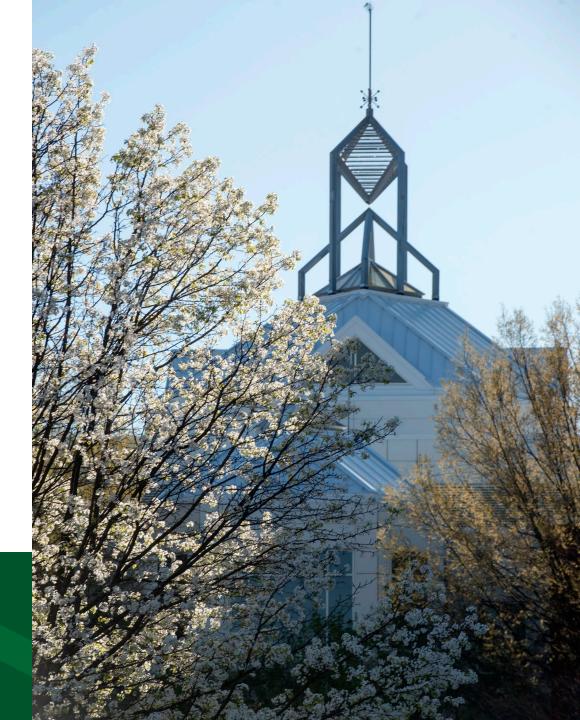


Capital Strategy and Planning

### Mixed-Use Retail Corridor Strategy Plan

**FCCAB Update** 

Tobi Walsh, Assistant Vice President



April, 20, 2023

## **Project Overview**

### FAIRFAX CAMPUS & PROJECT STUDY AREA



and Planning

UNIVERSITY

## **Project Overview**

### Schedule

Tasks	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR
Week of	11/6 11/13 11/20 11/27	12/4 12/11 12/18 12/25	1/1 1/8 1/15 1/22 1/29	2/5 2/12 2/19 2/26	3/5 3/12 3/19 3/26	4/2 4/9 4/16 4/23 4/30
I. Existing Conditions Assessment: University & Surrounding Community						
Project Initiation Document & Data Request Kick-Off Preliminary Stakeholder Meetings (GMU, City, County) Site Visit Strategic Asset Value (SAV) Work Session SAV Work Session SAV Analysis		*		*		
II. Market Analysis, Best Practices & Mixed-Use Trends						
Site / Parcel Analysis Community & Stakeholder Engagement Stakeholder Interviews Focus Groups Multi-Asset Market & Demand Analysis Preliminary Financial Modeling Decision Support & Documentation I						
III. Decision-Making Framework & Implementation Planning Strategy Concept Development Financial Analysis Market Sounding Decision Support & Documentation II				-		*
Project Team Project Leadership Team Senior Leadership Team Steering Committee		*	* * * *	* * *	* * * *	* * * *



## **Stakeholder Interview Outcomes**

### **Key Themes**

#### **Financial Considerations**

- Address faculty / staff housing affordability
- Preserve GMU's credit rating & minimize impact to debt capacity

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#### Student Experience & Campus Life

- Identify private partners to promote experiential learning & applied research
- Reposition campus as a destination
- Transform non-campus core into vibrant hubs
- Ensure an active campus year-round
- Enhance commuter student & visitor engagement on campus
- Cultivate the Mason community & brand

#### **Asset-Specific Recommendations**

- Reposition campus retail to be both GMU & community-facing
- Increase capacity to host / accommodate conferences & events
- Increase investment in campus Athletics facilities
- Explore community & competitive athletic uses for Shirley Gate

#### **Mobility Concerns**

- Change attitudes / behaviors around campus parking
- Increase connectivity within & extending from campus
  - Increase access to other **transit modes**

#### **GMU Stakeholder Interviews Conducted to Date**

- Athletics
- → City / County of Fairfax
- > Facilities & Campus Planning
- > Fiscal Services
- > Office of the Provost
- > Operations & Business Services
- > Strategic Initiatives & Office of the President
- > University Life
- > Major League Cricket
- > Advancement & Alumni Relations\*
- > University Branding\*
- Additional City / County Discussions\*





# **Stakeholder Interview Outcomes**

### **Key Commentaries**

- ✓ Reposition campus as a destination
- ✓ Transform non-campus core into vibrant hubs
- ✓ Enhance commuter Student & Visitor engagement on campus
- ✓ Cultivate the Mason community & brand
- ✓ Change attitudes / behaviors around campus parking
- ✓ Increase connectivity within & extending from campus
- ✓ Increase access to other transit modes



## **Strategic Asset Value Work Session**

#### Educational Outcomes

Institutional Growth Faculty / Staff Recruitment

Campus Extension

**Experiential Learning** 

#### Enrollment Management

Institutional Profile Campus / Community Integration Institutional Presence in Community Campus Gateway

#### **Campus Community**

Visitor Experience Management Retail & Services Student Housing Market Faculty / Staff Housing Market Common Social Experience Campus Interaction with Community

