

THE UNIVERSITY *of* MONTANA WESTERN

TEN YEAR-MASTER PLAN

December 2015



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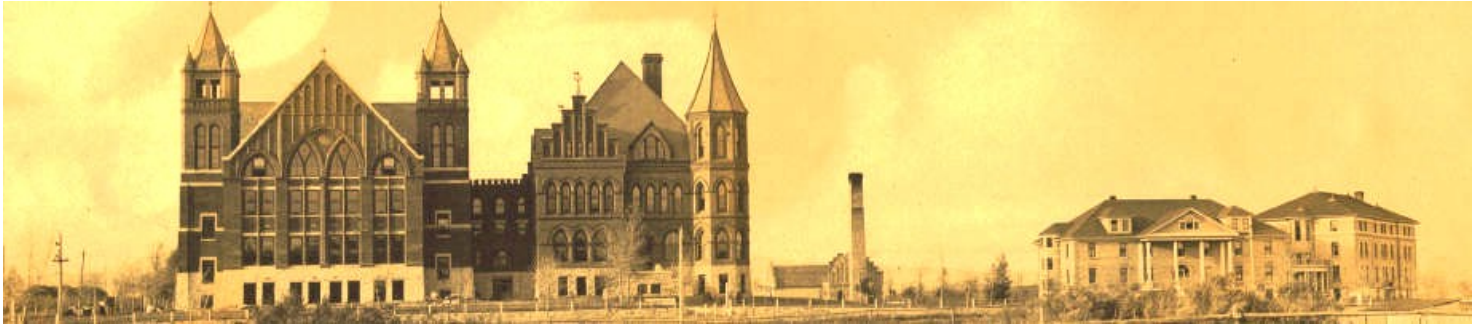
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INTRODUCTION



The original campus plan oriented academic buildings on a rural hill overlooking Dillon and fronting Atlantic Street, which extends south of town. Subsequent additions extended campus east of the original structures. Campus is now bounded on the north by Cornell Street, on the west by the old highway 91 and on the east by agricultural fields. During its years of growth, the campus has progressively acquired rural land, adjacent houses and some commercial properties. In addition to the contiguous properties of campus, the university also owns the Vigilante football field in the center of Dillon and the Birch Creek Outdoor Education and Conference Center, which is located 22 miles northwest of Dillon in the Pioneer Mountains.

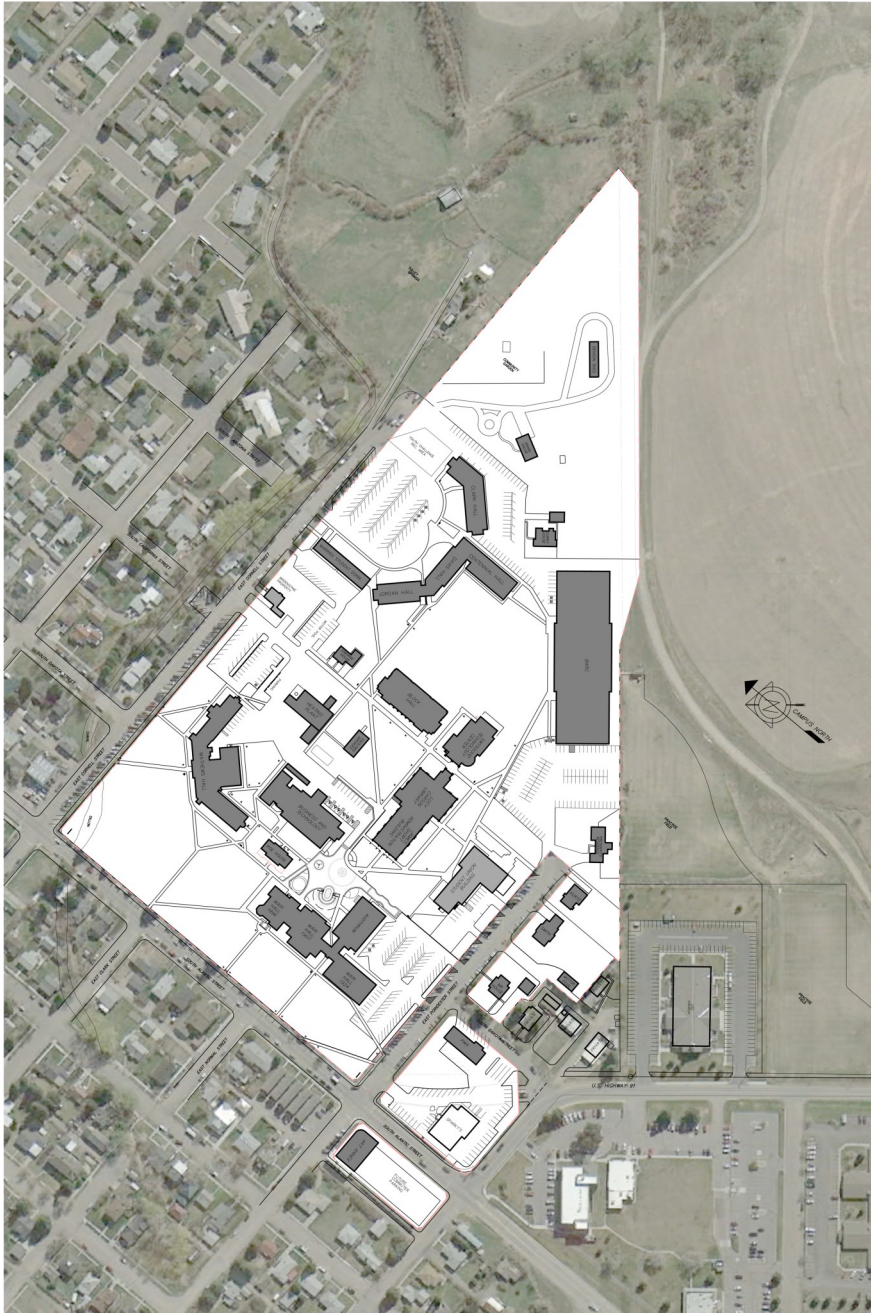
In the early 2000's, the University of Montana Western transitioned to an innovative program called Experience One that focuses on experiential learning. Students take one class at a time for a period of roughly one month. Block scheduling allows students to learn in-depth one subject at a time and gives flexibility for classes to meet outside of the classroom setting. Experience One at The University of Montana Western allows students to apply concepts learned through hands-on experiential activities to their learning in the classroom and in the field.

The Montana University system was officially established by Montana's Legislature in 1893, just four years after statehood. In 1897, the University of Montana Western's first term began in the fall of 1897 upon the completion of the first classroom structure, Main Hall.

Known as the Montana State Normal College, the school trained teachers in a two year degree, a four year English-Science degree and a Master's degree. Later, the college expanded its programs and departments and became known as Western Montana College. In 1988 the university became part of the Montana University system and was renamed the University of Montana Western in 2000.

UMW has grown to an enrollment approaching 1,400 students and 15 major buildings on its 35 acre campus. A number of liberal arts undergraduate degrees are offered at UMW primarily focused on its original mission of education degrees. Other notable fields of study include business, sciences, fine arts, English, history, and mathematics. Since 2000, equine studies was also added in conjunction with area ranches.

INTRODUCTION



The Master Plan Committee's work was started in the spring of 2014 to create a roadmap for future changes on campus as they relate to the physical environment and previously established land-use patterns. The committee's aim was to produce an easily understood plan that was supported by both the university and the community.

Initial meetings focused on reviewing the 1995 and 2003 master plans to assess what goals have been accomplished and what shifts in priorities should be addressed in the 2015 Master Plan. Taking into consideration those assessments, the committee then developed guiding principles for developing the plan. This ensures that future projects are compatible with the long-term development of campus.

Because the University is a major economic force in Dillon and is situated within the city boundaries, the process purposefully included university administrators, faculty, staff, students and community members. Through two outreach events and a survey, stakeholders were able to voice their opinions in a constructive way to guide the plan.

The committee has now updated the University of Montana Western's Master Plan. The plan determines how the campus will grow over the next ten years while preserving the physical environment and minimizing negative impact on its neighbors.

INTRODUCTION

Guiding principles were developed as a framework to develop and direct the master plan goals. Focused on identity, community, architecture and enhancement to the campus, the master plan formed a foundation for the development team to build. Provided below is the culmination of that process.

2015 GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Enrich Student Life and Living

The campus master plan should focus on the students' needs to ensure that their quality of living enhances the quality of education on campus by improving facilities they utilize.

Support High-Quality Experiential Learning

Since the educational system of UMW is unique, the physical environment of campus should reflect this in an innovative way to support experiential learning.

Enhance Campus Environment

The campus should create an aesthetic quality appropriate to UMW's mission. The university's facilities are an important part of this strategic positioning when vying for students, faculty and research funding as well as for today's campus expectations.

