

American University's Developing 2011 Campus Plan

Key facts that we would like you – our neighbors – to know regarding our evolving proposals

American University is developing a new campus building plan for the next 10 years that is intended to help fulfill the university's larger strategic goals. A key element in this strategic vision calls for us to enhance the on-campus experience of our undergraduate students, and create an even more distinctive university that is an asset to the community and the city. Central to that goal is to bring our students back onto the campus and out of surrounding neighborhoods.

Equally important to all our proposals, is our desire to remain sensitive to the sentiments of our neighbors. While the implementation of the proposed plan would call for us to build new residence halls and supporting facilities, we want to do so in a collaborative manner that benefits both campus and community.

Here are some of the key facts that we would like you – our neighbors – to know regarding our evolving proposals:

- During the next decade, our undergraduate enrollment is projected to increase by no more than 150 students.
- The projected increase of students living on campus during the next decade would comprise the anticipated return of about 750 students now living independently off campus and the enrollment growth (150 new undergraduates).
- At the suggestion of our neighbors participating in the planning dialogue, five new residence halls are proposed on our core campus to house about 1,160 beds. This is more than the University's initial proposals.
- If fully developed during the next 10 years, the new East Campus facilities (Nebraska parking lot) would house 860 beds – serving about 15 to 20 percent of undergraduates. Eighty percent of undergraduates would be housed on the main campus.
- All proposed buildings will be constructed on existing university land. We are making better use of existing property; there is no expansion into the neighboring community.

The AU Campus Plan is still evolving, and we welcome ideas that benefit both campus and community.

Deliberations regarding key elements of the plan will continue during the summer, both within the administration as well as in consultation with all of our stakeholders. Elements of the plan are subject to adjustment until these deliberations are complete and we draft the final plan for submission to the DC Zoning Commission, most likely sometime this fall. Following a thorough review and hearings by the Zoning Commission, the newly approved Campus Plan would go into effect next year.

All materials regarding the development of the 2011 Campus Plan and from the task force meetings are available to the public on the Campus Plan Web site at <http://www.american.edu/finance/fas/2011-Campus-Plan.cfm>.