



## **2016-2025 Facilities Master Plan Executive Summary**

This report represents the five year review of Victoria College's Facilities Master Plan and implements a plan for the next decade. The Capital Improvement Input Team (CIIT) was formed in October 2016. The team included nineteen members from administration, faculty and staff representative of the campus community. The team's charge was to examine the status of the initiatives in the 2011-2020 Facilities Master Plan and align capital improvements and facility needs to meet the objectives of the 2015-2020 Strategic Plan.

The 2015-2020 Strategic Plan identified Student Success, Community Needs and Institutional Excellence as the Strategic Priority. Several action items were developed and teams have begun working to address each goal to achieve the College's vision and mission. Action items include:

- Improving student success and completion through student engagement and support services
- Enhancing and expanding student learning resources and supports
- Providing and facilitating cultural enrichment
- Providing a welcoming and safe environment
- Providing relevant facilities, technology and professional development

Surveys were administered in person and online, with a concerted effort to reach a diverse constituency of students. Nearly 1,000 student responses were received. Five student focus groups were also conducted, with approximately 110 attendees. CIIT members performed an analysis of current programs, services and facilities, assessed gaps, assigned priority levels to each proposed project and prepared recommendations to be presented to the Facilities Committee of the Board of Trustees. Upon consideration and adoption by the full Board of Trustees, the projects will form the 2016-2025 Facilities Master Plan.

The following areas of impact and corresponding capital projects address remaining initiatives in the current Master Plan and propose additional initiatives and restructuring of services. These projects will provide the infrastructure and capacity to meet current and future student and community educational and training needs.

### **Student Success and Strategic Campus Improvements**

#### **Comprehensive Student Center**

The Center project will combine functions such as a learning commons area, library resources, learning services (i.e. tutoring, testing), student services (i.e. advising, counseling and financial

aid), and student life (i.e. clubs, PTK, student government), along with a bookstore, food services, and other student support into a single, centralized facility.

A key driver of this project is the need to address the physical and functional shortcomings of the current library in context with the change in relationship with UHV's library. Discussions with UHV are moving toward a new arrangement for library services in which UHV will construct a learning commons which will meet the needs of UHV students and also provide VC students with access to full-service library functions. Victoria College will provide targeted library and learning services in the comprehensive student center for the most common needs of VC students.

Another area of concentration is comprehensive enrollment services. This is a long-term need to improve student services by combining functions such as registration, advising, financial aid, testing, payments, and other functions in a single facility that offers students a convenient, positive and efficient experience.

A Learning Commons within the comprehensive student center will include tutoring and other student support programs, along with library resources, testing, and Veterans and career services.

Student Life activities occur in many locations, however the focal point is the Student Center. Physically combining student life offerings with learning services and enrollment services into a single building can create a synergy that improves access to all students.

### **Wayfinding and Campus Beautification**

In conjunction with a campus planning project and comprehensive student center, efforts will also include a comprehensive wayfinding and beautification project. The difficulty students and visitors have in locating buildings, classes, and offices is frequently cited as a challenge. The layout of parking, sidewalks, and roadways can be seen as a deterrent to easy travel throughout campus.

### **Fine Arts Building**

A portion of the Fine Arts building was remodeled a few years ago, specifically the gallery and kiln yard. Private grants were secured to purchase instruments and equipment to replace outdated items and provide an enhanced, modern learning environment. Remodeling of the remaining areas, as well as developing learning and performance space outside of the building will improve functionality and increase teaching and exhibition capacity.

### **Johnson Symposium Center**

The Johnson Symposium Center is the largest performance/lecture venue on the main campus (184 seats) but it has not been refurbished since construction in 1974. Modernizing and appropriately equipping this auditorium will result in improved functionality and increased use for both internal and external constituents.

## **Wireless Infrastructure**

The wireless infrastructure initiative is intended to facilitate students using their own laptops and tablets on campus rather than providing a large number of desktop computers and multiple open computer labs. Additional technology, furniture, and designated spaces are needed to make this initiative fully functional.

## **Program Development and Growth**

### **Industrial Programs Facilities**

The Emerging Technology Complex, Gonzales Workforce Training Center, and Liberty Training Center have addressed many needs of the workforce continuing education and corporate training programs, but the Associate Degree Industrial Programs currently housed in the Wood building on main campus are in need of modernization. Improved, industry relevant equipment and expanded teaching space for these programs will boost program quality and capacity. These programs include process technology, instrumentation and electronics, and welding. There is increased demand by regional business and industry partners for a workforce trained in these high-skilled areas. The college has strong ties to, and works closely with industry partners to identify the most efficient and effective means of addressing this demand.

## **Student and Community Life**

### **Welder Center**

Some performance hall components such as lighting, seating, and flooring are in need of refurbishment to maintain the appeal and functionality of the building. The Annex is in such need of renovation that it currently is only minimally useful to the college. Improvements to both facilities will provide increased capacity and the ability to continue to diversify the types of offerings and performances available to the community.

### **Museum of the Coastal Bend**

The exhibit space at the museum is fully utilized. Additional exhibit space will allow for increased programming and expand the appeal of the museum to more visitors.

### **Sports and Intramural Facilities**

As part of a student life program the college will consider facilities that provide additional options for student intramural and fitness activities.

## **Capital Improvement Input Team**

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