Integrate with the Community

The University of Montana Western strives to foster a strong relationship with the community of Dillon and surrounding areas. University collaboration with local businesses, neighbors, and city officials is a means for enriching the academic and cultural resources on campus

MASTER PLAN GOALS



Comprehensive Master Plan Map

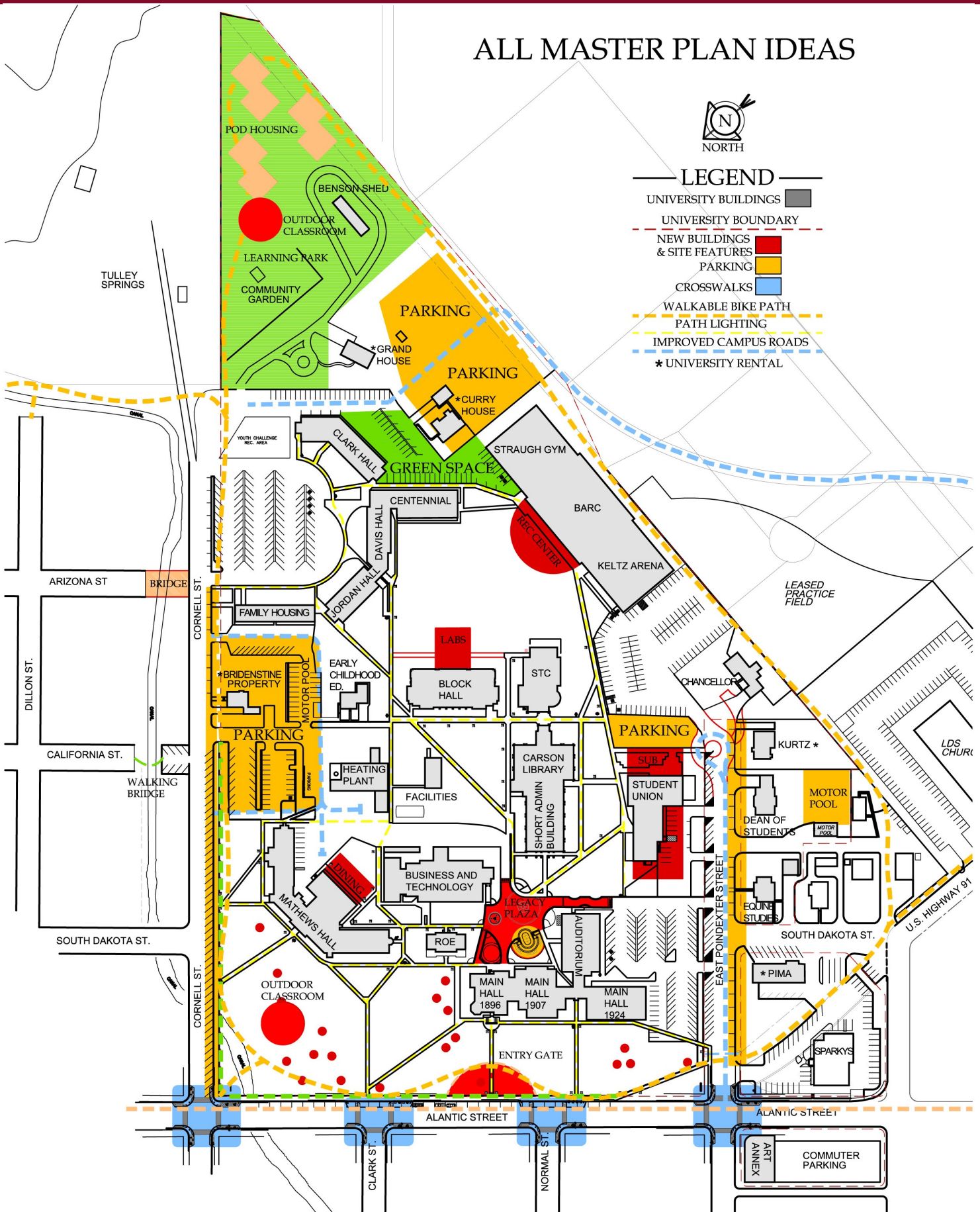
The following map contains all the master plan goals to graphically display the full scope of the ten year Master Plan.

MASTER PLAN GOALS

- 1 Improve Land Use and Infrastructure
- 2 Improve Academic Resources
- 3 Upgrade Student Life and Living
- 4 Improve Athletic Facilities
- 5 Enhance the Campus
- 6 Increase Community Connection
- 7 Provide Vehicular Access and Parking
- 8 Enhance Pedestrian and Bike Access

MASTER PLAN GOALS

ALL MASTER PLAN IDEAS



1

Improve Land Use and Infrastructure

University of Montana Western's campus is situated at the south end of Dillon and is bordered by the city on one side and agricultural land on the other side. Along its southern edge are several small residential properties that would be beneficial for future expansion. On a grander scale, the most important area for expansion would be into the agricultural lands. Those properties have been identified as desired acquisitions to add to campus.

Within the campus core, there are obsolete buildings, primarily old houses that are identified as opportune building sites for future academic buildings or for parking lots.

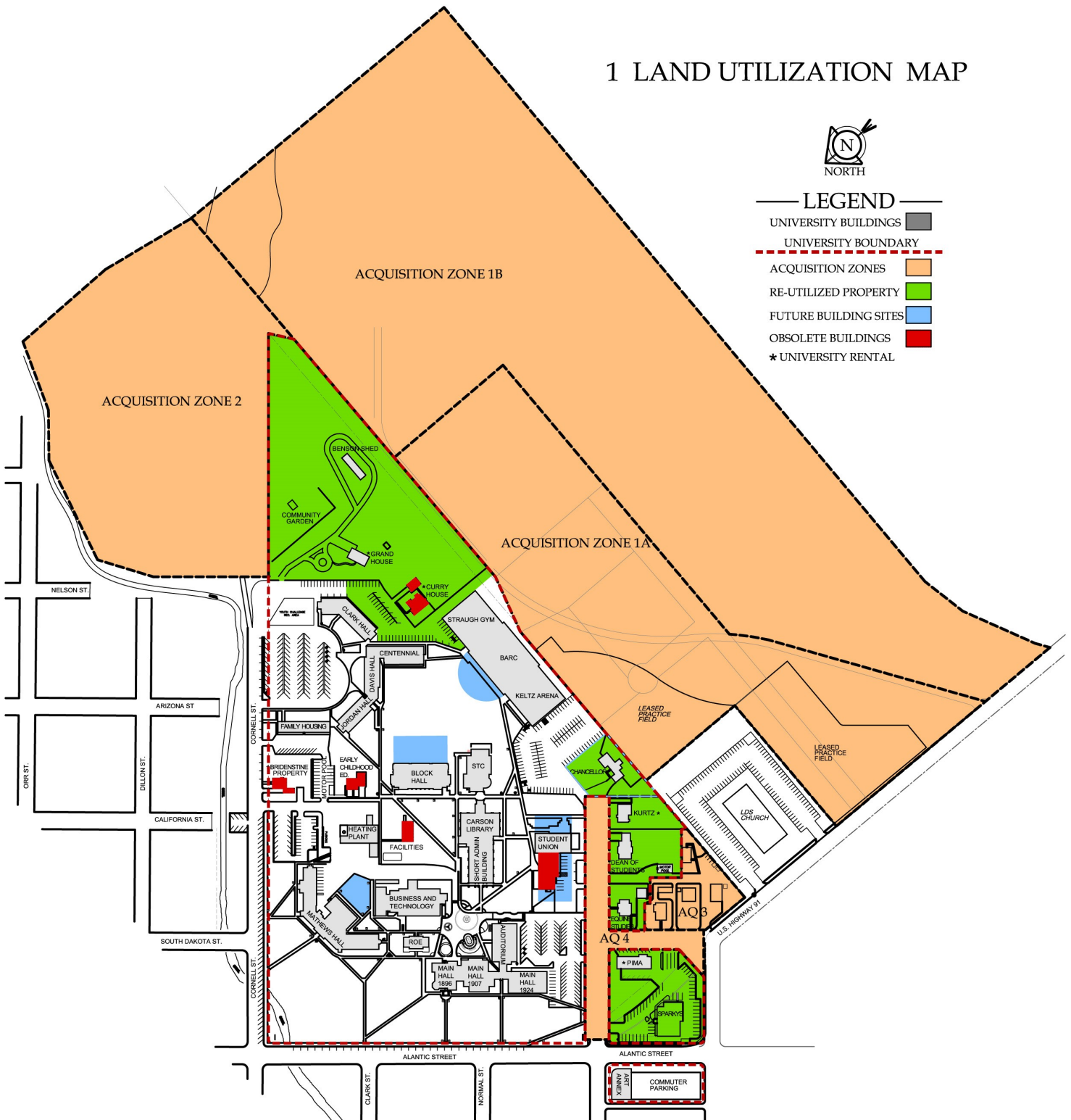
In the ever changing world of heating and electrical fuel sources, the University of Montana Western must continually evaluate its utility sources and cost-effective systems.

