



## SECTION 4

# LANDSCAPE DESIGN GUIDELINES

In addition to the graphic landscape master plan, this report provides a set of tools to support the University's path to preeminence. The second tool, the following Landscape Design Guidelines, articulates a cohesive approach to the campus landscape—its edges, spaces, corridors, natural systems, planting, and other landscape elements. The landscape guidelines presented here are also incorporated into the Campus Design Guidelines along with the Typologies presented in the next section. Six overarching principles inspired by the campus landscape vision provide a framework for these landscape guidelines.



## LANDSCAPE DESIGN GUIDELINE PRINCIPLES

1. Greet Gainesville with a More Welcoming and Integrated Urban Experience
2. Redesign Campus Roadways to Support and Encourage All Modes of Travel
3. Integrate All New Campus Projects into the Campus Fabric, Advancing Pedestrian and Bike Connections and Campus Spaces
4. Celebrate the Ecological Setting of the Campus, Embracing Sustainable Goals and LID Practices
5. Reflect UF's Ecological Setting in its Plant Materials, Promoting Simplicity and Maintainability in Planting Design
6. Unify the Campus with Comprehensive Standards for Hardscape and Furnishings

# Greet Gainesville with a More Welcoming and Integrated Urban Experience

The 2016 Strategic Development Plan (SDP) outlines a path to preeminence for UF through the transformation of its relationship with its host city, Gainesville. A key finding of the SDP was that the University's growth should be concentrated within the eastern third of the campus where new development would spark Downtown collaboration and development and benefit adjoining neighborhoods. The Landscape Master Plan seeks to support this effort through the enhancement of the spaces and connections within the eastern third of the campus and its campus edges, as well as the improvement of all of the University's edges.

## RECOMMENDATIONS:

### *UF's edges should be welcoming and attractive, punctuated by inviting portals*

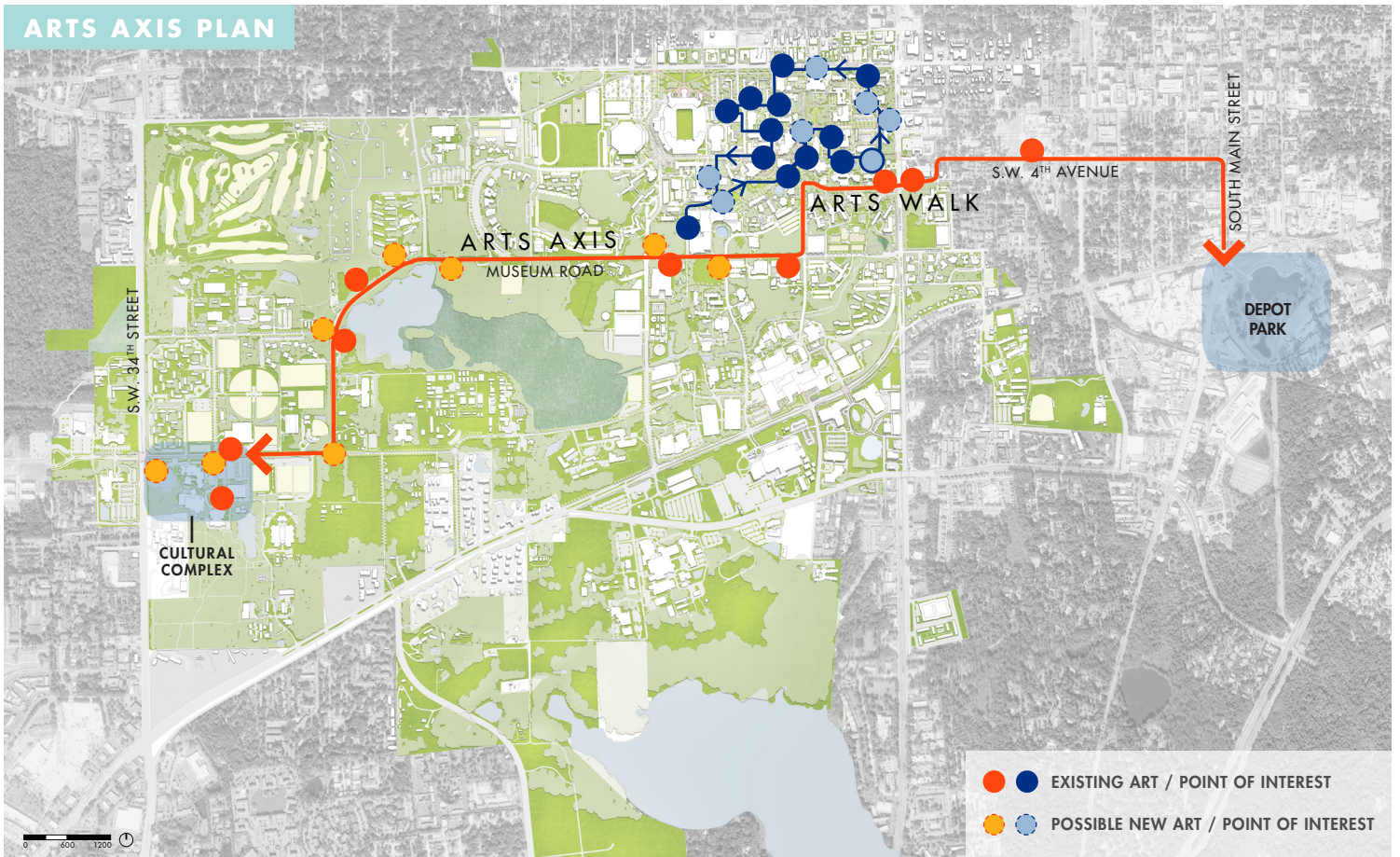
Though the edges of UF's 2,000-acre campus are varied in character, they should all feel well-maintained and welcoming. At the eastern third where the campus borders walkable commercial areas and neighborhoods, the inclusion of a shared-use path within the University's front lawns is an important gesture to welcome Gainesville residents into the campus. Incorporating a family of gateways to mark vehicular and pedestrian portals clarifies the points of entry into the campus and announces that you are welcome here. (See [Section 5, Campus Edges and Campus Gateways Typologies](#) and [Section 6, Priority Project \(5\) Newell Gateway](#))



The Newell Gateway site today and after enhancement



## ARTS AXIS PLAN

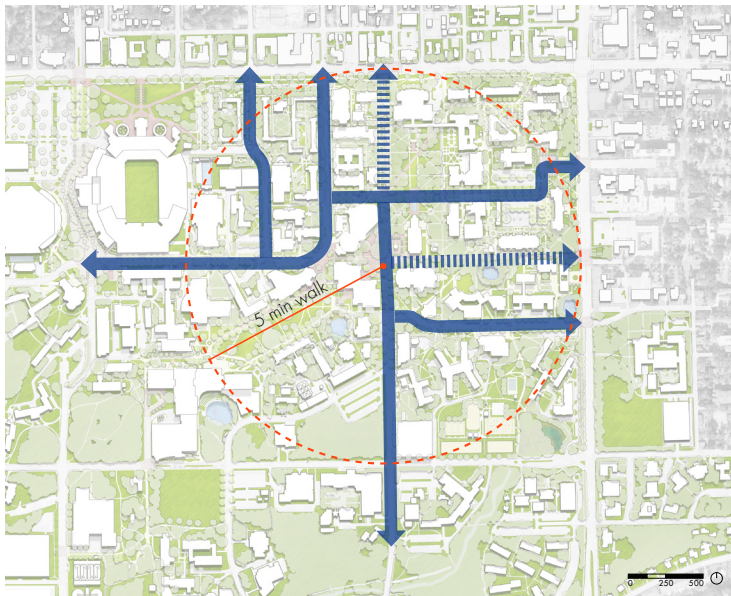


### ***The campus core should become a pedestrian realm, reducing the impact of vehicular ways, vehicles, and scooters***

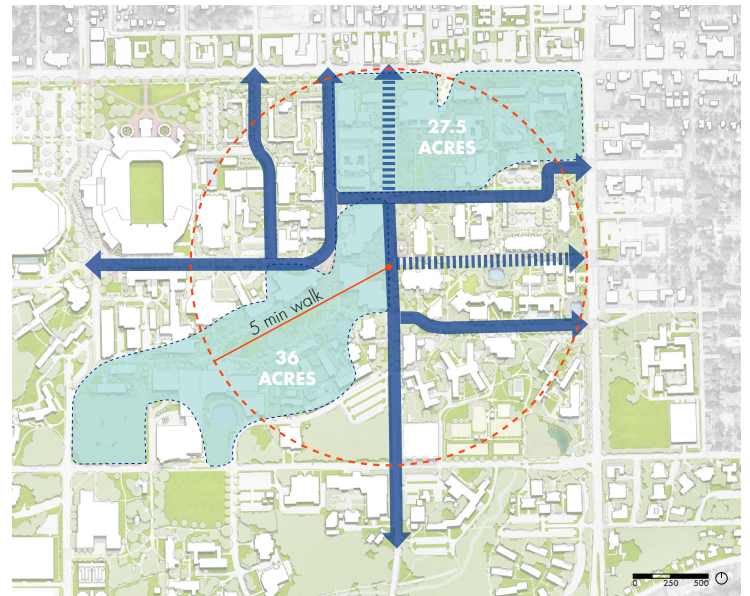
Situated adjacent to the walkable urban fabric west of downtown Gainesville, it is important that the public be invited to walk into the campus and explore its public spaces safely and comfortably. After passing through the pedestrian gateways of the campus, visitors should feel welcomed to ramble through the campus core discovering its landscape and architectural treasures. The walkable section of the campus's portion of the Arts Axis, The Arts Walk, will enhance the visitor's experience of the campus core. *(See Arts Axis Plan above)* Where visitors have a specific destination, a clarity in the design of the landscape along with wayfinding elements should guide their passage through the campus core. *(See Section 6, Priority Project (2) Union Walk)*

