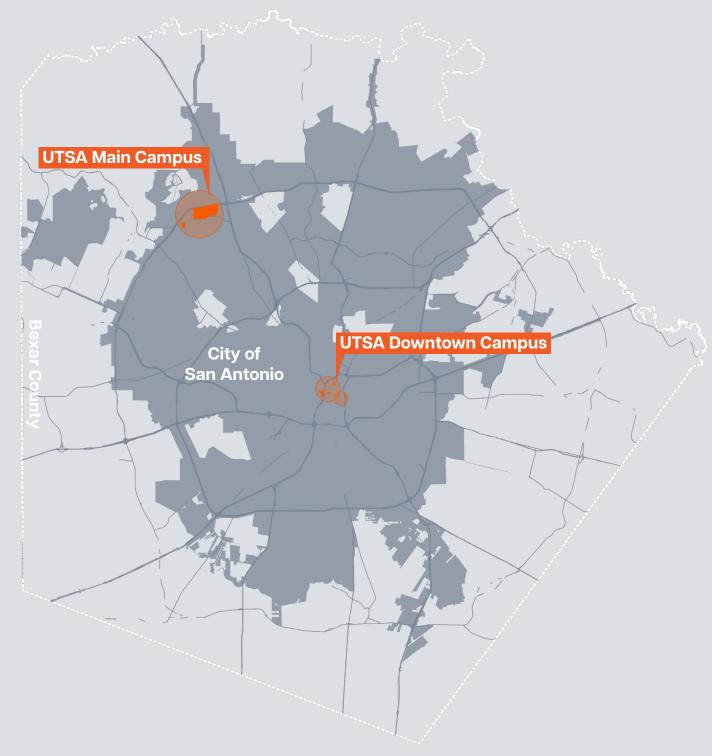


A Unified Vision Across San Antonio

Supported by key strategic alignment efforts and the 2019 Campus Master Plan, District Planning provides an updated roadmap for UTSA to achieve its long-term vision. With a target enrollment of 45,000 students, significant development will be required to support academic, research, and student life priorities. District Planning identifies nearly 4.5 million gross square feet of new educational, general, and auxiliary space across both campuses to accommodate this growth and advance UTSA's evolving mission, complemented by expanded housing and parking capacity.

Since the 2019 Campus Plan, UTSA has continued to transform, demonstrating a strong commitment to community engagement and partnerships across both campuses. This transformation is evident in the university's efforts to spatially consolidate colleges in locations that align with community needs while fostering institutional growth. With an emphasis on student success and research excellence, UTSA is committed to ensuring that students, faculty, and staff at both campuses experience the same level of support, academic excellence, and campus life—responding to distinct urban contexts while maintaining consistent opportunities.



UTSA District Planning

District Planning Scope

District Planning defines a near- and long-term development roadmap for both the Main and Downtown Campuses, guided by key planning drivers and strategic initiatives-particularly those updated since the 2019 Campus Master Plan, such as the 2022 Strategic Plan Refresh. The process engaged university leadership and key stakeholders through workshops and interviews to review findings and provide feedback.

The District Planning effort also involved assessing current conditions, including new projects, campus growth, site constraints, and infrastructure updates. A range of supporting studies and reports—some developed in parallel with District Planning, others completed after 2019—were incorporated into the analysis. Among these, UTSA's Growth and Optimization Plan outlines strategies for consolidating colleges and co-locating them with industry and community partners.

This District Planning report is intended to serve as a flexible framework for campus growth, adaptable to evolving university needs, priorities, and opportunities for future development and partnerships.

Assess current district conditions. The analysis considers recent campus growth, capital milestones achieved since 2019, and evolving needs across both campuses.

Engage university leadership and stakeholders. A structured engagement process was used to confirm and refine planning goals and priorities, with stakeholder feedback directly informing the planning scenarios.

Incorporate key planning drivers and strategic initiatives. This includes reviewing major studies completed since the 2019 Campus Master Plan and integrating their findings into the District Planning.

Develop a near- and long-term development roadmap. District Planning establishes a planning framework that supports UTSA's projected growth across both the Main and Downtown Campuses.



Main Campus Wet Lab Research Facilities Study



Student Housing Master Plan Update



Partnerships

Downtown Placemaking Campus Strategic



Athletics Master Plan Analysis



Alternatives

Transportation Utility Updates Support Services





Consolidation

UTSA District Planning

Strategic Alignment

The District Planning effort is grounded in three key strategic drivers: the Strategic Plan Refresh, the Campus Growth & Optimization Plan, and the 2019 UTSA Campus Master Plan. Together, these foundational documents inform decision-making and provide the starting point for the planning process.

The Strategic Plan Refresh reaffirms UTSA's three strategic destinations: to be a Model for Student Success, a Great Public Research University, and an Innovative Place to Work, Learn, and Discover. District Planning identifies physical strategies to ensure that campus environments actively support these goals.

The Campus Growth & Optimization Plan outlines projected growth and space needs—particularly related to enrollment increases and downtown relocation strategies—which shape the spatial direction of the District Planning.

The 2019 Campus Master Plan provides the physical and programmatic framework upon which the District Planning effort builds. The planning work continues to align with the long-range aspirations and space needs identified in 2019, while offering a forward-looking roadmap based on evolving university priorities and future opportunities.



UTSA District Planning

Planning Process

The District Planning process spanned approximately 12 months, from Summer 2024 to Summer 2025, and was structured into three key phases: Discovery, Ideation, and Synthesis.

Discovery

This initial phase focused on understanding current conditions and needs. The planning team reviewed past plans and strategic initiatives, analyzed programmatic, planning, and design challenges, and conducted extensive stakeholder engagement to gather feedback. This phase also included a review of overarching plan goals and principles.

Ideation

Building on the findings from Discovery, this phase explored development options for each campus. Through continued stakeholder engagement, the planning team developed and refined a range of scenarios for both campuses. These scenarios were shaped by feedback and aligned with the university's long-term vision.

Synthesis

The final phase focused on consolidating the preferred frameworks into comprehensive district plan recommendations. The planning team detailed the selected strategies and compiled them into a final report, providing a clear roadmap to guide the university's future development.



Engagement Process

The planning team collaborated closely with UTSA leadership and the District Planning Stakeholder Committee through a series of interactive workshops. The committee included student representation, deans, vice presidents, and vice provosts, offering perspectives from key academic and administrative areas. Their insights—grounded in direct experience with students, faculty, and staff—informed priorities and shaped strategies to enhance the overall campus experience.

To dive deeper into technical topics, the team also held focused discussions with specialized groups on transportation, energy and sustainability, utilities, and more.

During the Discovery phase, one-on-one interviews with university leadership further clarified strategic goals, operational needs, and long-term vision. These conversations laid the groundwork for scenario development in the planning process.

Externally, an engagement session was held in April with key Downtown Campus partners and stakeholders. The session focused on placemaking and provided an opportunity for participants to explore draft planning strategies and offer feedback on how to strengthen the identity, function, and vibrancy of downtown through partnerships and collaboration.



District Planning Workshop 2



District Planning Workshop 3



8 Leadership Interviews



11 Schools and Colleges shared their feedback through the RPM questionnaire



+60 Staff Members

shared their feedback in focus groups and work sessions



9 Workshops

5 with the steering committee 3 with UTSA leadership 1 with downtown partners



District Planning Workshop 3



Downtown Partnerships Engagement Session