

**Travis County Commissioners Court Agenda Request**

Voting Session\_ August 11, 2009  
(Date)

Work Session \_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

I. A. Request made by: [Signature] Phone # 854-8679  
Signature of Elected Official/Appointed Official/Executive Manager/County Attorney

B. Requested Text:

Approve report on the results of the Travis County Central Campus Needs Analysis and Master Plan Visioning Session held June 23, 2009 including follow-up comments from the Commissioners Court work session on July 23, 2009.

C. Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Commissioner(s) or County Judge

II. A. Backup memorandum and exhibits should be attached and submitted with this Agenda Request (Original and eight copies of agenda request and backup).

B. Please list all of the agencies or officials names and telephone numbers that might be affected or be involved with the request. Send a copy of this Agenda Request and backup to them:

- Christian Smith, Special Assistant to the Commissioners Court 854-9465
- Honorable John K, Dietz, 250th District Court 854-9312
- Honorable Bob Perkins, 331<sup>st</sup> District Court 854-9443
- Honorable Lora Livingston, 261<sup>st</sup> District Court 854-9309
- Honorable Brenda Kennedy, 403<sup>rd</sup> District Court 854-9808
- Honorable Eric Shepperd, County Court-at-Law #2 854-9248
- Honorable David Crain, County Court-at-Law #3 854-9243
- Sheriff Greg Hamilton 854-9770
- Dolores Ortega-Carter, Travis County Treasurer 854- 9365
- Susan Spataro, Travis County Auditor 854-9125
- Cyd Grimes, Travis County Purchasing Agent 854-9700
- Danny Hobby, Executive Manager Emergency Services 854-9367
- Alicia Perez, Executive Manager Administrative Operations 854-9343
- Roger Jefferies, Executive Manager Justice & Public Safety 854-4415
- Sherri Fleming, Executive Manager Health & Human & Veterans' Services 854-4100
- Joe Gieselman, Executive Manager Transportation & Natural Resources 854-9383
- Deece Eckstein 854-9754
- Joe Harlow, Chief Information Officer 854-9666

Roger El Khoury, Director of Facilities Management	854-9661
Belinda Powell, Strategic Planning Manager	854-9106
Leslie Stricklan, AIA, Sr. Project Manager	854-4778
All visioning session participants	

III. Required Authorizations: Please check if applicable:

- Planning and Budget Office (854-9106)
- Additional funding for any department or for any purpose
- Transfer of existing funds within or between any line item budget
- Grant
- Human Resources Department(854-9165)
- A change in your department's personnel (reclassifications, etc.)
- Purchasing Office (854-9700)
- Bid, Purchase Contract, Request for Proposal, Procurement
- County Attorney's Office (854-9415)
- Contract, Agreement, Policy & Procedure

AGENDA REQUEST DEADLINE: This Agenda Request complete with backup memorandum and exhibits should be submitted to the County Judge's Office no later than 5:00 PM on Tuesday for the following week's meeting. Late or incomplete request may be deferred to the next subsequent meeting.



**PLANNING AND BUDGET OFFICE**  
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

314 W. 11th Street  
P.O. Box 1748  
Austin, Texas 78767

**MEMORANDUM**

**August 4, 2009**

**TO:** Members of the Commissioners Court

**FROM:** Belinda Powell, Strategic Planning Manager  
Leslie Stricklan, AIA, Sr. Project Manager

**SUBJECT:** Report on the Internal Visioning Session held June 23, 2009

**Proposed Motion:**

Receive briefing and take appropriate action on the results of the Travis County Central Campus Needs Analysis and Master Plan **Visioning Session** held June 23, 2009.

**Summary and Staff Recommendations:**

On June 23, 2009, Broaddus and Associates, along with their sub-consultants, conducted a Visioning Session with various Elected and Appointed Officials and key staff of Travis County. This session was a part of the initiation phase of the Travis County Central Campus Needs Analysis and Master Plan project. Broaddus and Associates is under contract with Travis County to develop a Needs Analysis and Master Plan for the Central Campus, located in downtown Austin.

