

The University of the District of Columbia
Lamond-Riggs Campus Master Plan
2023-2033
Overview and General Fact Sheet

Executive Summary:

The Lamond-Riggs Campus Master Plan 2023-2033 (the “Plan”) seeks to advance the mission of the University to transform the Lamond-Riggs Campus (formerly the Bertie Backus Campus) into a flagship community college that will meet the educational needs of the residents of the District and region. The Plan features five primary changes to the campus that are key to the transformation :

1. Modernize and upgrade the existing academic building and facilities
2. Construct a new wing to increase programs and provide an open space courtyard for improved green landscaping and sustainable features
3. Strengthen enrollment opportunities and welcome a modest increase in students, faculty, and staff
4. Promote the University’s distinct identity and wayfinding for public use of the campus
5. Implement on-site urban design improvements along the campus frontages on South Dakota Avenue NE, Hamilton Street NE, and Galloway Street NE

Objectives:

The Plan aims to bring the University closer to its goal of being a public higher education model of urban student success through distinct Plan objectives:

- Establish the Lamond-Riggs Campus as a landmark community college hub emerging as an important economic engine for the District of Columbia and the region;
- Create opportunities to enhance the student experience by creating a courtyard environment that will engage the students from both classroom wings and provide an outdoor place for activities;
- Establish efficient space layouts within the campus to provide better access and circulation for students and improve operational effectiveness;
- Accommodate future growth and implementation of new technologies while maintaining a commitment to the environment;
- Reduce parking, recognizing that the University is in an urban setting with direct access to mass transit and may be accessed by multiple modes of transportation;
- Design new lab space for flexible use to accommodate the interdisciplinary nature of education;
- Improve the urban campus to effectively maximize the utilization of open areas with the aim to provide much needed green space and better pedestrian circulation through the new courtyard design; and
- Strengthen the campus’ image and character by promoting the University’s distinct identity through wayfinding and placemaking.

Plan Content:

The Plan contains five sections (“elements”) which articulate strategies that should be implemented at the Lamond-Riggs Campus to more holistically plan for the University’s growth:

1. Campus Development Element

- Outlines the renovation and modernization strategy for the existing academic building and describes a new built addition to provide more office space, academic space, and new student-oriented amenities such as a coffee station, student center, and media center
 - The new addition would create a new student entrance and connect to Wing A to accommodate the anticipated increase in students based on an enrollment goal of 3,000 community college students by 2030
2. Transportation Element
- Seeks to enhance pedestrian safety, leverage the campus' adjacency to the Fort Totten Metrorail Station, reduce automobile dependency, and improve circulation and connectivity in and around campus
 - Proposes a Transportation Demand Management ("TDM") plan for the campus intended to decrease reliance vehicular use and encourage multimodal transportation
3. Sustainability Element
- Strategizes ways for the University to provide additional green roof space and develop more sustainable stormwater management practices, install additional solar panels, and build upon existing sustainability initiatives such as the community garden and the AGPods
4. Community Relations Element
- Establishes a communications plan with the neighboring community and District at large to more effectively address any campus growth-related concerns
 - Describes opportunities for the University to partner with local programs and organizations
5. Campus Character Element
- Describes strategies to improve the campus appearance and identity through distinct campus signage, streetscape improvements to activate South Dakota Avenue NW, and architectural features across campus that will express the flagship identity of the University as a Historically Black College or University