GOALS:

- Place property south of campus in acquisition zone
- Place Tulley Springs in acquisition zone
- Acquire all properties south of campus bordered by East Chapman St.
- Re-purpose south campus houses (for new campus buildings & parking)
- Acquire Poindexter Street with the City of Dillon
- Identify future building sites and obsolete buildings (old residences)
- Identify under-utilized university property that can be improved or repurposed
- Evaluate cost-effective utility systems (off the grid, renewable energy, environmentally sensitive, backup systems)

MASTER PLAN GOALS

1 LAND UTILIZATION MAP



2

Improve Academic Resources

Substantial improvements to the academic buildings have been made since the 2003 master plan. Both the historic preservation and classroom upgrades to Main Hall as well as the previous addition of Swysgood Technology Center are examples of improvements to academic resources that enhanced most campus programs facilities. Because of growth in the Science and Health and Human Performance programs, these fields are in need of additional updated facilities.

Technology has been continually improved on campus. Wireless capabilities, however, will continue to require updated devices and bandwidth.

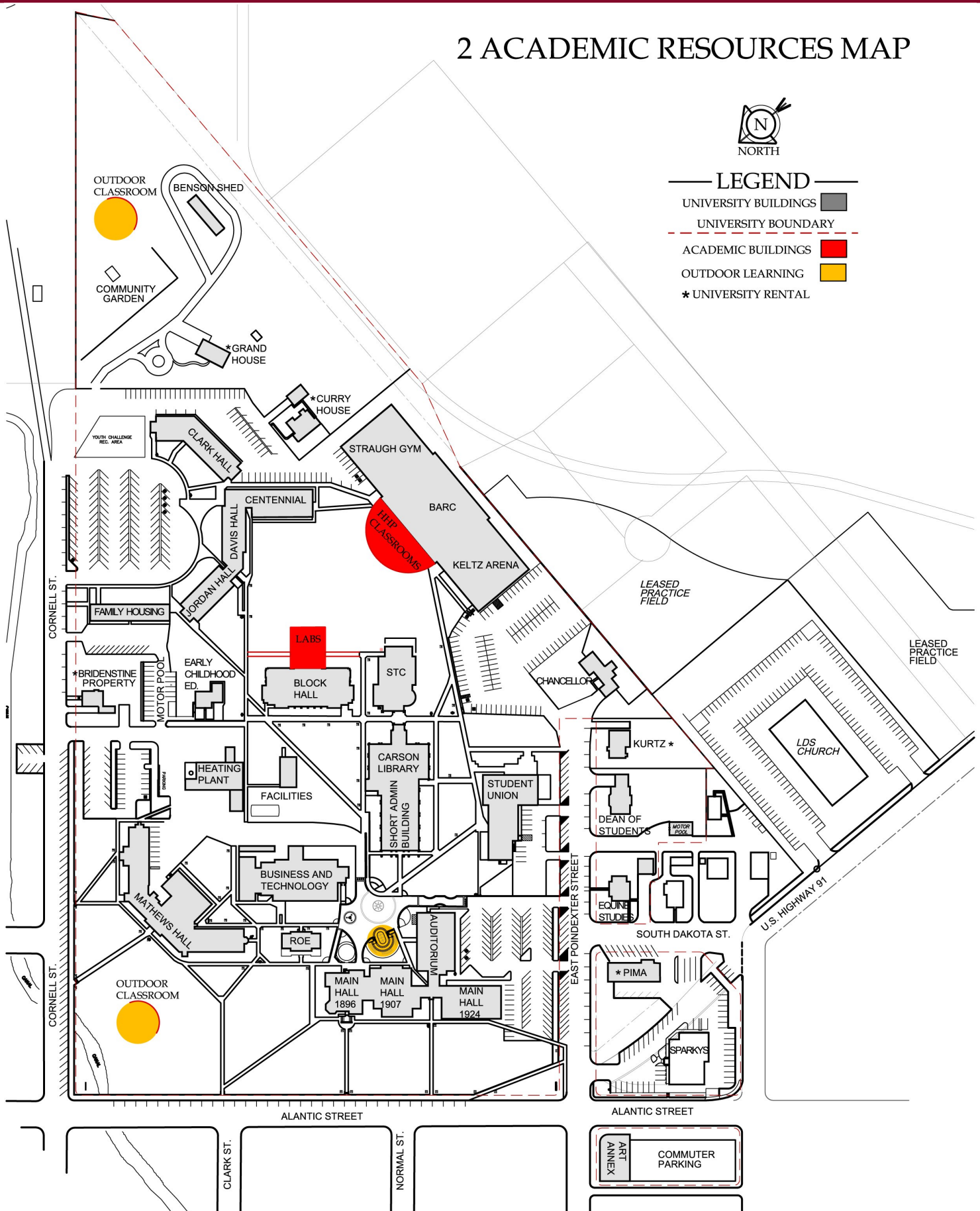
The academic buildings are sufficient in size for the current load of students. One possible enhancement to the classrooms, that also improves experiential learning opportunities, is the addition of outdoor classrooms. In conjunction with that, outdoor recreation opportunities should be added to benefit existing programs.

GOALS:

- Construct Science laboratory rooms and classrooms (Block Hall)
- Develop outdoor classrooms
- Construct Health and Human Performance classrooms and offices (in conjunction with new Recreation Center)
- Improve technology on campus (particularly wireless capabilities)
- Upgrade classroom furniture (Block Hall)
- Develop outdoor recreation opportunities

MASTER PLAN GOALS

2 ACADEMIC RESOURCES MAP



3

Upgrade Student Life and Living

Central to student needs at the University of Montana Western is the necessity to enhance their experience on campus. A multifaceted approach will include redeveloping the Student Union Building, constructing student recreation facilities and improving housing options on campus.

The University of Montana Western recognizes the need to provide a wide range of housing options for all students that complement respective academic programs. In a changing world of housing styles, University of Montana Western will look to add pod-style housing, additional family student housing and continue to upgrade existing dormitories.

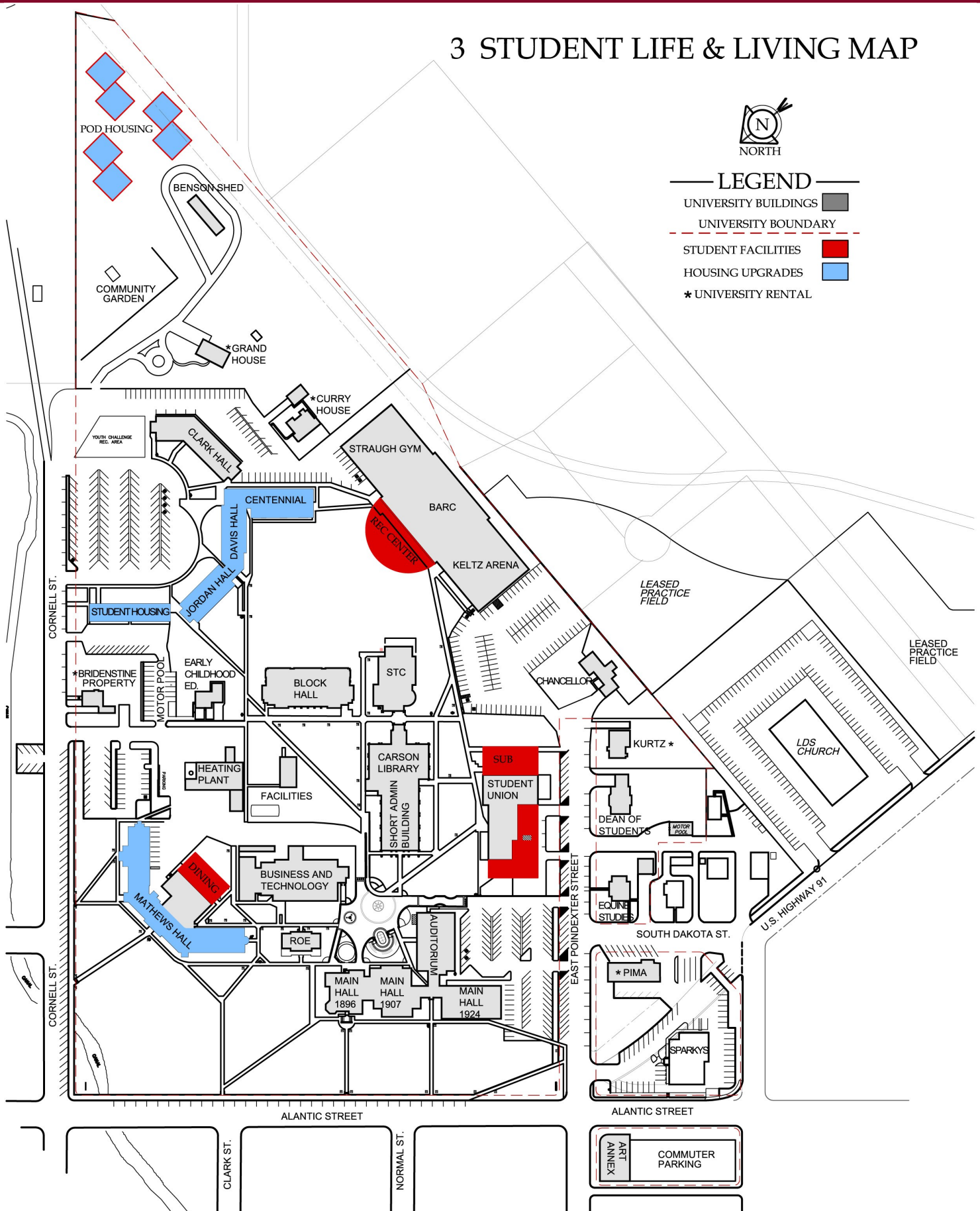
Campus dining services are also in need of larger facilities to accommodate the current student load and provide additional services for banquets, summer programs and for the year-long Montana Youth Challenge Program.