The Visioning Session was held at the Legislative Conference Center at the State Capitol Extension. The session was a six hour event attended by over 80 participants including the Broaddus and Associates team. The day started with an introduction of the project team and a brief overview of what the day would hold. Topics discussed over the course of the day included the following:

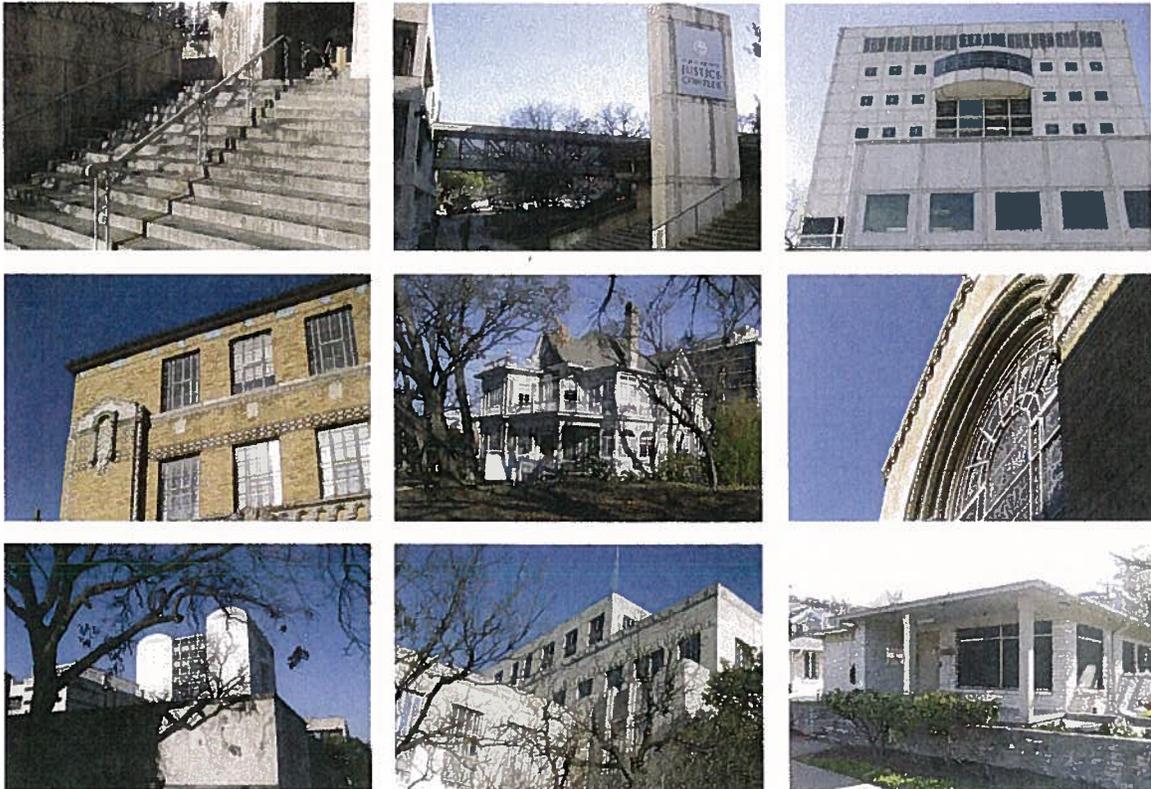
- What Austin will look like in 2030
- The Project Context
- A Government Campus in the City
- Operational Relationships and opportunities
- Building and Site Utilization
- Public Accessibility and community connectivity
- Public Safety and Campus Security
- Information Technology and the Data Center

On July 23, 2009 the Commissioners Court received a presentation from Broaddus & Associates regarding the findings from the Visioning Session. Comments from that work session have been

included in the definitions of the guiding principles included in the attached summary of the visioning session. Staff recommends that the Commissioners Court approve the attached report, and its use for public information purposes regarding the development of the guiding principles for the Central Campus Master Plan as the project moves forward. These guiding principles will continue to be developed and refined as we enter Phase Two of the project, the development of the Master Plan which is scheduled to begin in February 2010.

# TRAVIS COUNTY CENTRAL CAMPUS STUDY

## VISIONING OUTCOMES SUMMARY REPORT JULY 31, 2009



**BROADDUS  
& ASSOCIATES**  
*INNOVATIVE PROJECT MANAGEMENT AND PLANNING*

**RICCI GREENE ASSOCIATES**

**WIGINTON HOOKER JEFFRY  
ARCHITECTS**

**TRAVIS COUNTY**  
**CENTRAL CAMPUS STUDY**  
**VISIONING OUTCOMES SUMMARY REPORT**

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

## COMMISSIONERS COURT

Samuel T. Biscoe, County Judge  
Ron Davis, Commissioner, Precinct 1  
Sarah Eckhardt, Commissioner, Precinct 2  
Karen Huber, Commissioner, Precinct 3  
Margaret Gómez, Commissioner, Precinct 4

## STEERING COMMITTEE

Christian Smith, Project Executive  
Belinda Powell, Project Manager - Strategic Planning  
Leslie Stricklan, Project Manager - Facilities Planning  
John Dietz, Courts Committee Chair  
Bob Perkins, Courts Committee Co-Chair  
Rodney Rhoades, General Government Committee Chair  
Joe Gieselman, General Government Committee Co-Chair  
Roger El Khoury, Facilities Committee Chair  
Joe Harlow, Data Center Chair

