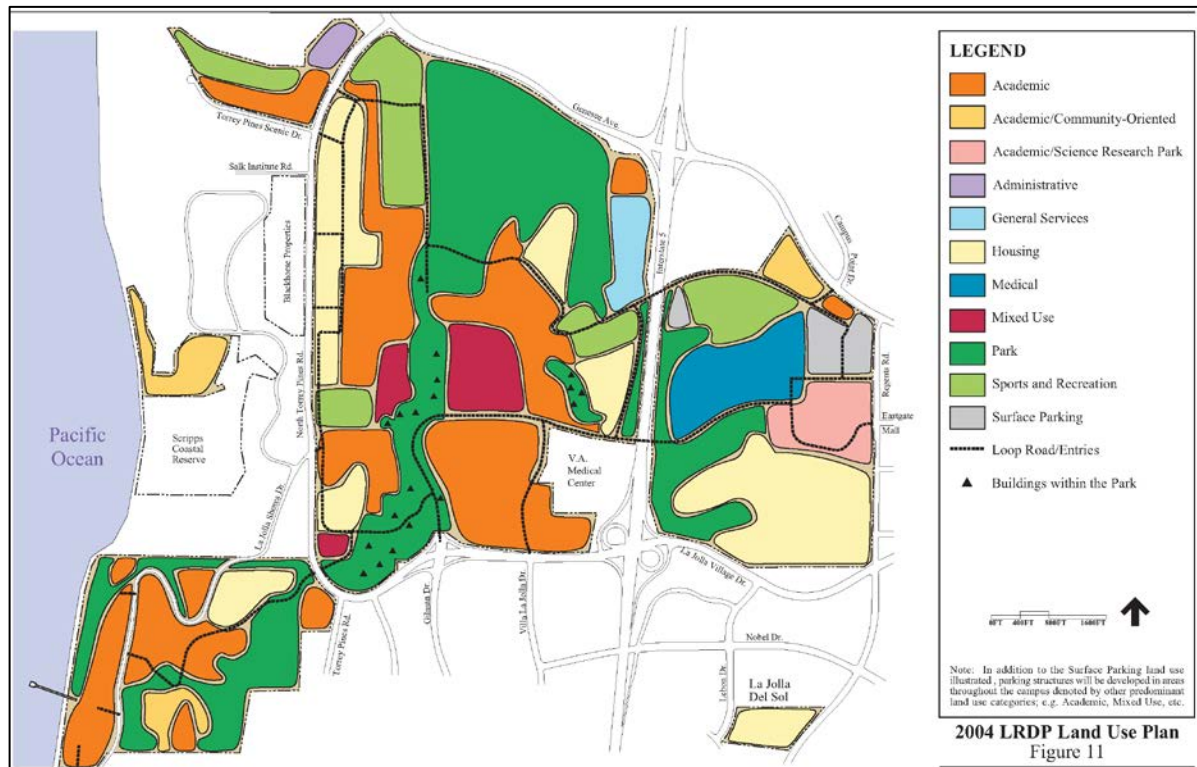
1. Torrey Pines Center
2. Sanford Consortium for Regenerative Medicine
3. Rady School of Management
4. RIMAC
5. Geisel House
6. Geisel Library
7. Faculty Club
8. Price Center
9. Mandeville Center
10. Scripps Seaside Forum
11. Birch Aquarium
12. Venter Institute
13. Theatre District (La Jolla Playhouse)
14. Biomedical Sciences Building
15. Atkinson Hall
16. Preuss School
17. Jacobs Medical Center
18. Moores Cancer Center
19. Mesa Housing
20. La Jolla Del Sol

Pacific Ocean



0 0.25 0.5 1 1.5 Miles

ATTACHMENT 1: Comparison of 2004 and 2018 LRDP Land Use Plan



ATTACHMENT 2

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT SUMMARY

The 2018 LRDP EIR has been prepared under the Board of Regents of the University of California's (The Regents') direction in accordance with the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The Regents are serving as the lead agency under CEQA for consideration of the EIR and proposed project approval. The EIR will be relied upon for future environmental review of and subsequent tiering for project-specific campus development.

CEQA Environmental Review Process

In accordance with CEQA, a Notice of Preparation (NOP) was prepared and circulated on November 4, 2016 for a 30-day period of public and agency comment. A public scoping meeting was held during this period on November 29, 2016 to solicit input from interested agencies, individuals, and organizations on the content of and topics for the EIR. Verbal and written comments received during the scoping process were taken into consideration during the preparation of the EIR.