GOALS:

- Construct new student recreation/fitness center building with exercise equipment
- Redevelop or construct a Student Union Building that will be used campus wide and by the community (relocate mail room, enlarge bookstore, provide study and technology areas, add conference space, and add student recreational activities)
- Enlarge Dining Services facilities, seating, and circulation spaces
- Provide new pod style and apartment style, as well as family, housing
- Renovate existing dormitory bathrooms and rooms (Mathews Hall is the priority)
- Provide more family housing

MASTER PLAN GOALS

3 STUDENT LIFE & LIVING MAP



4

Improve Athletic Facilities

Like most universities, the University of Montana Western has a long standing tradition of excellence in athletics. Currently, nearly one third of all students are involved in athletics. Whether or not the students participate in athletics, the Bulldogs are the face of the campus to the community. In light of that importance, the University of Montana Western will continue to improve facilities to display that pride and to attract the next generation of student athletes.

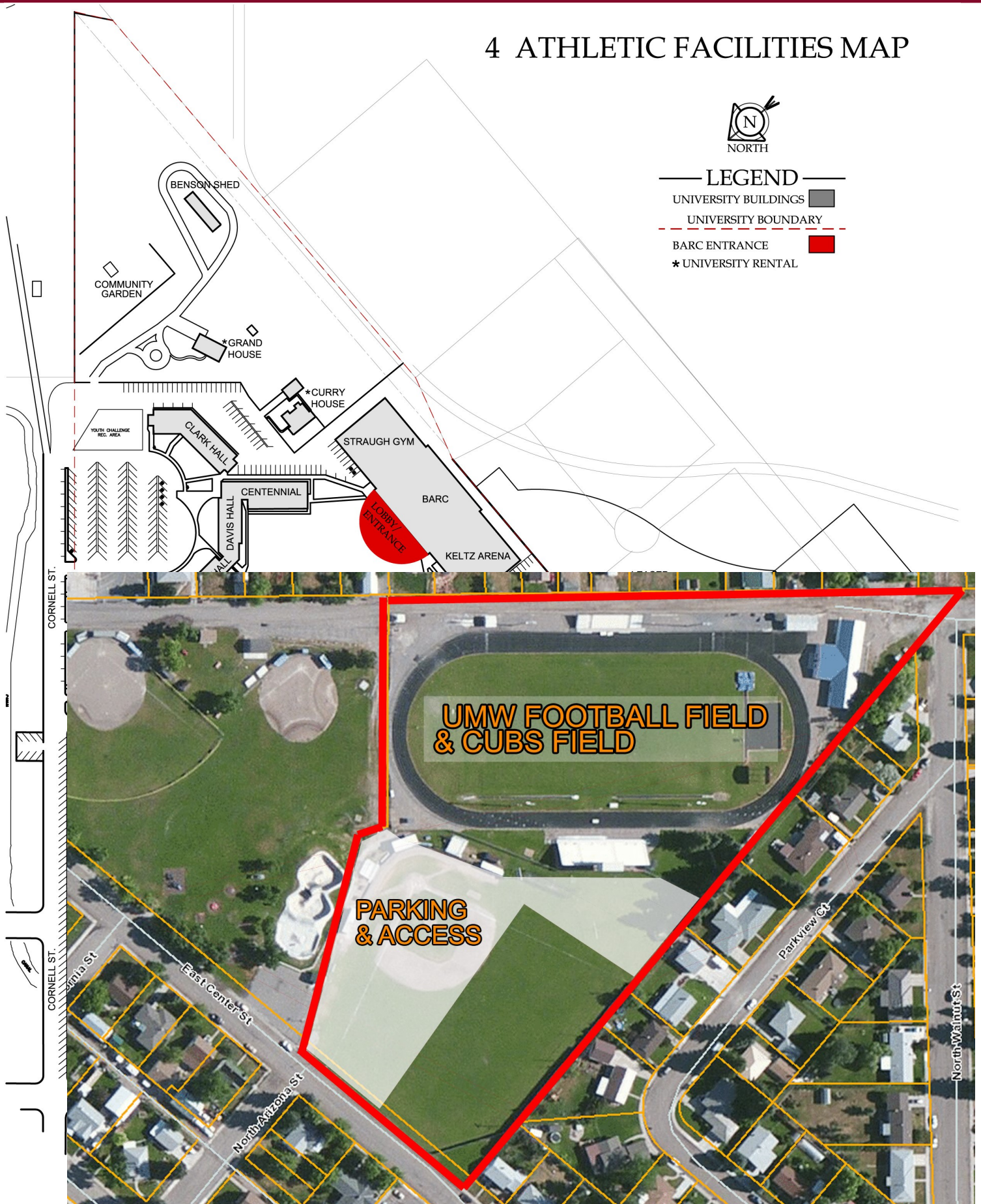
The biggest improvements will be concentrated on the football stadium that the University of Montana Western owns in the middle of Dillon. Since the American Legion baseball team is building a new facility outside of Dillon, the University of Montana Western will re-purpose the existing Cubs field for better parking and circulation commensurate with a collegiate field. Simultaneously, additional improvements will continue on campus with the upgrade of Straugh Gym and the Keltz Arena.

GOALS:

- Renovate football stadium bleachers, install artificial turf, construct a pavilion and entrance features
- Redevelop a portion of the Cubs Field into parking and outdoor recreation space
- Develop an entrance lobby for the BARC Arena
- Replace gym floors in the Keltz arena and Straugh Gym
- Restore “M” on hill west of Dillon

MASTER PLAN GOALS

4 ATHLETIC FACILITIES MAP



5

Enhance the Campus

The campus master plan should create an aesthetic quality for the students, faculty, staff and community while preserving the character of the campus. The greenspace is a back drop to the historic buildings on campus. The utmost care will be given to preserving and maintaining open space while looking for opportunities to enhance the campus grounds.