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# INTRODUCTION



Photo from Visioning Session



Photo from Visioning Session

1. Identify and Meet Future Space Needs
2. Keep Symbolic Functions Downtown
3. Create Campus Identity
4. Enhance Access to the Campus
5. Improve Campus Connectivity
6. Utilize Technology: Access & Connectivity

Guiding Principles (details on pages 12-13)

## PROJECT OVERVIEW:

After years of anticipation and months of preparation, Travis County has embarked on an 18-month long process to generate a needs assessment and physical plan for their Central Campus in Downtown Austin to respond to anticipated growth over the next 25 years. In the spring of 2009, Travis County engaged a consultant team comprised of Austin-based planning and project management firm Broaddus & Associates, national courts planners Ricci Greene & Associates, and Texas architecture firm Wiginton Hooker Jeffrey Architects to lead the planning efforts.

The Central Campus Study is divided into two phases:

- **The Phase One Needs Assessment** consists of a mostly internal exercise that will determine the County's space needs and requirements. The first phase will be completed in January 2010.
- **The Phase Two Facilities Master Plan** will engage a broader cross-section of County stakeholders, including members of the public, and will develop a physical plan for the central campus. The ten-month phase is slated to begin in February 2010.

## VISIONING SESSION OVERVIEW:

The Visioning Session, held on June 24, 2009, was the first opportunity for the County's key internal stakeholders to participate in the project's process as a group. The intent of the Visioning Session was to elicit their perspectives and to align expectations for the project. Participants in the Visioning Workshop were tasked to share their thoughts about the current and future role of County services and the County's Central Campus in order to collectively develop a set of Guiding Principles for the master plan. These are: Identify and Meet Future Space Needs; Keep Symbolic Functions Downtown; Create Campus Identity; Enhance Access to the Campus; Improve Campus Connectivity; Utilize Technology: Access & Connectivity. These principles are described in further detail on pages 12-13.

Almost 90 people participated in the day-long Visioning Workshop, including Judges, the District and County Attorneys, the District Clerk and Treasurer, County Commissioners, Executive Managers, a number of other County stakeholders, and the Consultant Team. The high level of attendance reflects a strong commitment from the County to make this project a success, and the energy levels were high. The agenda for the Visioning Workshop included a brief introductory presentation, three participatory exercises, and a wrap-up presentation. The participatory exercises included: Austin 2035, the creation of a Context Map, and a thorough discussion of Vision Topics.

This document summarizes the outcomes of the Visioning Session, reporting the goals, objectives, priorities, and critical issues that were described by the collective group. Themes such as accessibility and identity were repeated throughout the day, and it is these shared ideas that are included in this document. This document does not attempt to record each idea or comment that was presented during the Visioning Session; it instead intends to capture the Visions for the Central Campus that were shared by many County participants in order to establish a set of Guiding Principles for the entire project.

## EXERCISE ONE: AUSTIN 2035

To kick-off the Austin 2035 exercise, three participants were selected by the Project Team to read exaggerated narratives that described the hypothetical character of Austin in 2035. Following this introduction, participants were asked to share their perspectives of Austin's future character, and, by default, the future role of the County in this Downtown context.

The following paragraphs are an assembly of participant input during this exercise:

*As it continues to grow, Austin will be both a denser and a more sprawling city in 2035. Downtown will be crowded with residents, workers and visitors, and traffic will be an even bigger problem than it is currently. Out of necessity, a coherent, multi-modal transportation system has been developed and opportunities for telecommuting exist, which somewhat reduces demand for individual vehicle parking downtown.*

*Austin will have greatly improved its parks and recreation systems, becoming one of the most physically beautiful cities in the United States. A focus on public art, architecture and landscaping will have enhanced the city's pedestrian network, improved access to waterways and established a number of pedestrian-only malls. Streetscapes will be shaded and pedestrian friendly, incorporating state-of-the-art accessibility standards, and most parking will be located beneath public parks. Dedicated bicycle paths will have been incorporated throughout the city street and parks network, and thousands of people will commute by bike.*

*Austin will have more diverse museums and cultural venues that keep Austin's Downtown busy throughout the days, evenings and weekends. Streets will be filled with people of all ages and walks-of-life. Public infrastructure will embrace demographic diversity, featuring a range of affordable housing and public services that facilitate harmony across the spectrum of society.*

*Within this context of growth and diversity, Travis County will experience increasing and changing demand for services, some of which are not currently provided. Programs that serve children – such as the learning center and possible child care programs – and the homeless population will become a priority. To improve accessibility to services and reduce demand for parking Downtown, the County will employ web-based technologies and establish one-stop-shop social service centers throughout Austin and surrounding communities.*