*The purely pedestrian realm of the Plaza of the Americas*

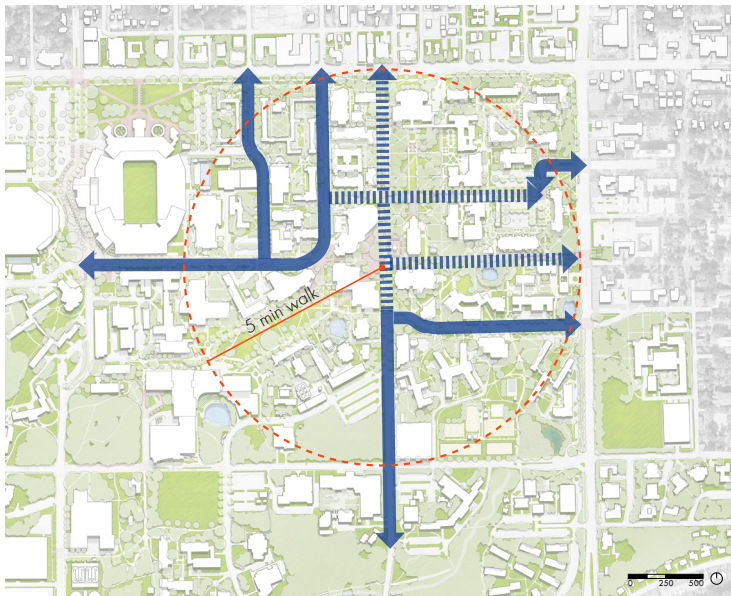




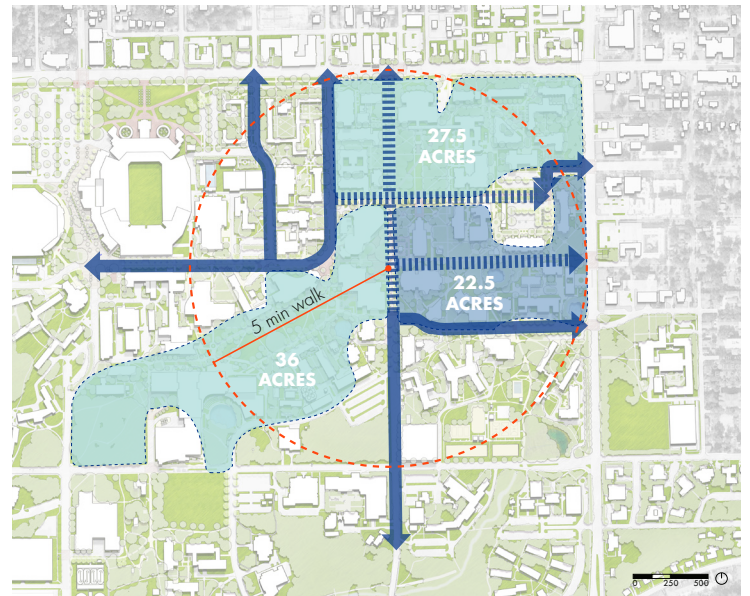
Existing Vehicular Circulation



Existing Pedestrian Only Areas



Proposed Vehicular Circulation

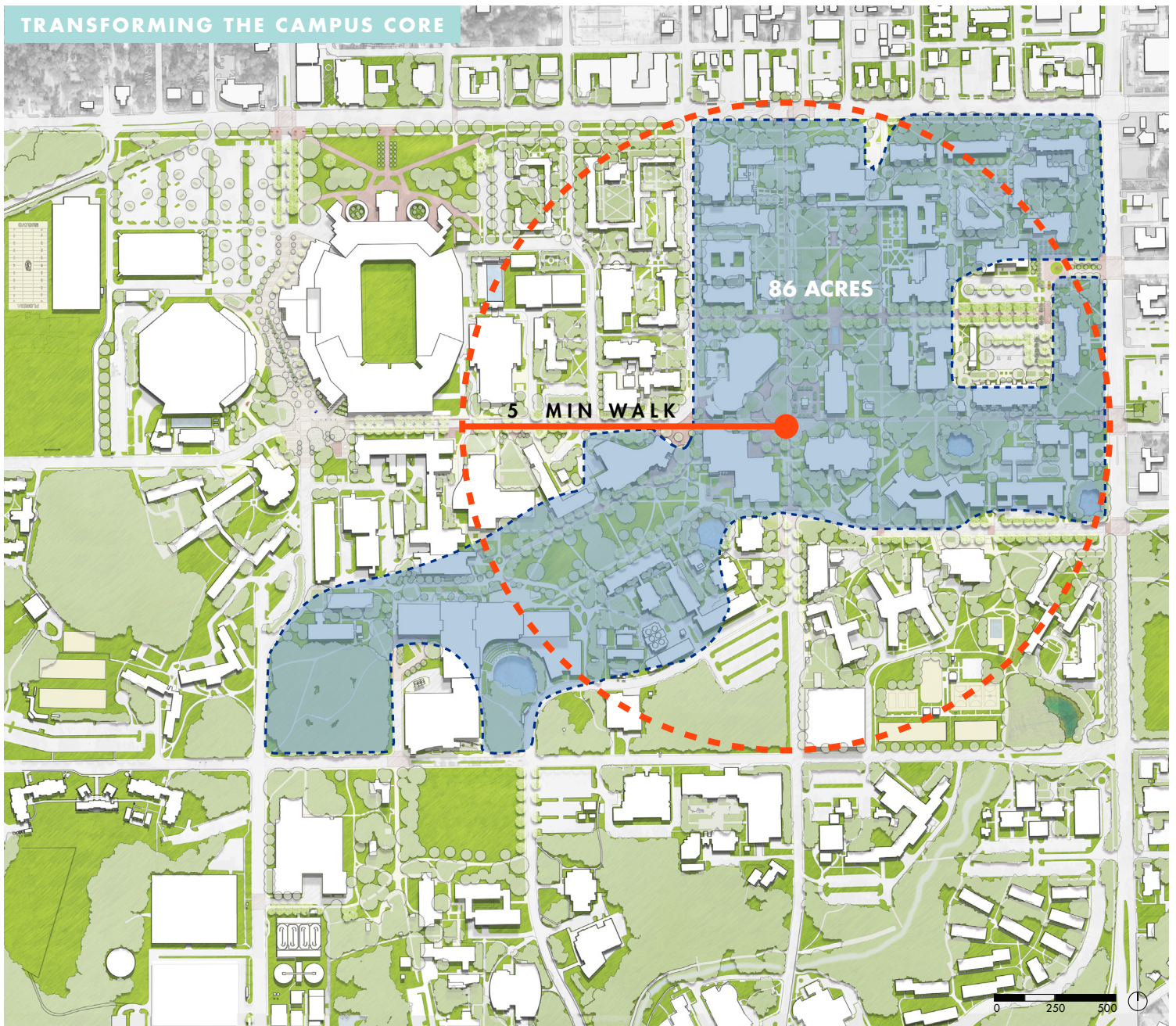


Proposed Pedestrian Only Areas

- LEGEND**
- VEHICULAR (ALL TYPES)
  - PEDESTRIAN (+SERVICE / EMERGENCY)
  - EXISTING MAIN PEDESTRIAN ZONE
  - POTENTIAL PEDESTRIAN ZONE

***The campus's significant open spaces, the Plaza of the Americas and the Reitz Union Lawn, should be interconnected with the pedestrianizing of Union Road and Newell Drive between University Avenue and Inner Road***

The design of the CSE and Marston Science Library and the large portal between them is a nod to the importance of the interconnection of the campus's two significant open spaces. However, the traffic along Union Road and Newell Drive remain as significant obstacles to that connection. The elimination of vehicular traffic, save for emergency and authorized service vehicles along these routes, the replacement of the roadway with a curbsless, brick-paved broad walkway, and the elimination of the redundant sidewalks will complete the connection of these two grand spaces.



***The campus core should be transformed into a pedestrian realm***

The conversion of Union Road and Newell Drive north of Inner Road to pedestrian ways and the subsequent connection of the Plaza of the Americas with the Reitz Union Lawn will be a transformative step for the campus core. With this connection, the campus's two separate pedestrian zones centered on the Plaza of the Americas or the Reitz Union Lawn will be united to form a pedestrian realm of 86 acres, a size that is notable among American collegiate campuses. (See *Section 6, Priority Projects (2) Union Walk and (3) Tower Plaza*)

***The Reitz Union Lawn should be enhanced to become a celebrated, high-quality landscape as exemplified by the Plaza of the Americas***

As a large campus open space (See Section 5, Major Open Spaces Typology), the Reitz Union Lawn should remain open at eye level, with views unbroken by shrub masses, small flowering trees, and low-branching large trees. Additional live oaks and other large deciduous canopy trees should be planted along the edges of the space to supplement the existing grand oaks in the space. The walkway system should be simplified with individual walkways appropriately sized to accommodate pedestrian and bicycle traffic. (See Section 6, Priority Projects (7) Reitz Union Lawn – East and (8) Reitz Union Lawn – North)



*The recently renovated Plaza of the Americas*

***The impact of UF’s most memorable spaces—the Plaza of the Americas and a renovated Reitz Union Lawn—should be enhanced with welcoming connections and entries***

The Plaza of the Americas and a renovated Reitz Union Lawn should not be viewed as singular gems within the campus landscape, rather, the connections to and from these spaces should be of a similar quality so as not to detract from these major campus open spaces. As these connections are typically between buildings and often pass through areas that provide service access, careful design is required to accommodate service without losing sight of the space’s major function as a pedestrian connection. (See Section 5, Service Areas Typology)



*A welcoming connection in the core campus; An unwelcoming connection to the Reitz Union Lawn at Williamson Hall*