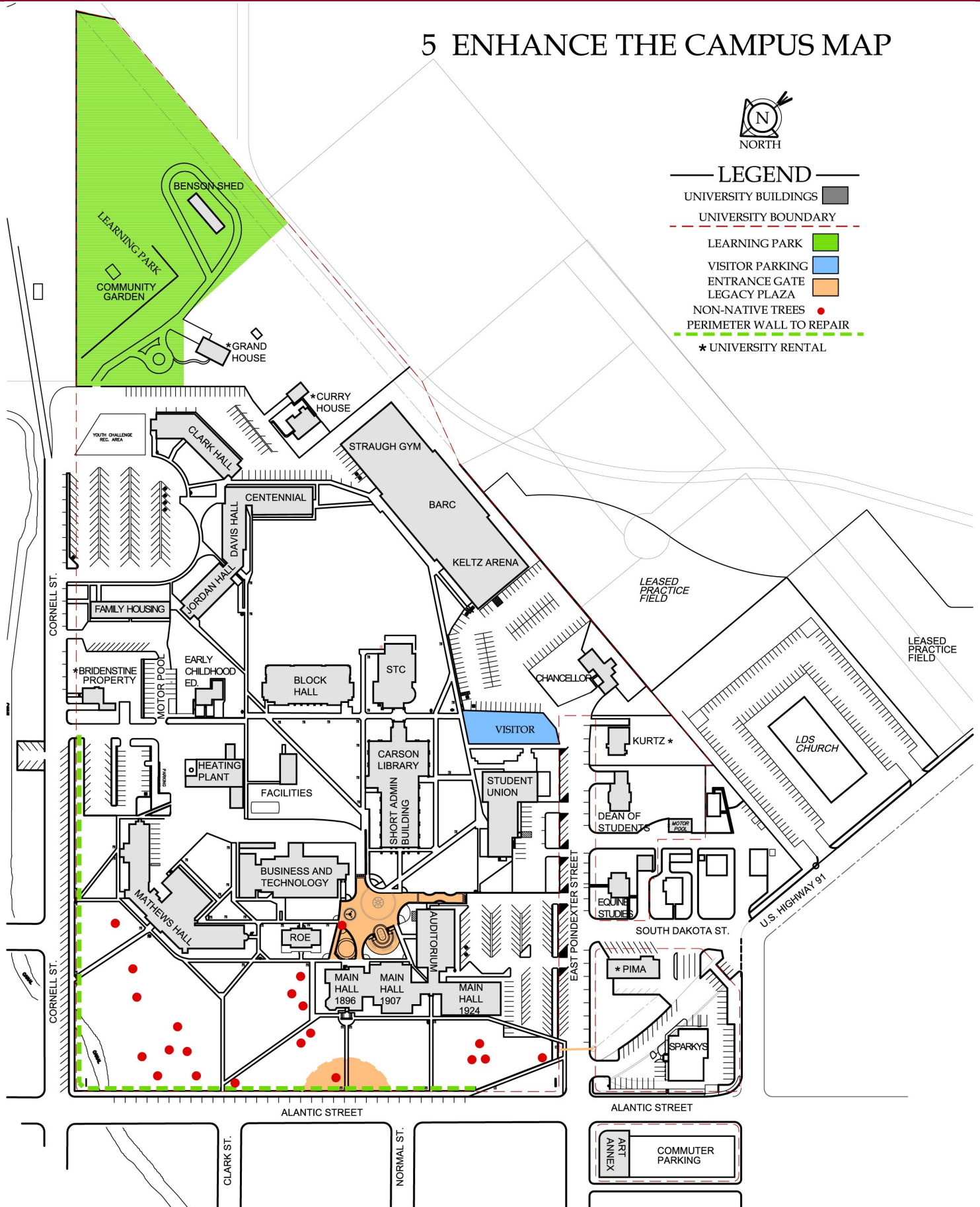
The University of Montana Western will develop a gateway, campus drive and defined path to assist visitors in finding their way once they reach campus. Once on campus, The University of Montana Western will display its stewardship of the land by maintaining significant features. In conjunction, design standards will be developed to preserve the character of the campus when new building campaigns are undertaken.

GOALS:

- Make greenspace improvements
- Construct learning park east of campus & community garden
- Develop a gateway feature and entrance sign(s) to enter campus
- Develop Atlantic Street entrance to Main Hall with a small campus drive or defined path
- Provide clearly marked visitor routes and dedicated parking
- Develop historic architectural standards and building review standards
- Rebuild or repair historic perimeter wall/fence along Atlantic and Cornell Streets
- Maintain green and open spaces
- Construct Legacy Plaza at the geographic center of campus

MASTER PLAN GOALS

5 ENHANCE THE CAMPUS MAP



6

Increase Community Connection

The University of Montana Western strives to foster a strong relationship with the community of Dillon and surrounding areas. University collaboration with local businesses, neighbors, and city officials is a means for enriching the academic and cultural resources on campus. Community events will continue to be encouraged on campus to whatever degree possible. In conjunction, campus facilities will be built to accommodate community events as an outreach and as a revenue stream.

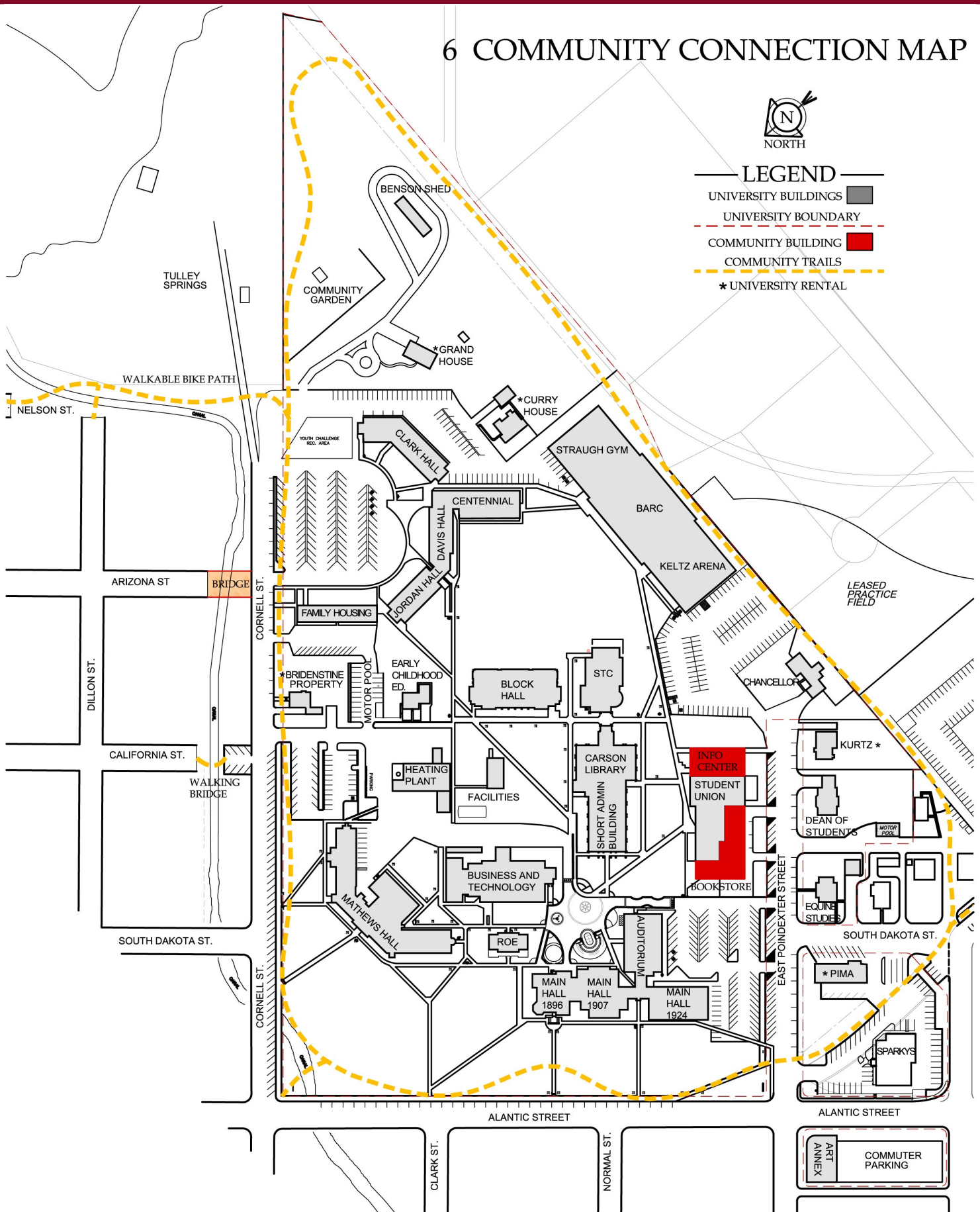
The campus and adjacent community will also be blended to create a seamless setting connected by open spaces, pedestrian and bicycle paths and street connections. For the sake of categorizing all the goals, community connection features are coalesced into athletics, campus enhancements, pedestrian and bike access, vehicular access and land utilization.

GOALS:

- Develop more event center spaces that are conducive to the community's needs
- Develop an information center
- Enlarge the bookstore for the community's needs as well as students' needs
- Bridge California, Arizona or Nelson Street to connect campus to neighborhoods (city property, city will help with Transportation Alternatives grant)

MASTER PLAN GOALS

6 COMMUNITY CONNECTION MAP



7

Provide Vehicular Access and Parking

Considerable time and attention was given to the topic of vehicular access and parking because it was a high ranking topic on both the surveys and at both of the community outreach events. While some of these goals are not able to be attained unless further land acquisition is attained, most can be improved upon in the interim. University of Montana Western is committed to providing safety updates to improve fire access through and around campus. These access roads will also improve day-to-day traffic, especially during peak hours of use.