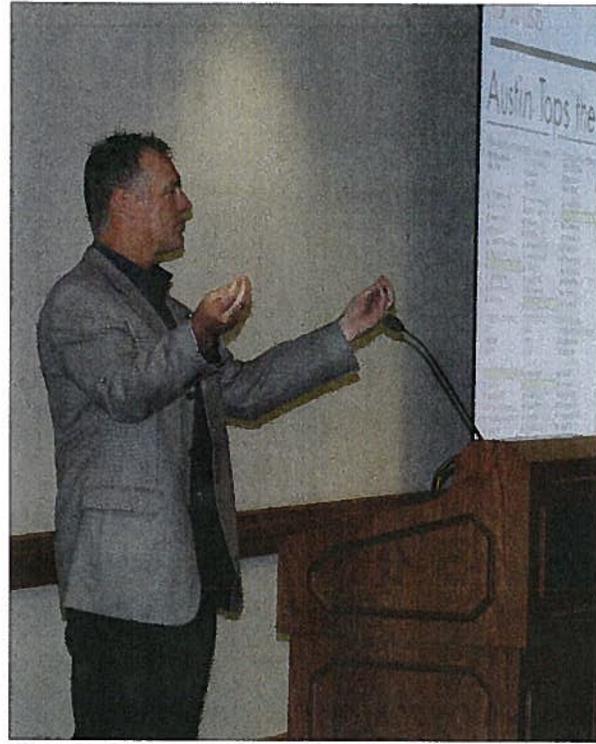
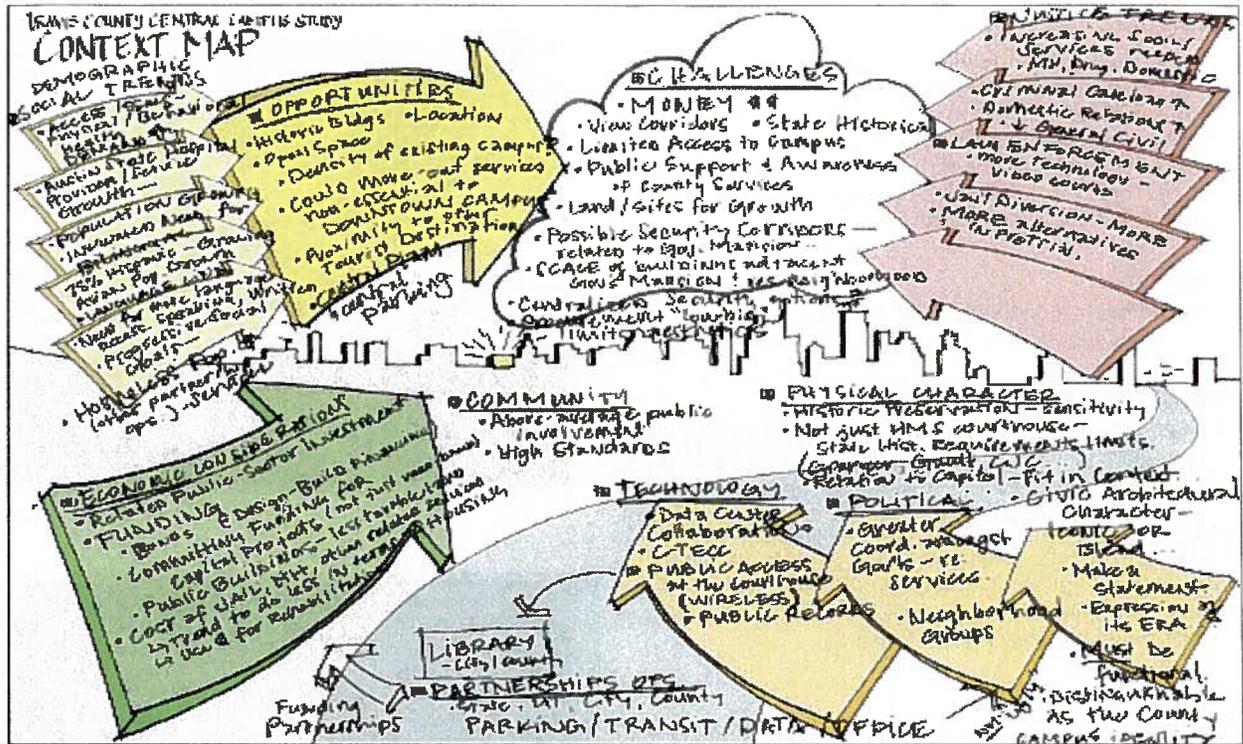


Photo from Visioning Session

*The County will maintain its physical presence Downtown with its Central Campus, which will have a unique identity that reflects its role and importance to civil society. However, as available assets such as land and funding become scarcer, the County will need to partner with the City, State, and other governmental agencies to maximize resources. The Central Campus – as a civic complex – will celebrate the historic character of Wooldridge Square and the Heman Marion Sweatt courthouse – and perhaps utilize the historic courthouse as a museum or community center. County buildings, built with quality and aesthetics in mind alongside functionality, will be welcoming and conducive to interaction and idea sharing: the indoor environment of the buildings will support a high quality of life for employees (and visitors).*

# EXERCISE TWO: CONTEXT MAP



Completed Context Map

The second exercise pulled participants back from blue-sky visioning and into the present day, asking them to consider the existing opportunities, constraints, and trends that make-up the County's context. Below is the categorized list of issues discussed during this exercise.

