

SECTION 4.0

FUNDAMENTAL CAMPUS VALUES

The University of Houston has been graced with an original campus plan of the highest quality (1938, Hare & Hare) and several insightful updates of that plan (1966, Caudill Rowlett Scott; 1982, 3D/International; 1998, PGAL; 2006, Cooper, Robertson, and Partners). The latter effort, the 2006 Campus Framework Plan, expanded upon earlier goals of aesthetics and functionality and suggested a tri-partite (development, open space, and transportation) approach to campus growth. The UH Gerald D. Hines College of Architecture's professional research hub, the DesignLab, in its update to the Framework Plan in 2011 proposed further densification of previously developed areas and confirmed likely structured parking locations to support larger user groups in the arts, law, and engineering research areas (<http://www.uh.edu/about/initiatives/master-plan/index.php>).

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As the University implements recent master planning, it will:

- Reinforce, interpret and replicate the courtyards in size, scale, and landscape.
- Create mixed use districts throughout the campus where housing, academics, and entertainment are intermingled.
- Introduce before and after activities into the campus—more housing, food, cultural and entertainment settings, and recreational places.
- Promote street connections, highlight shared facilities, and create development partnerships between neighborhoods and the university.

- Increase structured parking and locate surface parking at the perimeter of the campus adjacent to major roads, reinforce the campus center as a pedestrian world, and facilitate the University community's use of mass transit.

Design values established in earlier campus plans remain relevant:

- Delineate the campus with consistent landscaping around the perimeter. Welcome people to the campus with a system of gateways and portals.
- Embrace the neighborhood by responding to the concerns of appearance, traffic, security, and quality. Understand the types of neighbors: residential; industrial; freeway; and Texas Southern University.
- Perpetuate the remnants of the original campus woods. Replant trees simulating a natural pattern in order to reclaim the wooded character of the campus.
- Preserve architectural character by honoring the notion of a "family of buildings," in which all share a common visual vocabulary and appear related but do not share architectural innovation.