The Draft EIR was completed and circulated for a 45-day public and agency review period from July 30, 2018 through September 12, 2018. The Draft EIR's availability for public review was announced to interested parties via U.S. mail and via email, and to the general public in a newspaper advertisement, in addition to posting on the UC San Diego Campus Planning website. Digital copies were available for public review online and hard copies were available at five public libraries and at the Campus Planning office. A public hearing on the Draft EIR was held on August 23, 2018 during which a presentation on the key conclusions of the EIR and opportunity for oral and written comment was provided. Thirty members of the public attended the hearing, during which four individuals submitted oral comments and one individual submitted written comments. A copy of all comments received and the University's response are included in the final EIR.

Public Comments

In addition to those submitted at the public hearing, during the public review period, comment letters were received from one federal agency, three State agencies, four local/regional agencies^b, three elected officials, and 15 organizations and individuals. Of these letters, 12 were letters of support received from members of the public, California elected officials (State senator and State assembly member), a City of San Diego councilmember, the San Diego Association of Governments, the City of San Diego Planning Department, and the Chancellor's Community Advisory Board. These support letters endorsed the LRDP's proposed Smart Growth strategies and goal to house 65 percent of eligible students, the campus' public outreach and agency coordination efforts, and the EIR's traffic mitigation strategy, among other topics. Key topics addressed by other comment letters included biological resources, transportation and traffic, pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure, and historic resources (specifically the Gliderport and Che Café).

^b The City of San Diego and San Diego Association of Governments each provided two letters, for a total of six local agency comment letters received.

The comment letters did not raise any new issues that were not adequately analyzed in the 2018 LRDP EIR pursuant to CEQA. Therefore, no substantial changes or amendments to the EIR other than minor clarifications were warranted based on public and agency comments, and recirculation of the document was not required. Volume III of the Final EIR contains all of the comment letters received during the public review period, together with written responses to those comments, which were prepared in accordance with CEQA.

Environmental Impacts

The following key issues were analyzed in the EIR: aesthetics; air quality; biological resources; cultural and tribal cultural resources (including historic and paleontological resources); geology and soils; greenhouse gas emissions; hazards and hazardous materials; hydrology and water quality; land use and planning; noise; population and housing; public services; recreation; transportation/traffic; utilities; and service systems, and energy. The EIR concluded that implementation of the proposed 2018 LRDP may have a significant effect on the environment. Mitigation proposed in the EIR would reduce significant impacts to the extent feasible; however, as disclosed in the CEQA Findings (Attachment 4), significant and unavoidable impacts would still occur due to the following:

- **Air Quality Impact 3.2.3.2** - Direct violation of air quality standards related to NO_x emissions during construction and PM₁₀ emissions during operations;
- **Air Quality Impact 3.2.3.3** - Cumulatively considerable net increase in NO_x emissions during construction and PM₁₀ emissions during operations;
- **Air Quality Impact 3.2.3.5** - Direct exposure of sensitive receptors to construction and operational toxic air contaminant emissions;
- **Cultural and Tribal Cultural Resources Impact 3.4.3.1** - Direct alteration of historical resources which causes a substantial change in their significance;
- **Cultural and Tribal Cultural Resources Impact 3.4.4** - Cumulatively considerable loss of historical resources and Tribal Cultural Resources;
- **Population and Housing Impact 3.11.3.1** - Direct and cumulatively considerable inducement of substantial population growth; and
- **Transportation/Traffic Impact 3.14.3.1** - Cumulatively considerable exceedance of traffic level of service standards.

Findings

The Statement of Overriding Considerations (SOC) states that the decision-making body has balanced the benefits of the proposed project against its unavoidable significant environmental effects and determined that the benefits of the project outweigh the adverse effects and, therefore, the adverse effects are considered acceptable. The SOC for the proposed UC San Diego 2018 LRDP is included as part of the CEQA Findings, describing the determination that benefits of the proposed 2018 LRDP outweigh the remaining significant and unavoidable impacts. Mitigation for potentially significant impacts includes both project-level and programmatic mitigation. The 2018 LRDP's Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP), which details mitigation measures and applicable regulatory requirements, is included in the Final EIR. The MMRP will facilitate the implementation and tracking of mitigation measures required by future tiered projects and/or as a campus-wide effort.