## DEMOGRAPHIC / SOCIAL TRENDS:

While this exercise is not a quantitative analysis of demographic and social trends (that will come later in the study), we wanted to hear perceptions from the service providers who both manage public agencies but also live in the community. These trends will impact our needs assessment regarding long term projection of service needs and agency staffing.

### Key Issues:

- Growing population
- Increasing access issues related to County Services
- Increasing diversity of demographic: increasing need for bilingual services (35% of Austin is Hispanic), with growing Asian population
- Austin has progressive Social goals
- Demand for physical & behavioral health programs to supplement Austin State Hospital
- Homeless population increasing

## ECONOMIC CONSIDERATIONS:

Raising funds for large capital projects is always a challenge, and there aren't usually large constituencies of support for building court buildings and government offices. However, growth is inevitable and facilities continue to age and become standard. The County needs to creatively look at different funding resources and mechanisms, as well as phasing improvements over time to make capital costs more manageable.

### Key Issues:

- Funding: through bonds, but could consider alternate financing methods (design-build)
- Difficulty committing funding for capital projects – especially projects that are not just need-based
- More public buildings downtown means less taxable land
- Cost of Jail, Mental Health & other related services: trend to do less in terms of housing, spend money on rehabilitation

# EXERCISE TWO: CONTEXT MAP

## COMMUNITY:

Every community is unique, and Austin has several characteristics that need to be taken into account during the development of the Central Campus Plan. There are very active community groups that will have a keen interest in the plan being developed, and sensitivity to their concerns and consultations during the planning process will be a key ingredient of success.

### Key Issues:

- Above-average public involvement
- High standards & expectations

## PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES:

The Central Campus does not exist, and will not grow, in a vacuum. Not only do we need to consider being based within the City of Austin, but the Campus is also proximate to the Governor's Mansion and State Capitol. And finally, ambitious development plans will cost a lot of money. The County should be exploring opportunities for partnering with other government entities to lower costs and gain political support, through sharing of resources and providing other mutual benefits.

### Key Issues:

- City, State, County, University of Texas (AISD, Cap Metro, other agencies)
- Funding partnerships
- Parking / Transit / Data / Office partnerships
- Library – City/County joint library

## PHYSICAL CHARACTER:

While the Central Campus Plan will not prescribe any particular architectural style for new or renovated buildings, there is popular sentiment among the stakeholders that the Campus is currently fragmented and lacks a cohesive physical identity or commonality in style relationship between the buildings, as you might usually find on a college campus. There was strong sentiment that the master planning of the site physically reinforce the identity of the campus and the civic nature of its buildings. Sensitivity to historic preservation in the community

### Key Issues:

- Historic resources not limited to HMS Courthouse – Granger, Gault, CJC, others may also have restrictions
- Consider the County in physical relation to the Capitol, want to fit into the context
- Civic architectural character
- Iconic buildings or contextual – or both
- Buildings should make a statement – expression of its era
- Buildings must be functional
- Buildings should not be ugly
- Campus should be distinguishable as the county – have a campus identity



Photo from Visioning Session

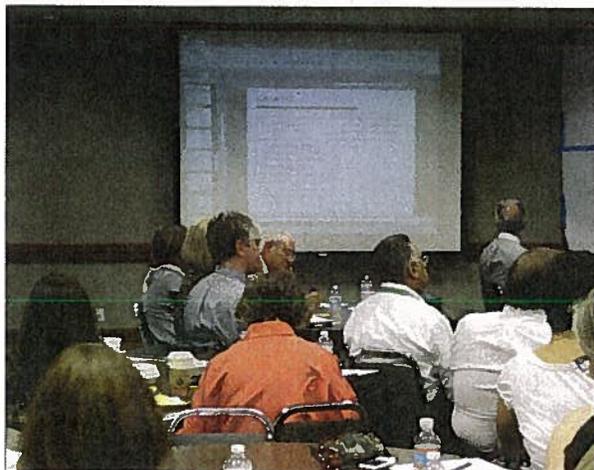


Photo from Visioning Session



Photo from Visioning Session

## EXERCISE TWO: CONTEXT MAP

### TECHNOLOGY TRENDS:

While it is very hard to predict how changes in technology will continue to impact the delivery of public services, we know that they will, and flexibility to respond to unforeseen changes should be a built-in consideration for Campus planning. At a minimum, we know the County's current data center is not up to current standards for security and reliability, and requires immediate attention.