#### Financial Performance

**Revenue Generation** 

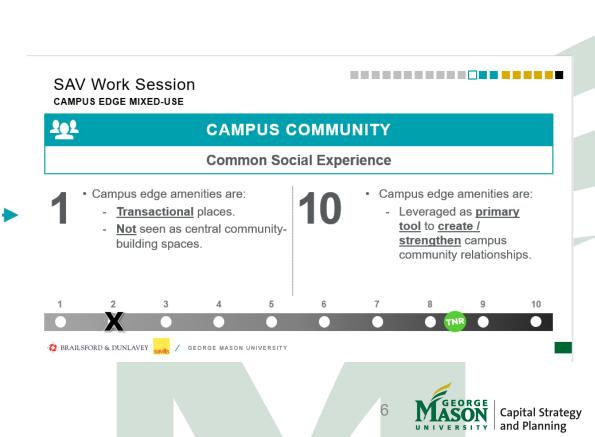
Alumni Support & Engagement

Donor Support & Engagement Risk Tolerance

**Balance Sheet Management** 

#### **Environmental Sustainability**

Sustainable Design & Operations



## **Strategic Asset Value Results**

### **Gap Analysis**

Outcome Category	Strategic Objective	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Gap
Campus Community	Faculty / Staff Housing Market		Х								TNR		8
Enrollment Management	Campus Gateway			X							TNR		7
Campus Community	Common Social Experience			X						T	NR		6.5
Campus Community	Visitor Experience Management				X						TNR		6
Educational Outcomes	Campus Extension					X					TNR		5
Educational Outcomes	Faculty / Staff Recruitment						X				TN	IR	4.5
Enrollment Management	Campus / Community Integration					x				TNR			4
Campus Community	Retail & Services			X				TNR					4
Campus Community	Student Housing Market				X				TNR				4
Campus Community	Campus Interaction w/ Community					x				TNR			4
Educational Outcomes	Institutional Growth							Х			TN	IR	3.5
Financial Performance	Donor Support & Engagement			TNR			X						3
Financial Performance	Revenue Generation							X		T	NR		2.5
Educational Outcomes	Experiential Learning									X		TNR	2
<b>Enrollment Management</b>	Institutional Profile					X		TNR					2
Financial Performance	Alumni Support & Engagement				x		TNR						2
Environmental Sustainability	Sustainable Design & Operations							X		TNR			2
Financial Performance	Risk Tolerance				TNR	X							1
Enrollment Management	Instit. Presence in Community						X TN						0
Financial Performance	Balance Sheet Management				X/ TNR								0

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## **Strategic Asset Value Story**

### **Project Criteria**

#### LOCATION & SCALE OF DEVELOPMENT

- Mason must be intentional in creating a campus edge ecosystem that optimizes and successfully leverages its underutilized assets at a scale that is responsive to campus and community need while supporting institutional growth and diversity.
- Mason must develop a well-defined gateway to communicate its presence and commitment to its mission; strengthen its brand; enhance quality of life; and bridge campus with the surrounding community.
- Mason must promote multi-modal connections on campus and at the campus edge that:
  - + promote **walkability** within, to, and from campus,
  - + change behaviors with respect to **parking** on campus,
  - + lessen a perception of physical **isolation**, and
  - advance shared City / County / University planning objectives.

### TARGET MARKET SEGMENTS

Campus edge assets should support a greater level of **on-campus activity** to enhance the **Mason experience** for and foster **relationship-building** among current and future:

- + students,
- faculty / staff,
- + alumni,
- prospective students,
- community members, and
- + visitors.

#### OUTCOME DRIVERS & PROGRAMMATIC COMPONENTS

The campus edge must establish a cohesive destination of complementary mixed uses for university and community members that creates a sense of place and impresses a memorable experience.

- Campus edge spaces should increase Mason's capacity to diversify opportunities for hosting events (i.e. conferences, summer camps) and other large-scale university / public activities that promote lifelong connections with Mason.
- Campus edge amenities should appeal to faculty and staff to attract a residential population that reinforces a complete neighborhood.
- Campus edge programming must contribute to Mason's university-wide strategic initiatives and campuswide living-learning environment by incorporating on-campus experiential learning opportunities that directly and indirectly support academic programs.



- INSTITUTIONAL WILL & FINANCIAL PARTICIPATION
- Mason must deliver on institutional need while minimizing impact to debt capacity.
- Mason should also pursue strategic financial opportunities to:
  - + diversify revenue sources,
  - maintain affordability of student and faculty / staff amenities,
  - + leverage external partnerships and funding sources, and
  - + ensure self-sustaining operations.
- Mason should invest in environmentally sustainable design and operations to advance Fairfax campus planning objectives to the extent that it can ensure financial viability of lifecycle costs.



## **Mixed-Use Market Analysis**

### Leakage & Gap Analysis







Hotel

Entertainment







Event / Conference Athletic



## **Next Steps**

- 1. Refine Strategic Criteria
- 2. Complete Stakeholder Interviews
- 3. Conduct Focus Groups
- 4. Advance Market Analysis
- 5. Develop Decision Making Framework & Implementation Strategy







Capital Strategy and Planning

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