***A network of spaces should be created emanating from the Plaza of the Americas and the Reitz Union Lawn***

The heritage of intimate courtyards at UF makes a major contribution to the appeal of the campus core. Ensuring that these courtyards are attractively connected with each other, with other small campus spaces, and with the major campus spaces of the Plaza of the Americas and a renovated Reitz Union Lawn will create a network of open spaces that will enhance the value of all of the spaces. *(See Section 6, Priority Project (11) Emerson Courtyard)*



*A renovated Emerson Courtyard*

***Secondary pedestrian routes through the eastern third of the campus should be enhanced to create routes that are consistently attractive and legible***

The network of secondary connections passing through the blocks of the campus core are heavily used by the UF community. Two routes, the one beginning at Matherly Hall and ending at Beaty Towers and a second beginning at the west side of Smathers Library and ending at Parking Garage 4 have segments of campus beauty interspersed with moments of unsightly and unplanned awkwardness. It is important, given the role of these connections in interconnecting the campus and promoting pedestrian movement, that they be shaded, welcoming and attractive, well-illuminated, continuous, direct, accessible to all for their entire length, and where possible, paired with LID practices. New construction adjacent to these corridors should enhance rather than compromise these connections. *(See Section 5, Secondary Pedestrian Ways Typology)*

***Selected routes and spaces should incorporate LID practices to model responsible stewardship of the environment***

As an institution of higher education, UF should demonstrate responsible and creative techniques and practices to reduce the campus's impact on the environment. Curbside stormwater planters, various campus spaces, and secondary walkways present opportunities to educate the community about LID practices, recall the original campus watersheds and watercourses, and ultimately improve the water quality of the campus creeks and Lake Alice. *(See Section 6, Priority Project (9) Stadium Road)*

# Redesign Campus Roadways to Support and Encourage All Modes of Travel

The promotion of alternate modes of travel on campus is key to the enhancement of the campus community. The opportunities to interact with fellow community members and/or the campus environment are increased by alternatives to automobile use, and both of these interactions create an integrated and more vibrant campus.

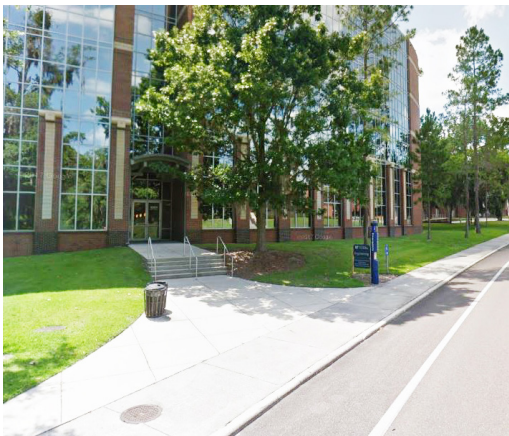
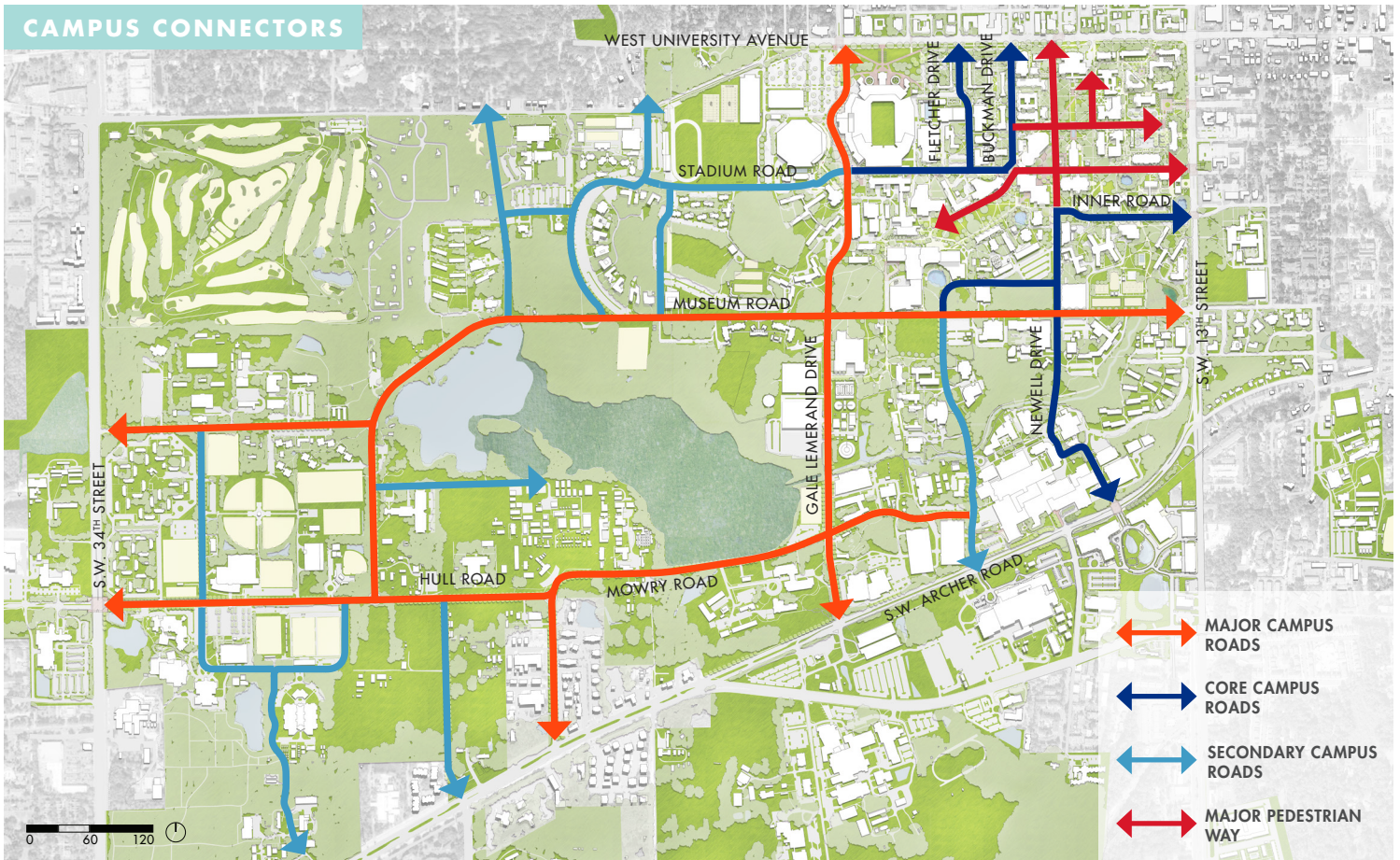
## RECOMMENDATIONS:

*A unified approach to campus roadways should provide guidance for widths of travel for all modes*

Campus roadways should incorporate a lane width of 10-12' for roadways depending on their use by buses, 5' for bicycles (4' where space is inadequate), and 8' for pedestrians (6' where space is inadequate). Where possible, a planting and furnishings zone of 8' (6' where space is inadequate) is to be provided between the back of curb and the pedestrian way. *(See Section 5, Major Campus, Core Campus, and Secondary Campus Road Typologies)*



*An appropriately dimensioned Museum Road at the UF Bookstore; An appropriately scaled Buckman Drive*



The activating entry of Hernandez Hall on Buckman Drive; The non-activating entry of the Engineering Building on Center Drive

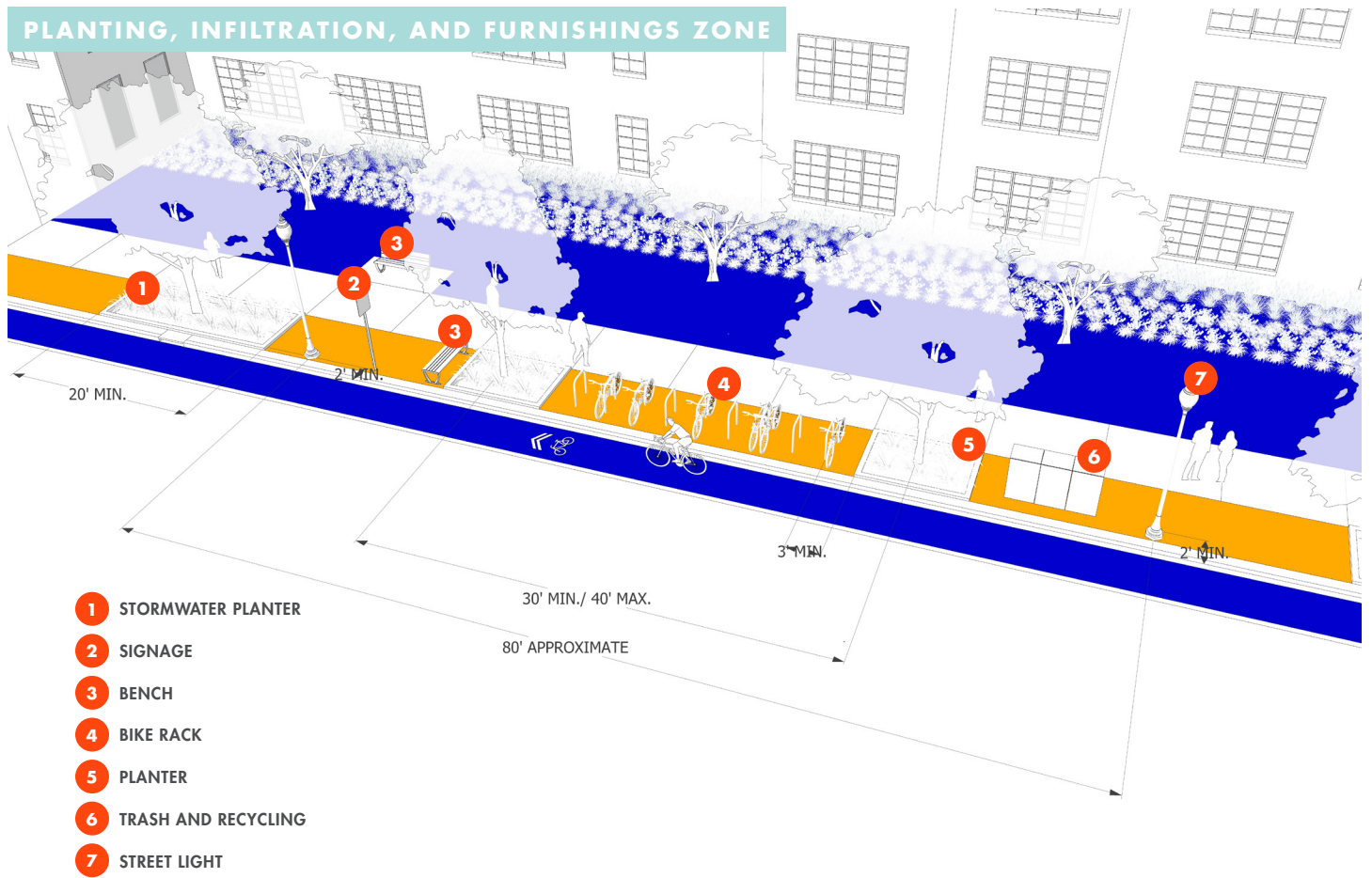
***New buildings should adhere to the appropriate building setbacks for the adjacent campus roadways to ensure a consistent quality of spaces along the corridor, accommodate planting, infiltration, and furnishings, and provide for the comfort of pedestrians and bicyclists***