#### Key Issues:

- Data Center collaboration – C-TECC
- Public access at the courthouse (wireless)
- Public records

### POLITICAL TRENDS:

Political factors collectively result from some of the individual considerations already mentioned, which includes building support among community groups and the taxpayers for any proposed major capital investments, and ensuring that key constituencies feel their concerns are being addressed. The planning process that will be employed for this Master Plan will involve extensive public involvement, as well as consultations with policy-makers at County, City and State levels.

#### Key Issues:

- Greater coordination amongst governments related to provision of services
- Neighborhood groups are active and vocal

### JUSTICE TRENDS:

Understanding justice trends is important to the overall campus planning effort, as the courts and related agencies constitute the majority of space utilization in the County's downtown Campus facilities. This study will examine those trends both quantitatively and qualitatively during the process of developing current and projected needs for the courts and other justice-related agencies.

#### Key Issues:

- Increasing need for social services: MH, Drug, Domestic
- Criminal caseload is increasing
- Domestic relations caseload increasing
- General civil caseload is decreasing
- Law enforcement would like to see more technology in the courtrooms – video courts
- Desire for more jail diversion; more alternatives in pre-trial

### OPPORTUNITIES:

The Central Campus already has many assets and resources. We want to use current buildings, which represent millions of dollars of taxpayer investment, to their highest and best use. We also want to take advantage of our prominent location near the Capitol and Wooldridge Square further enhance the prominence and cohesiveness of the Campus.

#### Key Issues:

- Historic Buildings
- Location
- Open Space
- Density of existing campus
- Could move-out services that are non-essential to Downtown Campus
- Campus' proximity to other tourist destinations
- Opportunity for a Central Plant and Centralized Parking

### CHALLENGES:

There are many challenges to developing the "perfect plan" for the Central Campus. In addition to the usual challenge of money that all Counties grapple with, the urban location limits the available prime sites for new development, and the view corridors further exacerbate the usability of prime sites. And assets, such as proximity to the Governors Mansion and low-rise residential areas creates constraints in terms of contextually appropriate architecture, massing and scale.

#### Key Issues:

- Money / Funding
- Capitol View Corridors
- State historical limitations / restrictions
- Public support & awareness of County services
- Land / sites for growth
- Possible security corridors (i.e. Governor's mansion)
- Scale of buildings next to Governor's mansion and residential neighborhood
- Centralized security options
- Procurement historically seems to be "low-bid" – limit to aesthetics

## EXERCISE THREE: VISION TOPICS



Participants Commented on Vision Topics by Post-its

**Six Vision Topics** were pre-selected by the consultant team and steering committee to serve as platforms for more in-depth discussion about the Central Campus Plan. These topics were: Government Campus in the City, Operational Relationships and Opportunities, Building and Site Utilization, Public Accessibility and Community Connectivity, Public Safety and campus Security, and Information Technology and Data Center.

As was anticipated, many of the ideas and themes highlighted in the Key Issues presentations overlapped with those of the other groups. As was mentioned earlier, accessibility and identity seemed to be repeated themes, and, as a result, are featured in the Guiding Principles.

After the topics were introduced, each participant wrote ideas, goals, or statements about the Plan on note-cards and then self-categorized them according to the topic. The hundreds of note-cards, each representing individual ideas, were then grouped according to themes within each topic area.

With the guidance of the Consultant Team, participants then divided into groups to discuss, prioritize and clarify the topic area themes. Each group elected a spokesperson to report the outcomes of the discussion, which helped to cull-down the hundreds of ideas into a few key issues. Therefore, the outcomes were simplified by each working group into what they considered over-arching categories or concerns of highest priority, and these are recorded in the following pages of the summary document.

# EXERCISE THREE: VISION TOPICS

STAY  
DOWNTOWN

Make it  
Someplace  
people want  
to come

Own  
Identity  
as a  
Campus

Out of  
downtown with  
more access by  
road + parking

Comments for Vision Topic 1: Government Campus in the City

## 1. Government Campus in the City:

Given Description: Urban context & design; campus identity, visibility, image, and symbolism; quality of buildings and public space; Wooldridge Square as an element of both the City and the County Campus; importance of the County Campus within overall downtown fabric

### Participant Ideas:

- Ideally keep all symbolic functions Downtown, especially if able to solve parking, access and capacity issues.
- Create recognizable and unifying physical character and presence for Central Campus.
- Build architecturally significant spaces that reflect prominence of use.
- Use open space to hold together campus – increase pedestrian friendliness, even if it means closing streets.
- Employ architectural design guidelines: quality, longevity of materials, aesthetically pleasing.

