



LAFAYETTE COLLEGE CAMPUS MASTER PLAN

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS + OBSERVATIONS

MARCH 2023

EMERGING THEMES

WHAT WE'VE HEARD

BETTER LEVERAGE CURRENT ASSETS

SUPPORT LAFAYETTE'S CULTURE OF 'AND'

EMBRACE A MORE SUSTAINABLE MINDSET

FOCUS ON STUDENT WELLNESS AND SUCCESS

STRENGTHEN BOTH LOCAL AND REGIONAL CONNECTIONS

A photograph of a brick wall at Lafayette College. The wall is made of red bricks with a black sign that reads "LAFAYETTE COLLEGE" in white serif font. In the background, there are trees and a building with a dome. A speed limit sign for 15 is visible on the left. The foreground shows a brick walkway and some plants.

LAFAYETTE COLLEGE

COMMUNITY CONTEXT

CAMPUS CONNECTIVITY

Key Takeaways

- Arrival experience is strong in some locations but more limited in others
- Opportunity to strengthen connections to City of Easton and explore additional local and regional partnerships
- Accessibility needs improvement to provide a more inclusive campus environment
- Bicycle and trail connections are currently limited, and non-existent to Metzgar Fields

Next Steps

- Explore opportunities to better connect Campus to the City of Easton and Metzgar Fields
- Identify strategies to enhance the vehicular arrival experience beyond College Ave
- Consider ways to improve pedestrian safety across campus and to key adjacent off-campus destinations



CAMPUS CONTEXT

CAMPUS ORGANIZATION

Key Takeaways

- Campus wayfinding is challenging in some perimeter locations, leading to feelings of being disconnected from core
- Opportunity to enhance the first-year student experience particularly, around student life strategies
- Potential to better utilize and connect campus open spaces
- Desire to improve lighting and pedestrian safety across campus, particularly in perimeter areas

Next Steps

- Consider ways to enhance campus as a “learning lab”
- Identify key academic and student services supporting first-year experience
- Complete facilities condition Index and overlay with space utilization
- Explore both near-term and long-term strategies to support campus expansion, enhancement and redevelopment



CAMPUS CONTEXT

INFRASTRUCTURE + UTILITIES

Key Takeaways

- Primary heating and cooling equipment appears to be well maintained
- On-site backup generation requires a hours-long, labor intensive, manual transfer
- Electrical capacity on legacy 2400V campus distribution is limited
- Policy differences created inequities related to occupant thermal comfort in res halls
- Aging infrastructure is beyond its useful life at multiple sites

Next Steps

- Evaluate existing loads served and system/distribution capacities
- Determine impact on utility systems, particularly during future energy source transitions
- Identify opportunities for distributed power sources via renewables/energy storage
- Develop a priority matrix to replace critical infrastructure



CAMPUS CONTEXT

SUSTAINABILITY

Key Takeaways

- Celebrate and build upon current sustainable initiatives and achievements
- Align master plan with sustainable and resilience lessons students are learning in the classroom
- Support goals and objectives of the Climate Action Plan 2.0 and also next iteration of the Climate Action Plan
- Identify partners and opportunities for collaboration related to sustainability and resiliency

Next Steps

- Identify and benchmark sustainability peer institutions to highlight trends and opportunities
- Explore strategies to support the campus plan and prioritize solutions that align with the climate action plan



FACILITIES FOCUS

SPACE

Key Takeaways

- Space data is not up-to-date and has gaps; impacting ability to effectively manage
- Lack of existing organized method for decision making to ensure alignment with institutional goals and holistic approach
- Some classrooms and teaching labs are underutilized; opportunities exist for improvement or repurposing

Next Steps

- Complete on-site verification of space inventory
- Work with campus staff to resolve space data misalignments
- Complete preliminary space needs analysis to serve as baseline for future space needs analysis
- Develop future space needs
- Assess locations of departments and programs for greater alignment



FACILITIES FOCUS

DINING

Key Takeaways

- Limited seating, especially during Common Hour
- Food feels too far away from housing
- Overcrowding results in wait times
- Storage is an issue
- Students desire more weekend and late-night options; flexibility with meal plans
- Interest to create a more sustainable dining experience
- Limited digital screens, online ordering, and frictionless dining opportunities

Next Steps

- Perform demand analysis and benchmarking
- Develop alternative planning scenarios for dining redevelopment including distribution of venues, mix of services, hours, seating capacities and space requirements.
- Create detailed space program for each component of the foodservice operations
- Implement cross utilization of data to inform limited supplier request for proposal and negotiation



FACILITIES FOCUS

INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS

Key Takeaways

- Focus facilities and services on more holistic support mechanisms around student – athlete success
- Enhance game-day experience for spectators, including parking, field access, on-site restrooms and dining options for events
- Kirby Sports Center: Recapture underutilized space for expanded indoor athletic training and support
- Metzgar Fields
 - Priority to expand and better support all D-1 sports
 - Create a centralized, on-site sports performance and athletic training facility

Next Steps

- Further assess gaps in current facilities around physical, emotional, academic and social wellbeing
- Metzgar Fields
 - Identify site for future lacrosse stadium and team facility
 - Determine location for centralized athletic success center and campus green
 - Prioritize near-term infrastructure improvements
 - Explore options to relocate indoor track to expand arena for basketball and volleyball



