One University, Multiple Campuses

- 1.1 Mission and Vision
- 1.2 History
- 1.3 Sustainability and Resilience Principles

The University of Texas at San Antonio is dedicated to the advancement of knowledge through research and discovery, teaching and learning, community engagement and public service. As an institution of access and excellence, UTSA embraces multicultural traditions and serves as a center for intellectual and creative resources as well as a catalyst for socioeconomic development and the commercialization of intellectual property-for Texas, the nation, and the world. UTSA's vision is to be a premier public research university, providing access to educational excellence and preparing citizen leaders for the global environment. The university's core values are to encourage an environment of dialogue and discovery, where integrity, excellence, inclusiveness, respect, collaboration, and innovation are fostered.

UTSA's strategic plan charts a course for the university over the next ten years. It designates three overarching destinations:

- UTSA will be a model for student success
- UTSA will be a great public research university
- UTSA will be an exemplar for strategic growth and innovative excellence

The strategic plan destinations are accompanied by presidential initiatives, including this master plan.

UTSA, and San Antonio in general, are poised to play a significant role in Texas and beyond in coming decades. San Antonio is currently growing at a nation-leading pace, and the current demographics of the city already mirror projections for the nation at large twenty years in the future. This master plan is designed to proactively address that future.



2018 UTSA Commencemen

From its founding in 1969, the University of Texas at San Antonio has been an important part of San Antonio's public profile. In the past 15 years, UTSA has transitioned from a commuter-centric university to a more residential campus. It has grown quickly into one of the state's largest universities, and its programs and facilities have developed accordingly. The coming years will see even greater change. From an isolated original campus with a disconnected satellite campus downtown, UTSA is becoming a networked campus ecosystem woven into the fabric of San Antonio. More than that, UTSA has already begun integrating its campus programming and development into downtown, transforming not just the physical relationships of UTSA and the city, but also connecting programs and people to the heart of the city.

UTSA's Main Campus was established on land donated by the Delaven Trust. The site was selected from a list of ten contenders; The University of Texas System Regents noted the site's proximity to major highways, capacity for expansion, and proximity to college-bound high school seniors (at that time, concentrated in the northwest quadrant of San Antonio) as factors in the selection.

The site lies on the southern edge of the Balcones Escarpment, one of the most concentrated areas of prehistoric human habitation dating back to the Paleoindian period, roughly 12,000 years B. P. Numerous archaeological sites have been identified on the campus as well as in nearby areas. In the Spanish Colonial period, a major *camino royal*, or royal road, was established along the route of what is now I-10 near the Main Campus.

The Downtown Campus was built on land which was formerly the site of Fiesta Plaza Mall, a failed urban renewal project (part of the broader Vista Verde South project financed by a federal Urban Development Action Grant). Evidence of prehistoric occupation is limited, likely due to the destruction of sites in historic times, but archaeological sites in surrounding areas indicate that the site was part of a larger area of settlement dating back to roughly 12,000 years B. P.

The land was part of the original land grant which formed the settlement that was to become San Antonio. As the city grew, the blocks which now contain the Downtown Campus were residential on the east and commercial on the west (adjacent to the railroad tracks). By 1900, the blocks were either part of, or immediately adjacent to, San Antonio's notorious collection of brothels, known as the Sporting District. The Vista Verde South project included demolition of all structures on the sites.



Signing of HB 42 officially founding UTSA

1.2 History

From an isolated original campus with a disconnected satellite campus downtown, UTSA is becoming a networked campus ecosystem woven into the fabric of San Antonio.

Figure 1.1 Abbreviated Timeline of UTSA's Evolution



1969 UTSA commissioned by the 61st Texas Legislature

1972-1976 1975 Construction on seven Classes begin at the major buildings at the

Main Campus; more than 4,000 students Main Campus, designed by Ford, Powell & Carson and Bartlett Cocke

1986 Institute of Texan

Cultures joins UTSA

1993

Land for the Downtown Campus donated by Bill Miller Bar-B-Q (formerly the site of Fiesta Plaza Mall)

1997

Campus

2007 UTSA opens Downtown

125 acres west of campus acquired for Park West Campus from Patricia Shield Ayers, initially intended for recreation and athletics programs, intramural fields, parking, and housing

2013

Park West Campus

athletics facilities open

2018

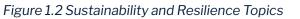
UTSA acquires additional downtown properties, enlarging the university's downtown presence

Sustainability and Resilience

As an institution of higher education, UTSA will be a responsible steward of its unique environmental and cultural assets. Across the university, UTSA will leverage data-driven approaches and promote knowledge to ensure a sustainable future for UTSA and the wider community.

UTSA's master plan strives for connected, mixeduse, resource-efficient campuses that support the health, wellness, and prosperity of all individuals in the community.

These principles are recommended for all UTSA campus sites and will be carried forward in the work by UTSA's Sustainability Council. Specific strategies will be determined based on feasibility and relative impact to establish an implementable roadmap.





Physical

- Mobility
- Micro-climate
- Energy and carbon
- Water
- Ecology
- Waste
- Disaster resilience



Social

- Equity
- Cultural diversity
- Student success
- Recruitment and retention
- Art
- Wellbeing
- Community connections
- Health and wellness
- Equal access



Economic

- Affordability
- Capital resources
- Revenue generation
- Leveraged investments
- Operational efficiency
- Partnerships
- Finance and investment
- Economic development

The master plan covers topics in all three areas but can only substantively address a subset of these. Policies, programs, and strategic partnerships will be required to cover the full breadth of sustainability and resilience subjects.

The following principles are recommended to promote a sustainable and resilient future for UTSA and its community:





Mobility

Strive to ignite a cultural shift towards humanpowered travel and efficient transit that is memorable, connected, convenient, comfortable, safe, and accessible to all members of the

W	la	te
	a	LC

community

Strive to reduce potable water use through a variety of technological and behavioral means, as well as working with hydrological processes to capture, recycle, and infiltrate water so campus and natural communities thrive

Waste

Strive to conserve materials and reduce waste through purchasing, reuse, recycling, or any means possible to create plentiful communities and develop individual responsibility for the natural environment

Ecology

Strive to maintain and restore natural communities grounded by ecological processes that provide nourishment and educational opportunities for all members of the campus community, where appropriate



Energy & Carbon

Strive to reduce embodied and operational energy use in all campus elements, while simultaneously capturing renewable energy to create comfortable. efficient, and livable places for everyone



Health & Wellness

Strive to foster the physical, mental, and social success of all individuals as the basis of a connected, caring, and resilient community



Equal Access

Strive to provide opportunity for work, education, and learning for all cultures, ages, and abilities within a community that is transparent, just, and desirable for all



Finance & Investment

Strive to create and maintain financially sustainable models for capital development, maintenance, and renewal for alignment with campus sustainability goals and fiscal health



Economic Development

Strive to solidify partnerships to grow fiscal resources that support beneficial relationships. new opportunities, and increased affordability for successful communities and regions

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