Building setbacks for campus roadways take their cue from historic and existing building setbacks that have established the character for the campus. Adherence to these setbacks will give a coherence to the corridor and establish the desired urban or rural image for the road. An adequate setback is necessary to accommodate the planting and growth of roadway trees and to provide the space needed for pedestrian comfort when the walkway is adjacent to a busy vehicular corridor. The impact of the encroachment of buildings or service areas into this zone is apparent along Center Drive where the Biomedical Sciences, Basic Science Building, and a loading dock reduce the pedestrian zone to an uncomfortably narrow width and preclude the planting of roadway trees. *(See Section 5, Major Campus, Core Campus, and Secondary Campus Road Typologies)*

***New buildings should address adjacent campus roadways with welcoming entries***

On major campus roadways, the most active face of the building may be positioned at the rear of the building where it will activate new campus spaces. However, the design of the building should also include a welcoming and activating entry to address the roadway, reinforcing the roadway corridor as a space for pedestrians as well as vehicles.

## PLANTING, INFILTRATION, AND FURNISHINGS ZONE



### ***Campus roadways should provide zones for planting, infiltration, and furnishings to promote LID practices and provide for the comfort of pedestrians and bicyclists***

Where possible, roadways shall incorporate an 8' (6' where space is inadequate) planting, infiltration, and furnishings zone at the back of curb in addition to the planting zone to be provided at the back of sidewalk. The planting, infiltration, and furnishings zone will accommodate the planting of street trees and low plantings, the collection of stormwater, and the organization of furnishings and signage contributing to the clarity of the streetscape and the comfort of all pedestrians. *(See Section 6, Priority Project (9) Stadium Road)*



*The planting and furnishings zone along Buckman Drive; The lack of a defined furnishings zone along Stadium Road*

***Campus roadways should adhere to the tree master plan to provide consistency and clarity to campus corridors***

A consistent line of street trees at the roadway edge provides shade for the comfort of bicyclists and pedestrians, promoting non-vehicular movement on campus. A line of trees also provides the environmental benefit of reducing the impact of heat gain on the pavement. The presence of street trees also calms traffic, promoting safety for all modes of travel. The tree master plan proposes tree species for the types of roadways as well as pedestrian ways on campus. *(See Principle 5)* Along roadways where space allows, additional flowering accent trees will serve to add interest to the corridor's landscape at the back of the sidewalk. Given the disadvantages of monoculture planting, the plan suggests a variety of species for the various corridors.



*A heritage street tree; Curbside stormwater planters*

***Campus roadways should incorporate LID practices where space allows and where the practices can make a real contribution to improving water quality***

Infiltration zones at the back of curb should be incorporated on roadways where space allows. Incorporation of such a zone on Stadium Road recalls the original drainage pattern of this portion of the campus culminating in Reitz Ravine. Other roadways will also lend themselves to the incorporation of infiltration zones, either within the planting and furnishings zone or through the integration of planted bioswales at the edges of the roadway. *(See Section 6, Priority Project (9) Stadium Road)*

***Campus utilities should be placed where the planting and growth of trees is not compromised***

Utilities should be placed beneath campus roadbeds. Where utilities must leave the road corridor, they should be routed to minimize their impact on existing vegetation and installed at a depth to minimize their impact on future plantings.

***Campus roadways should incorporate wayfinding signage to present a welcoming face to visitors***

An introduction to a comprehensive wayfinding system should be incorporated into the vicinity of campus gateways to welcome visitors to the campus and provide a visual cue as to how they will be guided through the campus. Strategic placement of elements of the system guiding visitors to civic destinations will reduce travel on campus, minimize signage clutter, and contribute to the welcoming nature of UF in the minds of its visitors. The system will be developed in collaboration with the City of Gainesville, resulting in a coordinated signage aesthetic, further linking the City to the campus and strengthening the welcoming experience for the visitor.

# Integrate All New Campus Projects Into the Campus Fabric, Advancing Pedestrian and Bike Connections and Campus Spaces

The focus of future campus development on the eastern third of the campus will require careful site planning as new facilities are inserted between existing structures. Where significant grade changes occur across a proposed site, important aspects of a successful campus—universal access, the flow of campus spaces and connections, and LID practices—may not be able to be achieved within a limited project area. Project areas should reflect the amount of space needed to fully integrate the new facility into the existing campus fabric and to contribute to the realization of proposed connections and spaces.

## RECOMMENDATIONS:

***Project limits for new building projects should ensure that new projects are fully integrated into all existing conditions***

The varied terrain of the UF campus presents challenges to integrating buildings within built campus spaces. Building finish floor elevations need to be established to ensure universal access at the building's entry points without creating uncomfortable relationships with adjacent buildings, spaces, and walkways. The impact of a proposed project should be understood early in the design process, and where necessary, the project limit should be expanded as needed to ensure that the new construction does not create unsatisfactory relationships at the edge of the site such as large retaining walls and guardrails, steep slopes, confined pedestrian corridors, intrusive service areas, and ramps in lieu of sloping walkways.



*The welcoming campus connection adjacent to Hernandez Hall's service areas; The Broward Dining Center's incomplete integration into its site*



*The secondary corridor east of Broward Dining; The proposed enhancement of the corridor with improved accessibility*

***New building projects should enhance existing corridors and existing campus spaces***

Secondary walkways between buildings are used extensively by the UF community when quickly navigating the campus. It is important that new building projects enhance these corridors—improving accessibility, simplifying connections, enhancing views, enriching and shading the corridor with planting, and incorporating LID practices. New projects should consider the value of these connections when locating service areas for the building, ensuring that a new service area does not undermine the experience of a corridor. New building projects should support existing connections and campus spaces, enhancing and activating them with building entries and adjacent interior common spaces.

***New building projects should advance the campus vision, expanding the network of corridors and campus spaces***

Campuses are enriched by a thriving network of campus spaces and pedestrian connections. New building projects should be designed to shape new campus spaces where they can be activated by both new and existing buildings. The creation of open space for the unification of related buildings, coupled with paved gathering spaces, is a valuable addition to the campus. New buildings should create spaces that contribute to the network of open space and extend the network of pedestrian ways and shared-use paths to promote multi-modal travel on campus.

*The new campus space created by Heavener Hall*



# Celebrate the Ecological Setting of the Campus, Embracing Sustainable Goals and LID Practices

The University of Florida campus is a place of great beauty and ecological diversity. Although some of the natural communities on site have been altered over time, the native landscape ecology is to be admired and should be celebrated. Conservation areas should remain managed and protected and the landscape of the built environment should become a reflection of the native systems of North Central Florida. Embracing the campus ecology must be a part of the University's educational mission, including the stewardship of its own environment, reflected by embracing sustainable principles of design, encouraging access to natural areas of the campus, and restoring UF's native landscape communities.

## RECOMMENDATIONS:

***The natural areas on campus—woods, creeks, ravines, and ponds—should be protected, stabilized, managed, and enhanced as native habitats for flora and fauna***