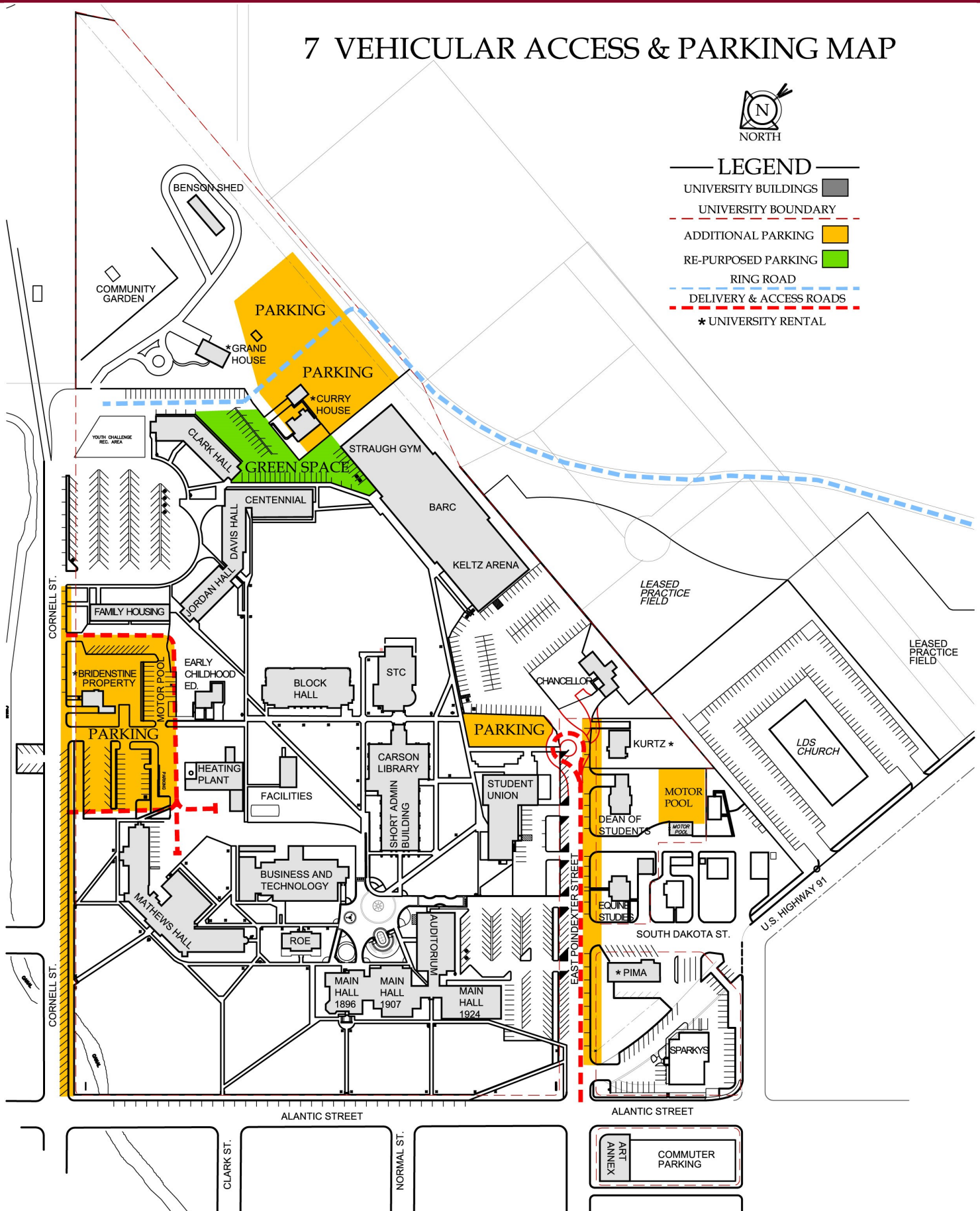
Parking on campus is another area of commitment for University of Montana Western to address. As obsolete buildings are removed, more opportunities will open up for parking improvements on the extremities of campus grounds. As always, University of Montana Western will continue to improve accessibility issues when designing new parking lots.

GOALS:

- Develop “ring road” for access around perimeter of campus (utilize agricultural road under lease agreement or easement)
- Identify and develop new parking (south campus, east of BARC, Bridenstine)
- Provide necessary service and handicap parking
- Improve and consolidate delivery traffic (heating plant/dining services with new access road on the north and bookstore/mail delivery to SUB)
- Develop more angled parking on Poindexter Street (campus paid parking)
- Re-build grade behind Clark Hall (turn into green space)
- Move Motor Pool lot behind Smith House (adjacent to Motor Pool maintenance building)
- Re-organize Keltz Arena Parking Lot
- Develop a campus drive and roundabout for easier access to the SUB and athletic facilities

MASTER PLAN GOALS

7 VEHICULAR ACCESS & PARKING MAP



8

Enhance Pedestrian and Bike Access

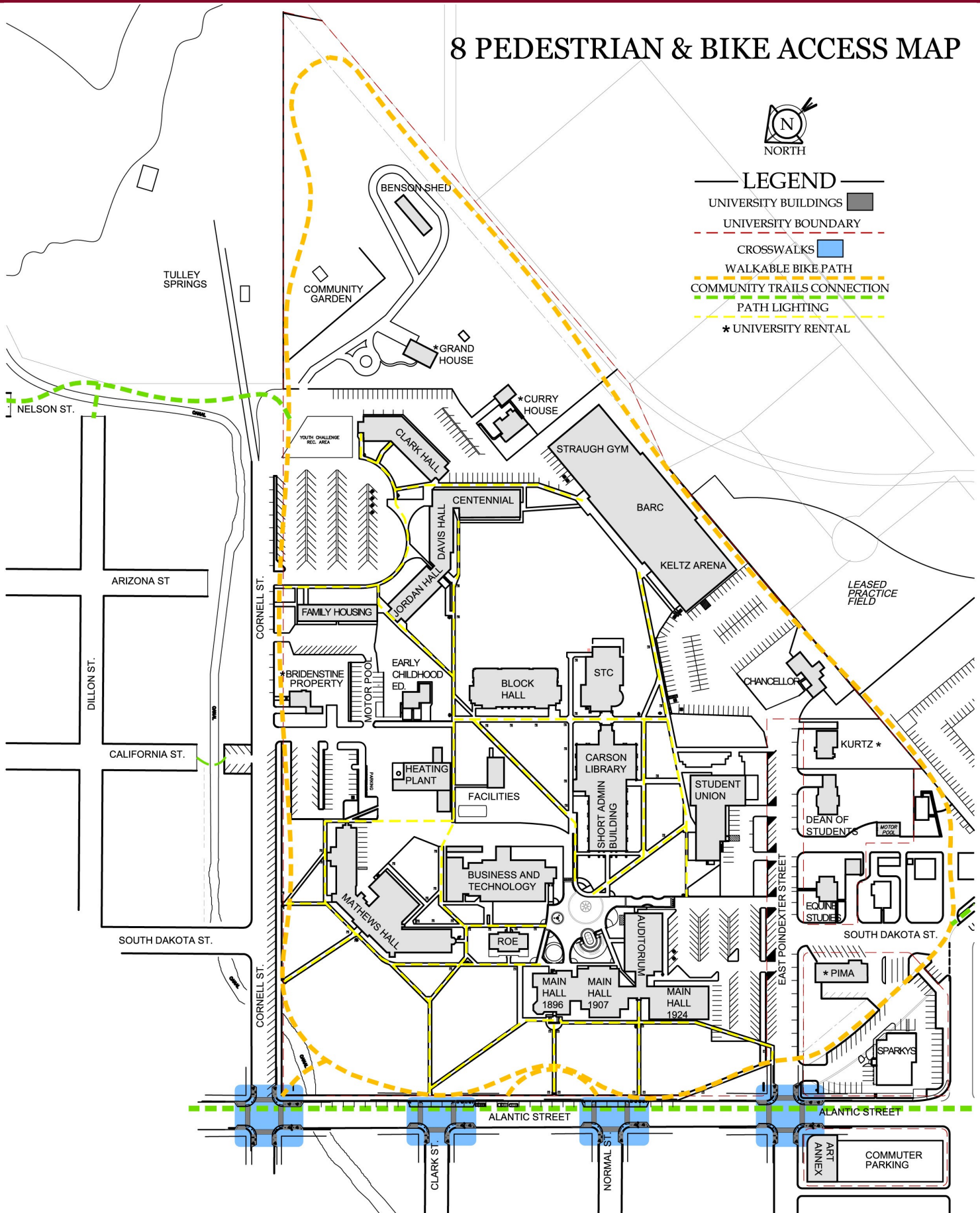
A pedestrian-oriented campus can limit vehicular use when it is a core value of the Master Plan, but it is also an amenity to the campus community and the neighborhoods surrounding campus. It is a goal of this document to make campus a link between Dillon and the rural areas beyond campus through the addition of walking trails and bike paths. Safety lighting features and other accessibility issues will also be identified and built into any future trails systems.