FUNCTIONALITY,  
FLEXIBILITY,  
BEAUTY

2.  
FRIENDLY &  
OPEN FOR  
WORKERS &  
VISITORS

Technology  
use  
VS  
Location

#2  
All county  
functions  
should be  
co-located.

Comments for Vision Topic 2: Operational Relationships & Opportunities

## 2. Operational Relationships and Opportunities:

Given Description: Interdepartmental working relationships; workflow and communications; critical adjacencies; opportunities for efficiencies; flexibility

### Participant Ideas:

- Recognize critical adjacencies and locate only “necessary” functions Downtown.
- Use technology to increase access to data and data sharing.
- Increase public accessibility to services to decrease transportation requirements.

# EXERCISE THREE: VISION TOPICS

### 3. Building and Site Utilization:

Given Description: Current County land and building assets usage; historic HMS Courthouse; parking needs and capacity; real estate strategy and site acquisition potential

#### Participant Ideas:

- Improve campus connectivity.
- Increase accessibility to the public.
- Be respectful of Historic Courthouse.

MODEL  
OF  
SUSTAIN-  
ABILITY

Keep  
Historical  
Court house

CAMPUS  
SHOULD  
FEEL  
OPEN

EXTEND/  
ENHANCE  
URBAN  
FABRIC

Comments for Vision Topic 3: Building & Site Utilization

### 4. Public Accessibility and Community Connectivity:

Given Description: Finding the right building and where to enter (wayfinding); public service delivery and convenience; access to public transportation; public parking

#### Participant Ideas:

- Provide adequate public parking.
- Signage and wayfinding are as important as parking.
- Work with Cap Metro, CARTS, Dillo, City to provide improve scheduling and stops.
- Work with City to develop bike lanes and provide bike racks.
- Explore opportunity to partner to create a revenue-producing space (office / parking).
- Provide better physical access to all locations. Limit demand with phone, video & web-based services.
- Improve accessibility for parents with children and people with disabilities.
- Create buildings that are welcoming and identifiable.
- Provide discreet security.
- Maximize use of Wooldridge Square and Courthouse as a starting point.

PARKING  
- ADEQUATE FOR  
BOTH EMPLOYEES  
AND VISITORS

WOOLDRIDGE  
SQUARE  
AS  
CENTER  
OF  
CAMPUS

RETAIL SPACE  
ON  
CAMPUS

> increase  
Accessibility  
for Disabled  
Beyond ADA

Comments for Vision Topic 4: Public Access & Community Connectivity

## EXERCISE THREE: VISION TOPICS

Secure movement of prisoners to court.

Courthouse & courtrooms are functional & safe

### 5. Public Safety and Campus Security:

Given Description: Visitor screening, access and control; site security; inmate movement; neighborhood safety; parking security, night security; traffic and pedestrian safety

#### Participant Ideas:

- Separate public from inmates in Downtown Campus.
- Explore option to move jail out of Downtown.
- Secure parking and improve building perimeter security.
- Balance security requirements with perceptions of openness and access.

#5  
Buildings should be as open as possible.

INTEGRATE SECURITY FEATURES & LANDSCAPING  
- NON-THREATENING

Comments for Vision Topic 5: Public Safety & Campus Security

More Virtual Court Hearings

TELE-COMMUTE!  
WHENEVER POSSIBLE

### 6. Information Technology and Data Center:

Given Description: County voice, data and TV systems; network and data storage trends (virtualization); Data Center location parameters; courtroom technology

#### Participant Ideas:

- Employ virtualization of workspaces to provide flexibility, find efficiencies and improve functional relationships.
- Provide more and more flexible technology.
- Improve wireless connectivity.
- Share resources: physical (hardware) and software (database).
- Respect and establish inter-local agreements: keep critical information separated.
- Remember that technology is not the answer to everything: face to face access is still important.

6.  
USER FRIENDLY DATA, MEDIA  
EASY INFO & WAYFINDING

Information Booths  
- Notary  
- Wayfinding  
- Translation

Comments for Vision Topic 6: Information Technology & Data Center

# VISIONING OUTCOMES: END OF DAY SUMMARY



Photo from Visioning Session

**At the end of the day**, after hours of participant input and discussion, the consultant team culled together several key themes and presented them back to the group as a closure. These four areas were further refined into the Guiding Principles presented on the following pages.