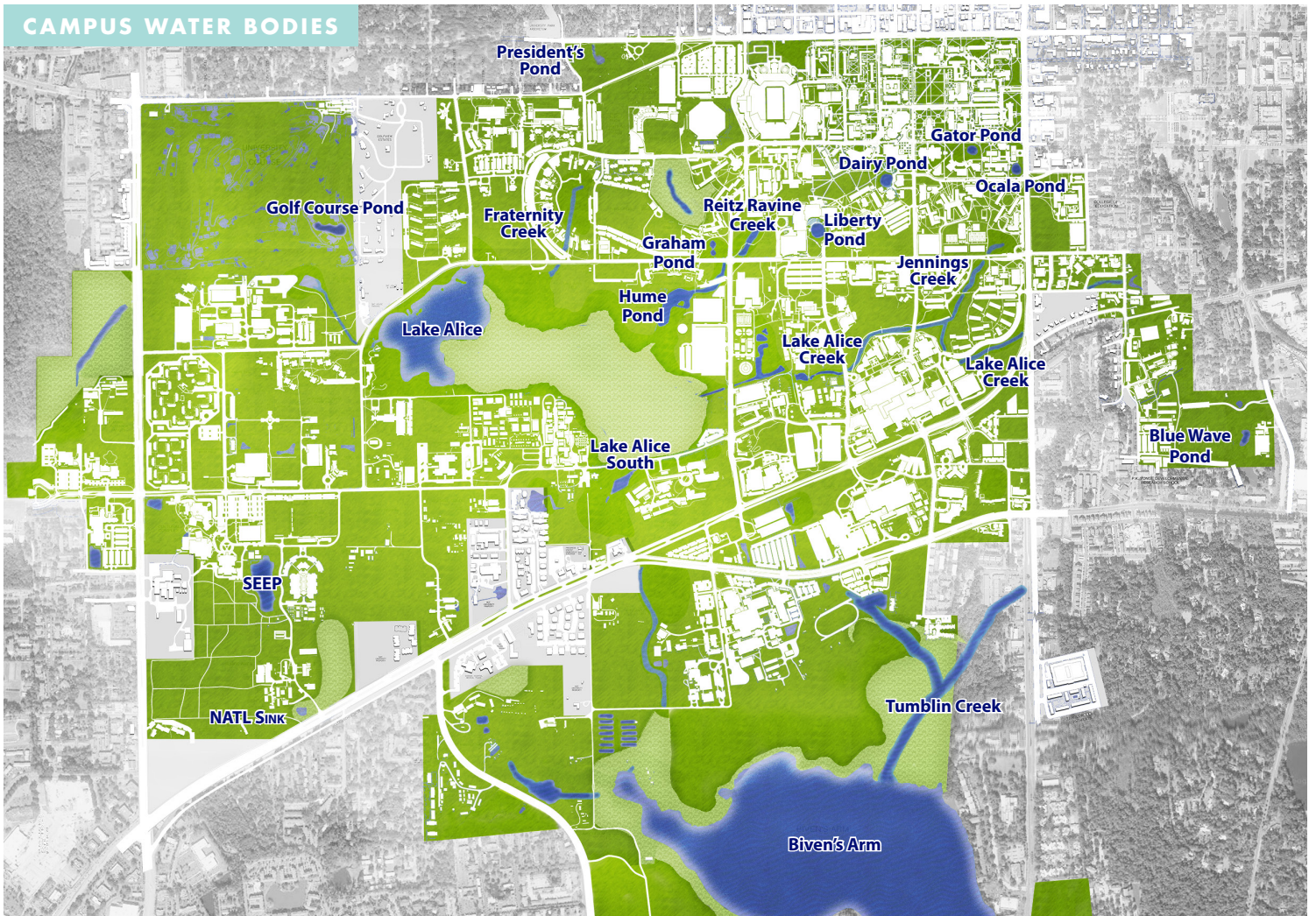
Remnant natural areas of the campus have been variously affected by clearing and development, erosion and sedimentation, suppression of natural wildfire and colonization of nuisance and exotic species. Ensuring the protection, stabilization, management, and enhancement of the remaining natural areas of the campus will increase their ecological value and encourage the presence of native wildlife. In addition to managing existing natural areas of the campus, the manicured edges of Dairy Pond, Jennings Creek at Yulee Pit, and Lake Alice Creek between Center and Newell Drives should be returned to their natural condition by providing expanded upland planting zones for surface water containment, filtration, and erosion control. Other locations requiring enhancement of impacted natural areas include Jennings Creek near Diamond Village, the Medicinal Gardens from the parking area to the overlook, and President's Park. Eradicating non-native vegetation and improving overall access will add to the inventory of passive recreation spaces and provide additional opportunities for ecological education. It is particularly desirable to cautiously and selectively create targeted view sheds while maintaining the native systems along Jennings and Lake Alice Creeks.



*The manicured edge of Dairy Pond should be returned to its natural condition.*



## CAMPUS WATER BODIES



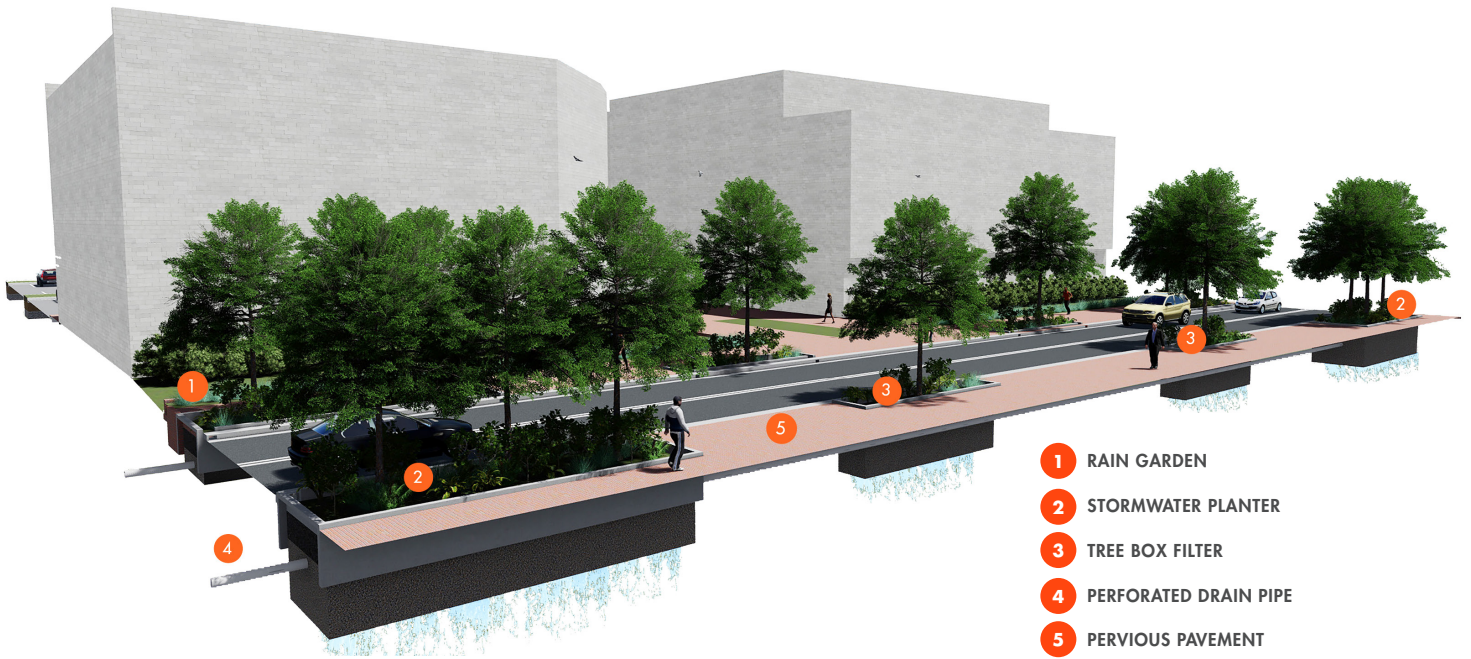
The natural course of Lake Alice Creek should be restored to a natural condition.

All of these areas, whether currently managed in a pristine natural condition or planned as enhancement projects, are assets to be utilized in the teaching and research mission of the University.

### ***The campus landscape should reflect the original campus watersheds and water courses***

The water courses, ponds, lakes, and flow ways of the campus have been altered as part of campus development. To the greatest extent practicable, these areas should be restored, enhanced, and preserved for their use by wildlife and the enjoyment of the UF community. Such restoration will provide for managed access for passive recreation and the opportunity to educate the community about the ecology of North Florida, as well as assure that the quality of surface waters entering Lake Alice are improved. Where possible, the daylighting of underground drainage systems should be encouraged. Where the creation of open waterways may now be impractical, the utilization of curbside stormwater planters along Stadium Drive and the creation of bioswales at Weimer Hall will mimic original campus flow ways to allow for the filtration of stormwater runoff.

## LID STORMWATER PRACTICES

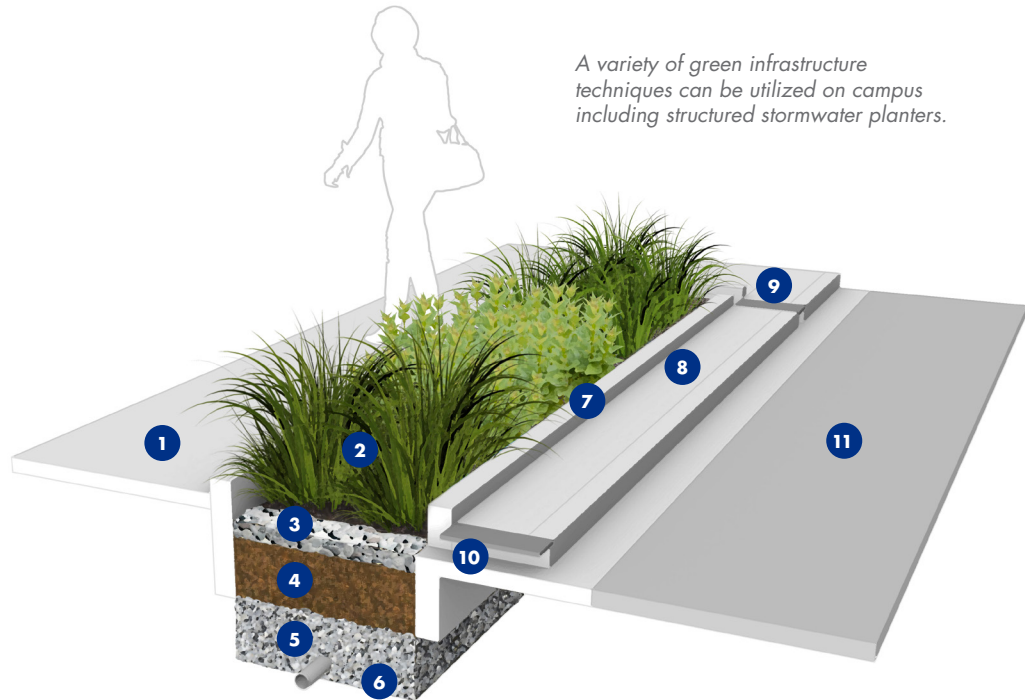


- 1 RAIN GARDEN
- 2 STORMWATER PLANTER
- 3 TREE BOX FILTER
- 4 PERFORATED DRAIN PIPE
- 5 PERVIOUS PAVEMENT

## STORMWATER PLANTER

- 1 SIDEWALK
- 2 NATIVE PLANTS
- 3 STONE FOR EROSION CONTROL
- 4 PLANTING SOIL
- 5 PERFORATED DRAIN PIPE
- 6 DRAINAGE STONE
- 7 CONCRETE CURB
- 8 GUTTER
- 9 STORMWATER INFLOW
- 10 STORMWATER OUTFLOW
- 11 ROAD SURFACE