FACILITIES FOCUS

CAMPUS RECREATION

Key Takeaways

- Current recreation facilities and services based primarily on student demand; facilities and services should reflect baseline industry standards for small colleges
- Metzgar Fields: Provide quality turf fields to support growth in club sports
- Kirby Sports Center: Recapture under-utilized space for growth in group exercise, club sports and student organizations
- Campus: Desire for more outdoor recreation space for open play and intramurals

Next Steps

- Identify cross-campus partners and spaces to support expanded wellness service around nutrition, academics and student life
- Metzgar Fields: Explore options for a lighted, turf “super field” for club sports and intramural play
- Identify space to support more resilient recreation with multipurpose fitness studios supporting functional fitness, group exercise, dance, wrestling, etc.
- Explore potential for use of Sullivan Courts for open recreation, including tennis, pickleball and futsal



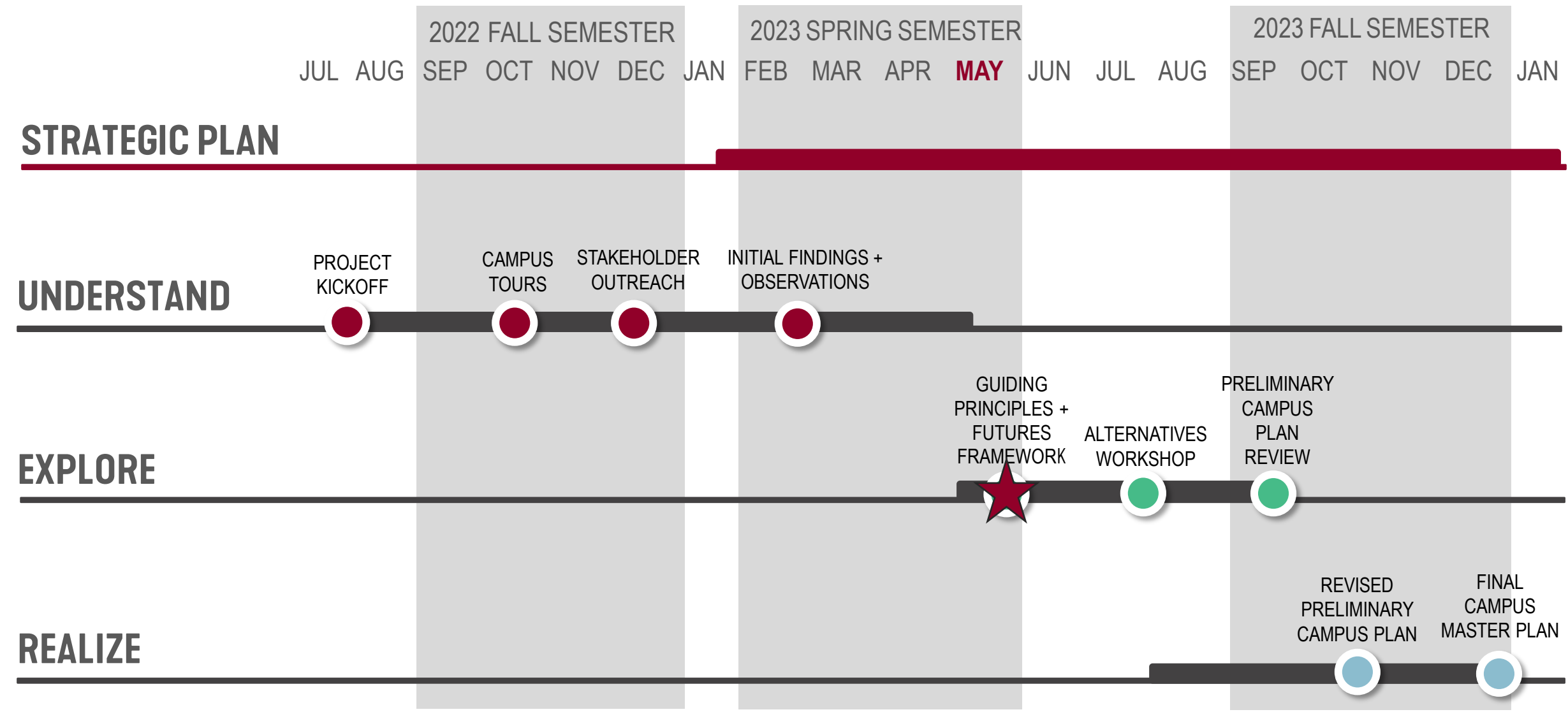
NEXT STEPS



SMITHGROUP

MASTER PLAN SCHEDULE

ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIC PLANNING PROCESS



NEXT STEPS

UNDERSTAND PHASE TRANSITIONS TO EXPLORE PHASE

Stakeholder Outreach

- Continue stakeholder outreach efforts to validate and refine analysis findings

Strategic Plan Coordination

- Explore opportunities for alignment with the Strategic Plan

May Visit Preparations

- Summarize comprehensive space needs assessment
- Develop guiding principles and futures framework
- Identify initial big ideas for further exploration



THANK YOU