GOALS:

- Develop a walkable bike path on and through campus (ring path that connects to the city and the hospital)
- Review and identify accessibility issues through campus and campus buildings
- Connect trails to Tulley Springs trail set aside by the City of Dillon
- Reconstruct sidewalks on Atlantic Street for safety corridor and bikeable path (in conjunction with the city and Transportation Alternatives)
- Create safe pedestrian crosswalks to and from campus at Poindexter St., Cornell St., Clark St. and Normal St. (bulb style to match city's crossings)
- Provide lighting on paths for safety (address uniformity of light pole color)

MASTER PLAN GOALS

8 PEDESTRIAN & BIKE ACCESS MAP



THE UNIVERSITY *of* MONTANA WESTERN

TEN YEAR-MASTER PLAN

CAMPUS & COMMUNITY SUMMARIES



CHARRETTE

The University of Montana Western invites campus and community input to update the Campus Master Plan



Led by Kreg T. Jones Architecture, Montana Western is seeking your thoughts and ideas to update the Campus Master Plan and develop a 10-year roadmap for the university's physical environment. Refreshments will be served.

Campus and Community Input Session

Monday, April 27, 2015 | 7 p.m. | Great Room in the Swysgood Technology Center on the UMW campus.

THE UNIVERSITY of MONTANA WESTERN

On April 27, 2015 a charrette was held to collect ideas from as many diverse individuals as possible.

What is a Master Plan Charrette?

A Collaborative exercise done in a short period of time to engage larger numbers of people

In our case it was made up of students, faculty, staff, & community members

It is an opportunity to dream BIG to identify positive changes on campus

The participants looked at what the possibilities are for the future growth of the UMW campus focusing on the core principles of how to:

- Enrich Student Life and Living
- Support High-Quality Experiential Learning
- Enhance Campus Environment



Participants first broke up into round-table groups to discuss one of the core principles.

CHARRETTE

The groups then graphically displayed their ideas on maps and with poster board bullet points.



Each group presented their ideas to the entire group of participants for the principle they were to discuss. The round table groups then added or subtracted ideas through this dialogue and presented three “can do” action items and three “could do” items.

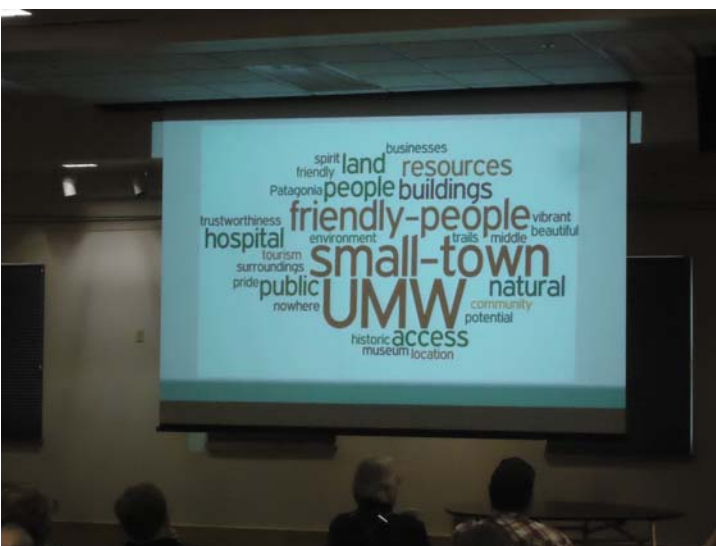
In the final phase, each participant voted on their favorite ideas for all principles by placing a colored dot next to their favorite ideas.



COLLABORATIVE OUTREACH

In June of 2015, a collaborative outreach was planned and presented. The city of Dillon planning board held their regular meeting on the University of Montana Western's campus with the University's Master Plan development team. Since the city was working on updating their growth policy and developing a downtown community plan it was a good opportunity to share both the city's and the University's efforts in a collaborative forum.

During the discussions, the planning board and the UMW development team discussed many opportunities to improve and connect their respective efforts. One such effort was the desire to improve the safety and beauty of Atlantic Street as it passes by campus. A transportation Alternatives Grant application was started that very night as a first step to realizing this collaborative effort. A portion of the grant application graphics can be see on the opposite page.



The city of Dillon's survey proved the importance of UMW within the community and is displayed to the left as part of the presentation. The more an item was noted in their survey, the larger the print was displayed. UMW is by far the biggest print collected from their survey.

COLLABORATIVE OUTREACH

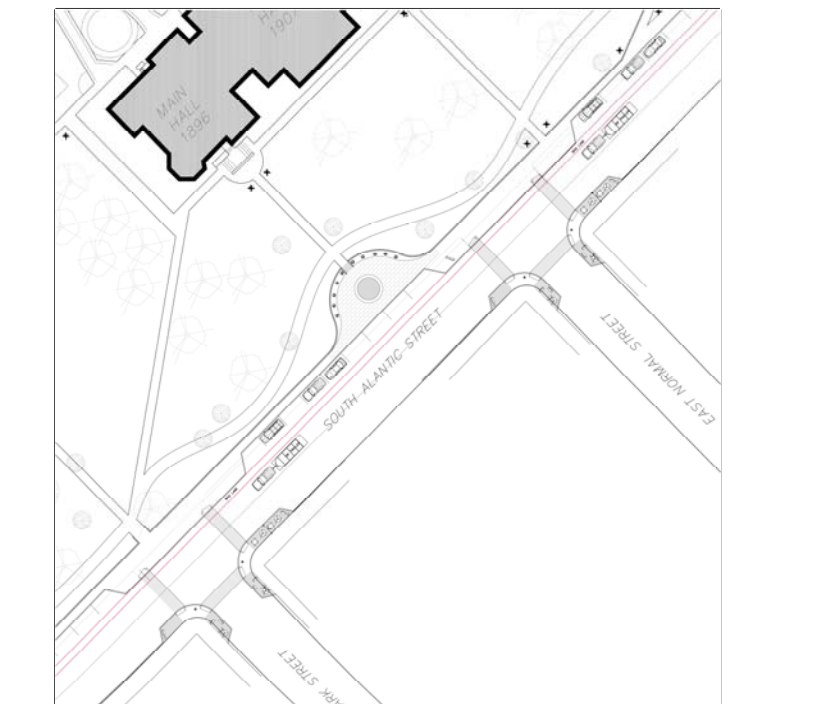
Improving Atlantic Street Transportation Alternatives Grant



The grant application focused on the section of Atlantic Street adjacent to campus



Way finding, safe intersection crossings and beatification are the main improvements

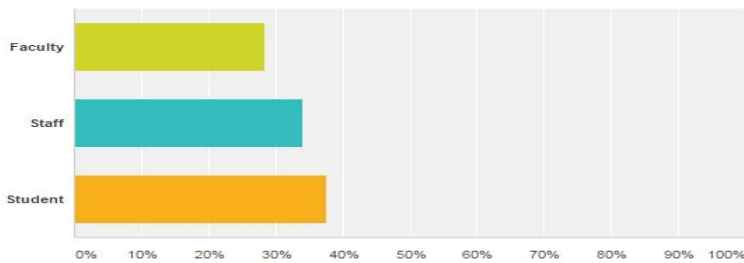


SURVEY SUMMARY

1. Are you faculty, staff or a student?

Answered: 86

Skipped: 11



Answer Choices	Responses
Faculty	26.74% 23
Staff	34.88% 30
Student	38.37% 33
Total	86

2. If new or remodeled on-campus housing were available, how likely are you to choose to live on campus?

Answered: 96

Skipped: 1

	I would definitely live on campus	I would very likely live on campus	I would consider, but look for other options	Not Likely	If possible, I would not live on campus	N/A	Total	Weighted Average
(no label)	5.21% 5	7.29% 7	12.50% 12	7.29% 7	9.38% 9	58.33% 56	96	3.20

3. Do you feel off campus housing options adequately meet student's expectations?

Answered: 89

Skipped: 8

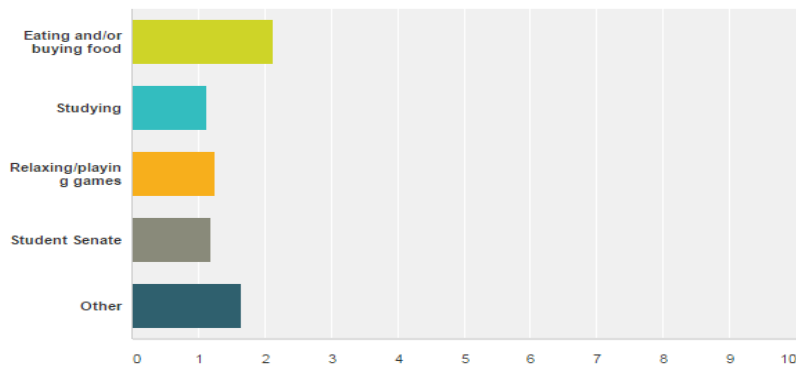
	Yes, they meet student's expectations	Mostly met	Student's expectations are adequately met	Minimally met	No, student's expectations are not met	Total	Weighted Average
(no label)	5.62% 5	24.72% 22	23.60% 21	32.58% 29	13.48% 12	89	3.24

SURVEY SUMMARY

4. What activities do you use the Student Union Building for and how often per week?

Answered: 94

Skipped: 3



	0	1 hour or less	2 to 4 hours	5-9 hours	10+ hours	Total	Weighted Average
Eating and/or buying food	13.98% 13	62.37% 58	20.43% 19	3.23% 3	0.00% 0	93	2.13
Studying	92.77% 77	3.61% 3	1.20% 1	2.41% 2	0.00% 0	83	1.13
Relaxing/playing games	81.93% 68	10.84% 9	7.23% 6	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	83	1.25
Student Senate	85.88% 73	8.24% 7	5.88% 5	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	85	1.20
Other	58.97% 46	24.36% 19	14.10% 11	1.28% 1	1.28% 1	78	1.62

5. Do you feel more community integration with campus facilities (like the SUB, Library, Athletics, etc.) would enhance the experience of students?