## LOCATION OF FUNCTIONS

- Symbolic value to keeping iconic functions Downtown (to emphasize importance of County services) if able to solve parking & capacity issues
- Could move specialty courts & programs to more accessible or other locations
- Data Center continued operation critical, location flexible

## PHYSICAL CAMPUS CHARACTER

- Prominent buildings reflective of important usage/purpose
- Recognizable & distinguishable from rest of City
- Architecturally harmonious & welcoming
- Campus held together by open & pedestrian-friendly spaces (both inside & out)
- Build upon existing assets – historic HMS & Wooldridge Square

## ACCESS RE: HUMAN ELEMENT

- Wayfinding is as important as parking (and parking is really important)
- Public access to facilities & parking is critical
- Balance security requirements & openness/welcoming character
- Spaces to increase & encourage interdepartmental engagement
- Community function spaces & after-hours usage

## ACCESS RE: TECHNOLOGY

- Access to different kinds of technology (video, audio, web, data, security)
- Maximize availability & usage of technology (public & staff)
- Leverage technology for more flexibility: opportunity to physically-share spaces, resources, decrease cost, etc.



Photo from Visioning Session



Photo from Visioning Session



Photo from Visioning Session



Photo from Visioning Session



Photo from Visioning Session



Photo from Visioning Session

# GUIDING PRINCIPLES

The **Guiding Principles** were developed in weeks subsequent to the Visioning Session to further distill the information and perspectives received into performance criteria and priorities. While these Principles are not written in stone, and are subject to further refinement by the collective judgment of the County and consultant team as the project progresses, it provides an invaluable foundation for collective planning and building consensus and commitment to the outcome of the Downtown Campus Master Plan.

The following Guiding Principles are organized around 6 major topical areas and address the primary elements and priorities raised during the Visioning Session.

## 1. Identify and Meet Future Space Needs.

- Ensure that the 25 year space needs will be met.
- Address the highest and best use of the County's resources (real estate, buildings, finances).
- Phase implementation to correspond with demand for space in a financially prudent and responsible manner.
- Improve facilities to support enhanced productivity and delivery of County services.

## 2. Keep Symbolic Functions Downtown.

- Maintain a Central Campus that holds Symbolic Functions.
- Locate functions that are non-essential to Central Campus elsewhere.
- Ensure that critical adjacencies are maintained.
- Prioritize with regard to financial resources.

## 3. Create Campus Identity.

- Create a campus character that is recognizable and distinguishable from the City and other surroundings.
- Establish unifying architectural and landscaping design guidelines that feature long-lasting materials and elements of sustainability.
- Build upon and recognize the cultural and historic value of existing assets, such as the Heman Marion Sweatt Courthouse and Wooldridge Square.
- Ensure that spaces (interior and exterior) support high quality of life for employees and visitors, encouraging interdepartmental engagement and idea exchange.

## 4. Enhance Access to the Campus.

- Provide secure and adequate parking for judges, employees, and visitors.
- Encourage use of alternate modes of transportation.
- Balance security requirements with perceptions of openness and a welcoming character.
- Include multi-program spaces that can function for community and after-hours use.
- Coordinate with governmental agencies to provide clear signage and routes for getting to campus.
- Collaborate with governmental planning partners to improve pedestrian and open space networks throughout Downtown.

## 5. Improve Campus Connectivity.

- Make campus pedestrian-friendly.
- Establish comprehensive wayfinding throughout the campus.
- Ensure that accessibility standards are met or exceeded.
- Separate inmate, judge, and public circulation to enhance security.

## 6. Utilize Technology: Access & Connectivity.

- Promote and utilize different kinds of technology: video, audio, web, data, security.
- Maximize the availability and usage of technology amongst the public and the staff.
- Leverage technology for increased flexibility: physically share spaces and resources to decrease cost and improve efficiencies.

## GUIDING PRINCIPLES

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- 1. Identify and Meet Future Space Needs**
  - 2. Keep Symbolic Functions Downtown**
  - 3. Create Campus Identity**
  - 4. Enhance Access to the Campus**
  - 5. Improve Campus Connectivity**
  - 6. Utilize Technology: Access & Connectivity**

# CONCLUSIONS



Aerial View of Downtown Campus

**The Visioning Session is a critical first step** for the Central Campus Study, as it builds consensus amongst County stakeholders and sets forth the direction for the entire project early within the process. The Guiding Principles, which were generated in this collaborative forum, will become the compass for both phases of the Plan. At any point within the process, these six principles can be referenced to clarify intent and guide decision making.

In the upcoming months, the Consultant team will be meeting individually with the courts and county agencies to determine specific facilities growth requirements, which will be compiled into a final Phase One Need Assessment for the Central Campus. Once needs have been determined, the County will proceed with the Phase Two Central Campus Master Plan. The master plan will continue the earlier collaborative process by expanding the discussion to include a broader cross-section of County stakeholders.