*A variety of green infrastructure techniques can be utilized on campus including structured stormwater planters.*



### ***Major open spaces should recall the historic ecology of the campus***

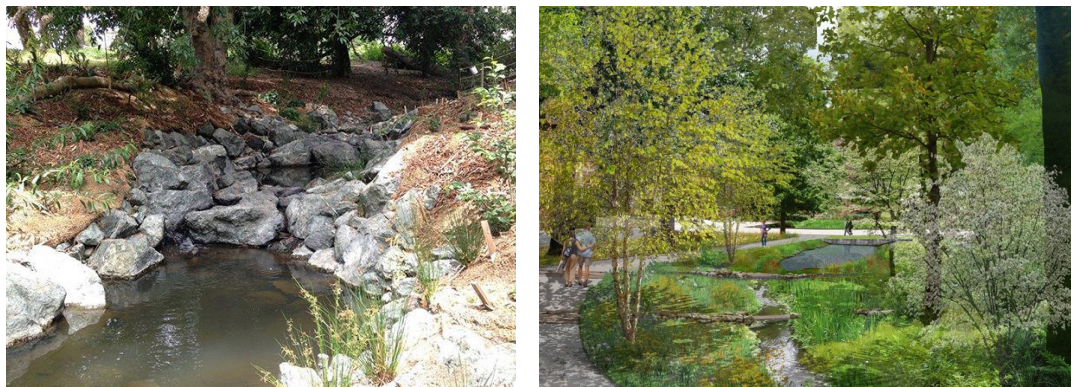
Too often the native landscape is overtaken by the built environment and the character of the historic ecology is diluted or lost. Enhancements to campus spaces should utilize the plant species appropriate for their ecological location as provided in the Open Space Tree Master Plan. (See [Principle 5](#)) These enhancements should consider the natural distribution of plant species within a vegetative community and avoid the planting of numerous species in small areas.

### ***LID principles should be incorporated into all campus projects to improve water quality and demonstrate best stormwater management practices***

LID practices play an integral part in incorporating stormwater management and water quality treatment into landscape and pavement design. The integration of green infrastructure techniques into new designs and, where practicable, into retrofit/modifications of existing facilities, will serve to improve the water quality reaching the natural watercourses and wetlands on campus and in the surrounding community. A variety of green infrastructure methods can be instituted from the simplicity of rain gardens and bioswales to increase infiltration of runoff, to more structured techniques including stormwater planters and tree boxes. With the loss of individual street trees within existing curbside planters, consider the addition of a break in the curb and the lowering of the grade within the planter to convert it to a stormwater planter. Selected paved areas can be constructed with pervious brick pavers to match the current campus standard, which will add to the overall impact of these LID practices.

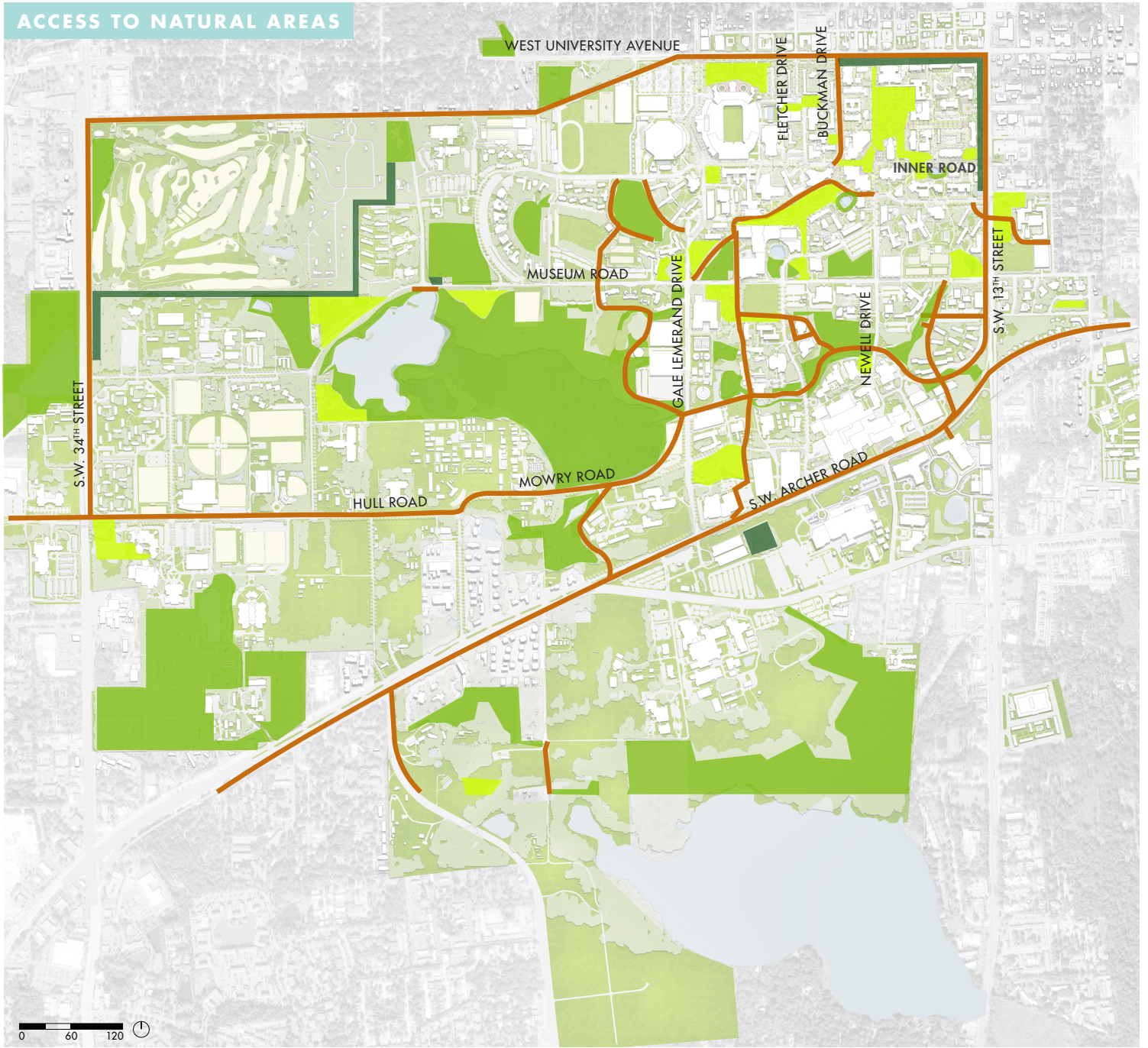


*Stormwater planters on south Newell Drive at the Harrell Medical Education Building*

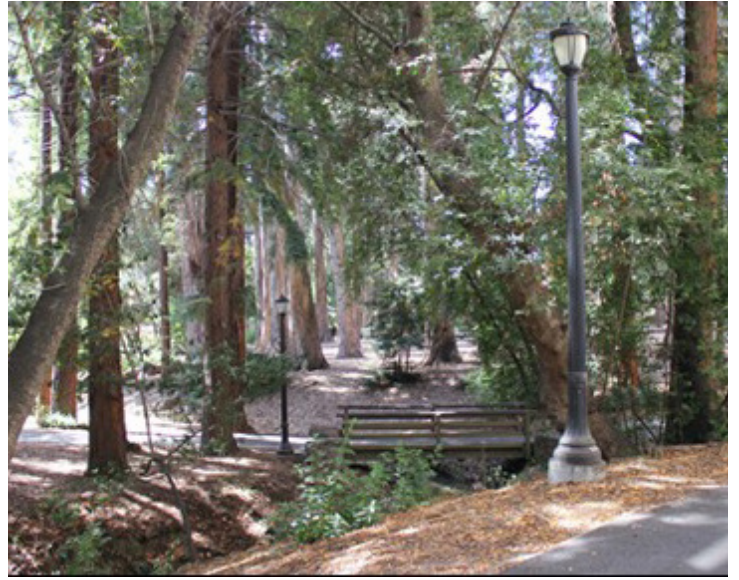


*The Strawberry Creek Ecological Stabilization Project at UC Berkeley restored a degraded section of the creek through the creation of naturalistic grade control structures; GA Tech's Eco-Commons recalls historic waterways on campus*

# ACCESS TO NATURAL AREAS



- SHARED-USE PATHS
- GREEN SPACE BUFFER
- URBAN PARK
- CONSERVATION



The proposed overlook atop the existing outfall at Dairy Pond; A bridge across Strawberry Creek in the Eucalyptus Grove at UC Berkeley enhances the enjoyment of the creek

***Opportunities to experience the natural features of the campus should be incorporated into corridors and spaces to integrate these areas into the life of the University and the larger community***

Enhancement and active management of the natural areas of the campus provide opportunities for passive recreation, relaxation, and contemplation. Incorporation of amenities and the integration of signage into the campus natural areas advances the University’s teaching mission. Coordinated interpretive signage should be expanded beyond the Natural Area Teaching Lab. Signage that describes the ecology of the natural features and processes, aspects of enhancement, or restoration activities will enrich natural areas of the campus as well as those that might be undergoing enhancement. Ecological education through the enhancement of Ocala Pond and Yulee Pit or the restoration of Dairy Pond are examples of improvements to the campus ecology that can serve to teach as well, and will ultimately create additional natural landscapes within the campus core.