Answered: 94

Skipped: 3

	Yes, I feel more community involvement on campus would enhance student's experience	I'd be fine with more of the community on campus	I'm indifferent to whether the community uses the campus facilities	I'd prefer not to have the community on campus, but it doesn't affect me	No, I feel that campus facilities should only be used by faculty, staff & students	Total	Weighted Average
(no label)	45.74% 43	24.47% 23	20.21% 19	6.38% 6	3.19% 3	94	1.97

SURVEY SUMMARY

6. Do you feel current student access to fitness and recreation facilities on campus is adequate?

Answered: 89

Skipped: 8



7. Where on campus do students most often meet for group projects, clubs or friends?

Answered: 69

Skipped: 28

Library- 41
STC- 26
SUB – 14
BARC – 7
Residence halls/dorms – 5
Off Campus – 5
Lawn – 3
Cup – 2
Class rooms – 2
Business Sim Lab – 1
Matthew's Hall – 1
Terra Verde room – 1
Lewis and Clark room – 1
Block Hall – 1

8. If you feel more technology is needed in the classrooms, please tell us what you feel is needed:

Answered: 55

Skipped: 42

Faster Internet /WIFI– 16
Adequate - 8
Smart Boards – 6
Knowing how to use Technology/Smartboards - 4
New Computers – 3
Projectors/video sound system – 3
Upkeep/Maintenance – 2
Upgraded Technology – 2
Improve Moodle – 2
Better Network – 1
IPADs - 1
HHP lab settings – 1
Photoshop Lab – 1
Smart Podiums – 1
Vehicles – 1
Lab Space – 1
Sound System in STC rooms – 1
Video Lab (high voice recording)- 1
Apple TV's – 1
Computer in Main Hall – 1

SURVEY SUMMARY

9. What could better enhance experiential learning on campus?

Answered: 50

Skipped: 47

More Labs – 5
Outdoor Classrooms – 4
Better Technology/WIFI /Ethernet cables– 4
Re-visit experiential learning on the part of professors /less lecture- 4
Flexibility in Curriculum – 2
Teaching teachers how to do this – 2
Understanding both teachers and students – 2
Like the block system – 2
Campus open longer hours/more flexibility for classes – 2
Sandbox Classroom – 2
Actually getting the full 3 hrs of class time that is paid for – 2
Smaller classes/increased funding – 2
Same classes offered in more blocked – 1
More vehicles to use for activities – 1
X-Squared idea – 1
First year block devoted to campus policies – 1
Foreign language – 1
Less technology and using more paper w/ discussions – 1
Tenure for learning...disband business and horsey programs for not doing experiential learning – 1
More money for travel and equipment – 1
Less budgetary constraints – 1
Students helping organize classes – 1
Same credit hours for all classes – 1
Jobs available to non-work study students – 1

10. List any improvements that would make your experience better at the University of Montana Western

Answered: 55

Skipped: 42

Update Dorms– 8
Remodel or reinvent SUB for better student activities - 5
Better fitness/wellness opportunities – 6
More Campus Activities – 3
Relocate Youth Challenge off Campus – 3
Matthews Hall updated – 3
Internet/WIFI – 3
Parking – 3
More friendly for student social life with faculty involved – 2
Pool – 2
Better library/computer access - 2
Eliminate computer literacy exam – 2
Better dining options – 2
Remodeled Gym – 1
New football field w/Turf – 1
Better filing of records – 1
Online courses – 1
Extend hours of library, STC, BARC, and SUB – 1
Increase Library Budget – 1
Need Brewery – 1
Softball Intramural team – 1
Better lighting in parking lots – 1
Student Shuttle – 1
Larger Bookstore – 1

ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN GUIDELINES

BUILDING & SITE DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS

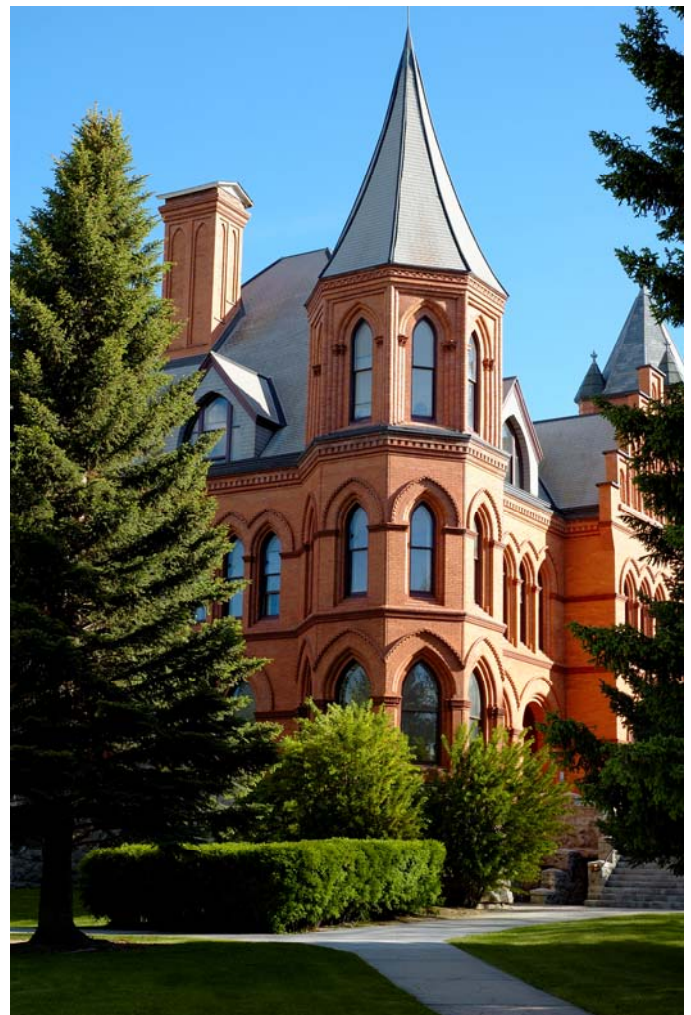
Architectural design encompasses both form and function of buildings at the University of Montana Western. Much of the physical character of the University of Montana-Western derives from the appearance and placement of its buildings, particularly as they are grouped to define significant open spaces.

The Master Plan establishes a series of architectural design guidelines to ensure that future buildings are designed to complement the image of the University and its campus.

Given the importance of these planning principles to the future physical development of the campus, any new project, addition, or renovation project shall be tested against these principles for building and site design.

BUILDING DESIGN

- Review scale, size, and mass
- Incorporate healthy lighting environments, including appropriate sun orientation and access to natural lighting
- Consider focal points, image, and lines of sight
- Determine suitability within local context (e.g., scale, materials, colors, textures)
- Be environmentally responsible in selecting building materials
- Determine suitability within and respect of existing campus composition (i.e., restoring and respecting historical significance, maintaining the integrity of existing building structures)
- Make appropriate use of site (e.g., topography, sun orientation, views, drainage, circulation access, etc.)
- Consider future growth or expansion potential



ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN GUIDELINES

SITE DESIGN

- Determine environmental impact
- Consider views of and from site
- Determine appropriate use of topography, including drainage and/or grading away from structure
- Consider pedestrian/vehicular circulation, promoting the concept of a pedestrian-oriented campus, etc.
- Enhance existing natural features
- Develop site landscaping, including plantings, sculpture, seating, signage, lighting, and trash/recycle/solid waste containers
- Maintain and enhance open and recreational space
- Be sensitive to the existing campus design and grid
- Consider existing and proposed utilities, both above and below ground
- Consider snow removal and/or storage

The result of these considerations should assure campus buildings and open space that will:

- Foster interactions within our community
- Stimulate intellectual growth
- Foster a sense of community among students, faculty, and staff
- Celebrate the diversity of buildings and people
- Preserve the natural vistas
- Provide a sense of history, continuity, and future

