

Growth for North Campus

U-M plan calls for denser development

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BY DAVE GERSHMAN
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The University of Michigan has plenty of space left for development on its North Campus, according to an updated road map for the area presented Thursday to the Board of Regents.

The plan calls for denser development, especially in the area north of Hubbard Road and south of Plymouth Road, which could see big changes someday.

Right now, small-scale university apartment buildings

are widely spread over that section of North Campus. Called the Northwoods Community Apartments, they're home to undergraduates, graduate students and students with families.

University Planner Sue Gott unveiled the updated master plan for North Campus for the regents at their meeting in Dearborn.

She referred to a color coded map of North Campus that was projected on a screen. Gott did not present any details of actual projects; the plan is meant to be used

as a road map to guide future development.

"Now where you'll notice a very dramatic new picture on this map is how we are suggesting the redevelopment of the Northwoods in the future," said Gott. "And that's because many of those buildings are less efficient land uses. They're beginning to become obsolete in locations where either a substantial reinvestment or perhaps redevelopment opportunity can allow us to use that land more

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Room, board rates to increase

Students living in University of Michigan residence halls will pay an average of 4.9 percent more for room and board under a rate increase approved unanimously by the Board of Regents on Thursday.

Room and board in a traditional double room will cost \$8,590 next academic year, an increase of \$400 over this year's cost.

Rates increase 3.1 percent for Northwood Community Apartments, the North Campus housing that is home to undergraduates, graduate students, and students with families.

E. Royster Harper, vice president for student affairs, said the extra revenue will cover increasing utilities costs and go toward a continuing effort to improve campus housing.

The rate hike was supported by Ashley Londy, a student who addressed the regents as the incoming president of the U-M Residence Halls Association.

Dave Gershman,
The Ann Arbor News

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CAMPUS FROM A3

More efficient land use urged

efficiently.”

That area, she said, could best be used flexibly, as the site for a wide range of university buildings including research, instruction, housing and retail.

Over the last 50 years, U-M has built 7 million gross square feet of buildings on North Campus. The updated master plan shows conceptually how U-M could squeeze in an additional 10 million gross square feet on North Campus by redeveloping underutilized sites and increasing the building density over the long term.

The plan also echoes earlier statements by university leaders that North Campus should be made more lively and become more of a destination by adding more performance spaces for the arts, student services and retail locations. Some green space

would be preserved.

The main intersection on North Campus, at Bonisteel Boulevard and Murfin Road, could be reconfigured and improved, and an adjacent transit center built for university buses. The plan also accommodates one of the city's long-term goals in its own transportation plan, adding a mass transit line that passes through North Campus, said Gott.

Tim Slottow, the university's chief financial officer, said the updated plan built on the work of a visioning committee led by former interim university president Homer Neal. U-M hired a consultant, Sasaki Associates, to help, and students and faculty also were involved.

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REGENTS MEETING

U-M president commends Martin

University of Michigan President Mary Sue Coleman congratulated Susan Martin on becoming the next president of Eastern Michigan University during the U-M Board of Regents meeting Thursday in Dearborn.

Martin, provost at the U-M Dearborn campus, was in the audience as Coleman opened the meeting.

"I know this is a bittersweet announcement for the Dearborn campus," said Coleman. "But we're very proud of this accomplishment. ... As a neighbor in Washtenaw County, I look forward to working together on the many issues facing higher education in the state."

New scholarship for teachers

The University of Michigan is rolling out a new scholarship for students who agree to teach after graduation in needy areas, said Provost Te-

resa Sullivan.

Speaking about financial aid before the U-M Board of Regents Thursday, Sullivan said the TEACH grant will provide up to \$4,000 in scholarship money per year to students who agree to teach in "areas with low-income and high need."

If for some reason a student who receives the grant doesn't fulfill the teaching requirement, the money must be repaid as an unsubsidized loan, she said.

Engineering labs to be created

Two new learning laboratory spaces will be created in the Engineering Programs Building on the University of Michigan North Campus in a \$1.2 million project approved by the Board of Regents Thursday.

About 5,000 square feet of existing offices, laboratories and classrooms will be re-configured for teaching and learning centers for use by introductory courses in several engineering disciplines. Construction will be finished in the winter.

*Dave Gershman,
The Ann Arbor News*