An understanding of the ecology of the region can be further enhanced through increased opportunities for passive recreation in these natural areas. The inventory of enhanced natural areas that accommodate passive recreation can be increased with expanded nature trails, boardwalks and observation platforms around Lake Alice; overlook seating areas at the improved edges of Gator and Dairy Ponds; expanded boardwalk viewing and seating areas at Reitz Ravine and Jennings Creek; and the daylighting of Jennings Creek at Yulee Pit, along with the extensive addition of native plants, a shaded decked seating area beneath the oak canopy, and improvements to the pedestrian bridge. Additionally, an expansion of the shared-use path system to connect campus open spaces, managed natural areas, conservation lands, and nature parks will provide a significant recreation experience and can serve to make the campus a living lab of environmental destinations.

# Reflect UF's Ecological Setting in its Plant Materials, Promoting Simplicity and Maintainability in Planting Design

Planting designs are most successful when their focus is on the creation of memorable spaces rather than the adornment of a place. Well designed, comfortable spaces for introspection or social interaction help to support the mission of the University to influence the next generation for economic, cultural and societal benefit. Planting design for campus spaces should be simplified to contribute to a cohesive campus landscape and to minimize maintenance. Plant species should be selected utilizing a limited variety of species that reflect the ecology of the entire North Florida region. While the use of native plants is strongly encouraged, all plant material used on campus should be selected for their appropriateness to cultural requirements and site conditions, promoting an ease of maintenance of individual planting areas and, therefore, the campus as a whole.

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## RECOMMENDATIONS:

***The primary goal of planting design should be the shaping of memorable and comfortable campus spaces that reflect the University's ecological setting, sustain the life of the community, and support the mission of the University***

Plants should be selected for their contribution to the shaping of outdoor spaces—providing the walls, ceiling, and floor for the outdoor rooms and corridors of the campus that support the life of the University. Well-designed and well-defined spaces are not dependent on the decoration of the space with plant material, but rather employ plants to create the volume and the amount of enclosure appropriate to the function of the particular space.

The redesign of the area around Century Tower calls for the subtle suggestion of enclosure through the planting of palms and a simple palette of low shrubs at its perimeter. This subtle definition creates an outdoor room with a slightly quieter character, suitable for small musical performances and gatherings and adds to the variety of spaces within the larger Tower Plaza.

The walls of the larger space of the Reitz Union Lawn—the buildings defining the space—are less subtle and the volume of the space is much grander. Here the planting of large canopy trees lining the walkways at its edges is necessary to provide a ceiling for the portion of the space used most intensively. Not only do the trees shade the walkway, but their high branches shape a large, but comfortable, human-scaled volume along the edges of the space.



*A quieter corner within the larger Tower Plaza is defined by plant materials*



*The grandness of the Reitz Union Lawn is revealed by the careful placement of trees*



*An allee of live oaks along the proposed Union Walk will help transform the campus core*



*The University's oak canopy must continue to be protected from encroachment of campus development*

From this comfortable volume at the edge, the grandness of the lawn can be appreciated. It is important, that the space within the perimeter allee of trees be largely open to accommodate the long, impressive views through the space. Low-branching trees are not appropriate to a space as grand as the Reitz Union Lawn, either at the edge of the space or the interior.

High canopy trees are also critical to shape the new campus corridor of the Union Walk. The native live oak is unsurpassed in its ability to shape and create memorable spaces. Concern for monocultures suggest that while this species would be a wonderful addition to most outdoor spaces at UF, it should be joined by other high canopy trees throughout the campus. At the heart of the campus, at UF's most signature spaces, the live oak is used more heavily.

The live oak's appropriateness to the ecological setting of UF adds to its value in the campus landscape. The unique character of the campus comes in part from its historic and beautiful architecture, but also in large part from the unique character of its plant palette. This uniqueness should be preserved and enhanced through the selection of plant species that reflect the natural environment surrounding the University.

### ***The protection of existing trees should continue to be a high priority***

The University has been diligent in protecting the existing trees found on campus, and in particular heritage trees. Continue to steward these trees through protective measures during construction. The University should review any campus alterations proposed within the area of heritage trees and require the relocation or re-routing of paving and utilities to protect these valuable campus resources from damage.



***The design of the campus landscapes should be understood as being more than individual beautification projects***

Planting designs for individual campus projects should contribute to the visual clarity of the campus landscape as a whole. Rather than making a unique statement for the project, plantings in front of buildings should be integrated with adjacent roadways, pedestrian ways and buildings. The landscape treatment should create a visually unified landscape that reflects UF's setting instead of one that differs from adjacent buildings or creates a changing landscape experience along roadway corridors.

***The plant material for the campus should adhere to an established and vetted campus palette***

In order to provide for a cohesive and visually uncluttered campus landscape, plants should be selected from a vetted list of plants appropriate to the UF campus. In addition to the aesthetic improvement to the campus, the resulting simplified landscape will promote UF Grounds staff's familiarity with the plants and an ease of maintenance. Additions to the palette for a specific site should be vetted by the Lakes, Vegetation and Landscaping Committee. *(See the Plant Lists found in Section 7)*



*Sand Cordgrass (Spartina bakerii) is an appropriate native plant for wet stormwater planter conditions*

***Plant materials should be selected in response to specific site conditions***

Not all plants on the Plant Lists in Section 7 are appropriate for all site conditions. Knowledge of specific site cultural conditions is critical to ensure that the plants selected will thrive on the site. Plants that are amenable to a wide variety of site conditions are also included on the plant list; a number of these are native species, which are preferred over non-native species when conditions are appropriate for their use.

***Species should be selected for the size of the space***

In addition to cultural considerations, species should be selected for their appropriateness at maturity to the scale of the space in which they are planted. Trees that overpower the space will require unnecessary maintenance and ultimately, removal. Shrubs that are too large for a bed will require continued maintenance and can become visual obstructions.

### ***The campus landscape should embrace a simplicity in its planting design***

The complexity of the campus landscape should be inversely proportional to the size of the space—the greatest complexity of planting being reserved for the smallest campus spaces where detail can be appreciated, and the least complexity being employed in the largest campus spaces. The speed at which a landscape is viewed should also guide its complexity—a limited number of plant species is more easily appreciated by those traveling quickly on foot, bike, scooter or automobile, suggesting a simplicity for roadways and gateways and major pedestrian walkways. More detailed plantings can be employed in smaller campus spaces or at building entries where individuals may stay for a longer period of time, but in general, planting beds with a few species from a limited plant palette make the greatest contribution to the campus landscape.



*A simple landscape palette is visually pleasing and easier to maintain; Plants at the Lemerand Athletic Center require extensive trimming and hide wall signage displaying athletic accomplishments*

### ***Plant materials should be selected for their ease of maintenance in order to reduce the maintenance burden of UF Grounds staff***

The difficulty of maintaining a landscape the size of the UF campus cannot be overstated. The energy that must be expended by both human effort and mechanical means is astounding and can be greatly reduced by creating simple, smart, and easy-to-maintain landscapes that include plants that need little or no pruning, thinning, or seasonal replacement.

### ***The Corridor Tree Master Plan should guide the selection of tree species for campus roadways and major pedestrian ways***

As stated in Principle 2, street trees provide multiple benefits to pedestrians and cyclists. The selection of street trees to create these improved corridors should be limited to those species indicated on the Corridor Tree Master Plan. Favor the planting of these road edges with the large, high-branching canopy shade trees for their space-defining, visibility-enhancing, and traffic calming characteristics, and to frame views into adjacent campus spaces. Utilize the smaller trees on the Corridor Tree Master Plan where conditions will not allow for the planting of large canopy trees, primarily within the utility corridors of the west side of campus.

### ***The Open Space Tree Master Plan should guide the selection of tree species in the unbuilt environment of open spaces and natural areas***

The University is noted for its dense oak tree canopy, providing comforting shade and visual appeal. Through time the historic ecology of the site that would become the UF campus has evolved such that remnant native tree species remain along with others not originally found on the campus. It is important to re-establish the native tree ecology of the campus by limiting tree plantings in large open spaces to those species originally found here. When planting trees in significant open spaces and as a part of any natural area restorations, trees noted in the Open Space Tree Master Plan should guide the selection of species.

**TREE MASTER PLAN**

**CORRIDORS**



**MAJOR PEDESTRIAN WAY**



*Shumard/ Bluff Oak*



*Live Oak*

**MAJOR CORE CAMPUS ROAD**



*Live Oak*



*Bluff Oak*

**SECONDARY CORE CAMPUS ROAD**



*Live Oak*



*Shumard Oak*



*Sycamore*



*Magnolia*

**MAJOR WEST CAMPUS ROAD**



*Live Oak*



*Sand Live Oak*



*Red Maple*



*Winged Elm*



*Cabbage Palm*



*Cypress*

**SECONDARY WEST CAMPUS ROAD**



*Pignut Hickory*



*Sand Live Oak*



*Slash Pine*



*Live Oak*



*Cypress*



*Cabbage Palm*



*Grape Myrtle*

**CAMPUS EDGES**



*Longleaf Pine*



*Live Oak*



*Magnolia*



*Grape Myrtle*



*Cabbage Palm*

**GATEWAYS**



*Canary Island Date Palm*



*Cabbage Palm*



*Mule Palm*



*Windmill Palm*



*Magnolia*



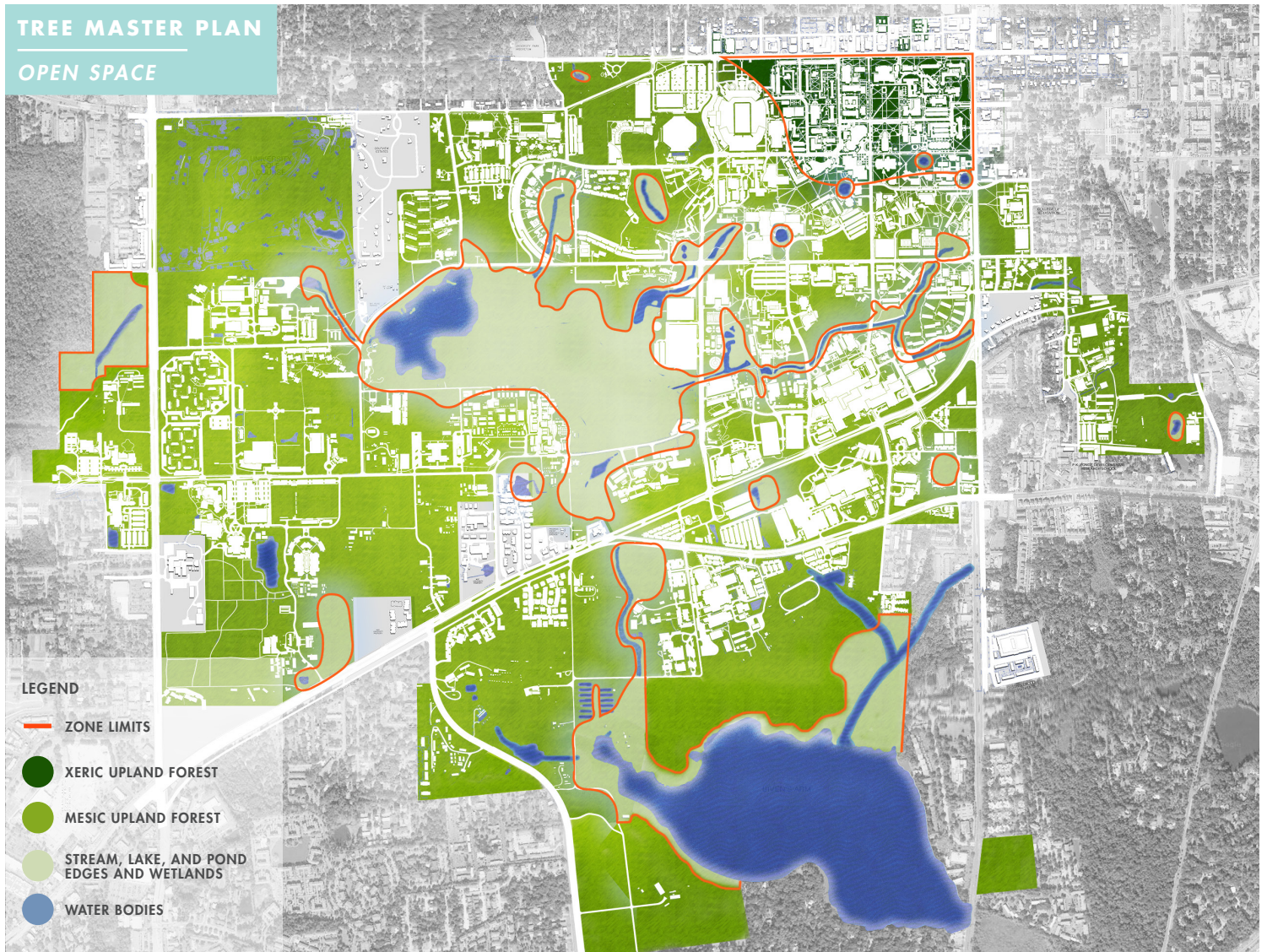
*Grape Myrtle*



*Live Oak*

**TREE MASTER PLAN**

**OPEN SPACE**



- LEGEND**
- ZONE LIMITS
  - XERIC UPLAND FOREST
  - MESIC UPLAND FOREST
  - STREAM, LAKE, AND POND EDGES AND WETLANDS
  - WATER BODIES

**XERIC UPLAND FOREST**



*Southern Magnolia*



*Longleaf Pine*



*Live Oak*

**MESIC UPLAND FOREST**



*Pignut Hickory*



*Cabbage Palm*



*Longleaf Pine*



*Slash Pine*



*Live Oak*



*Swamp Chestnut Oak*

**STREAM, LAKE + POND EDGES AND WETLANDS**



*Red Maple*



*Pop Ash*



*Sweet Bay Magnolia*



*Swamp Gum*



*Cabbage Palm*



*Cypress*



*The landscape at Murphree Hall keeps tree canopy high and planting low for maximum visibility and safety*

### ***Safety should be considered when designing the campus landscapes***

Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) concepts should guide the selection and placement of plant material. Plants that outgrow their space, provide hiding places, or require continual pruning to maintain a safe size should be avoided. Favor the selection of low-growing shrubs near walkways, allowing pedestrians to feel safe and aware of their surroundings as they move through the campus. Reserve taller growing material for areas located a considerable distance from walkways. Locate large canopy trees where they will not interfere with overhead lighting with time, assuring pedestrians of a well-illuminated passage at night. Be particularly attentive to the issues of plant selection and location in residential areas to ensure student safety when returning late at night.



### ***The visual impact of service and parking areas throughout the campus is best minimized through appropriate plantings***

When using plantings to screen service areas, ensure that the plantings avoid calling increased attention to the area being screened. Avoid regimented plants or the planting of eye-catching flowering, glossy-leaved, or uniquely textured plants for screening these areas; rather utilize a simple shrub mass to help the area disappear. When designing parking areas, provide space for trees within the lot to diminish its impact and minimize heat gain, and create an informal planting of trees with low shrubs that filter the most visually arresting portions of the vehicles.



### ***Excessive hardscape areas should be replaced with plantings where possible***

Extensive parking areas at the perimeter of the campus and along interior campus roads negatively affect the visual appeal of the campus, add to localized heat gain, and amplify stormwater run-off. Reduction of the amount of pavement on campus and the interruption of paved areas with planting will minimize this negative impact. As parking may be replaced over time by new parking structures or reduced through the parking modifications shown in this Landscape Master Plan, these areas should be replaced by new landscapes including trees with extensive canopies. Other paved areas which may include oversized or duplicate service areas, should be reduced in size and replaced with plantings.

*Unique plantings at service areas draw the eye rather than minimize negative views; Unscreened parking and service areas significantly detract from the landscape*

# Unify the Campus with Comprehensive Standards for Hardscape and Furnishings

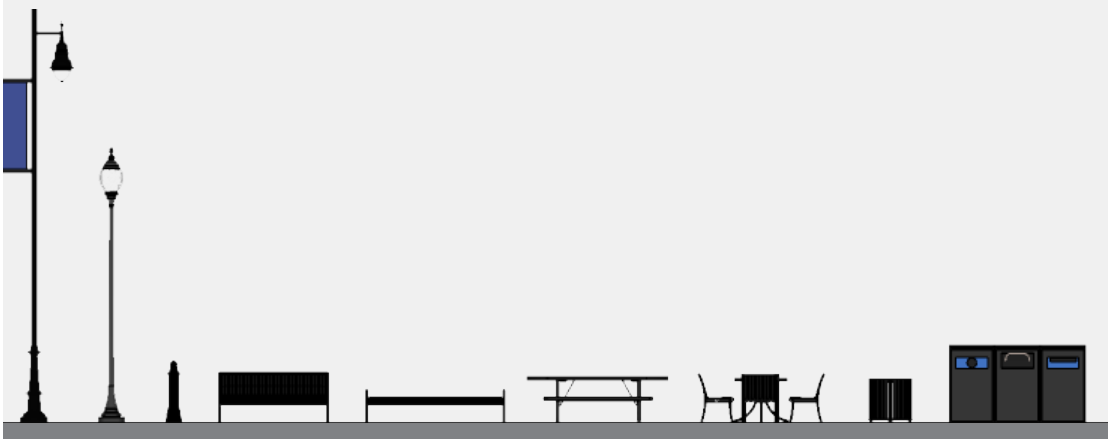
Simplification of the complete campus landscape aesthetic is not just limited to the judicious use of plant material. Unifying the overall design of the campus can also be achieved by utilizing site furnishings and hardscape materials that are harmonious in design, eliminating the clutter that occurs when adjacent areas have a different vocabulary of landscape materials. Landscape materials should also celebrate the uniqueness of individual campus precincts, providing a differentiation of paving and furnishings.

## RECOMMENDATIONS:

***Furnishings, paving and other landscape materials should present a unified, cohesive campus image***

Extensive variations in benches, trash receptacles, tables, lights, and paving materials can result in visual clutter and the lack of a unified image. The selection of site furnishings and hardscapes for the campus should be limited to a cohesive family of landscape materials. *(Refer to Section 7, Landscape Design Standards)*

### TRADITIONAL FURNISHINGS PALETTE



### ***Public art should contribute to a cohesive image for the University***

In addition to the elements of the Arts Axis, the University should encourage and promote the installation of additional works of art on campus, culminating at the Cultural Complex. Thoughtful placement of the installations will ensure that their placement enhances the art as well as the overall campus landscape. Consideration should also be given to locations reserved for temporary, revolving installations including those created by students in the College of the Arts.

### ***Landscape materials should incorporate recommended variations to distinguish campus landscape precincts***

Campus precincts were previously identified in the Campus Design Guidelines based upon the building typology, scale and density, yet there remain significant areas of the campus that have not been identified as part of any precinct. To assure an ordered and cohesive family of furnishings and materials throughout the campus and to reduce visual clutter, four landscape design precincts and one sub-precinct have been identified in this Landscape Master Plan. The Landscape Design Standards identifies two palettes of materials for use on the campus and indicates the precincts or sub-precinct for which they are appropriate. *(Refer to Section 7, Landscape Design Standards for landscape materials specified by precinct).*

### ***Best judgment should be used in selecting the appropriate item or material for a site***

Despite the division of the campus into distinct precincts, judgment will still be required for the selection of materials. Precinct edges may require an examination of context, and as the campus evolves, the edges of the precincts can be expected to evolve as well. When selecting landscape materials, it is expected that the selected materials will be in keeping with the adjacent aesthetic.

### ***“Or equal” landscape materials are acceptable with prior approval***

Although the Landscape Design Standards found in Section 7 are specific, manufacturers of products other than those indicated are permitted by approval. The landscape material must be at least of equal quality and must be similar enough in design as to blend visually with the approved materials of each precinct. Product information should be submitted with a request to substitute the approved material at the time of design review through the Planning, Design & Construction Division.

