

AHC Precinct Plan Task Force Report Executive Summary

The precinct plan for the Academic Health Center was completed in 2000 and approved by the Board of Regents in July, 2001. Since then, new buildings have been built, others have been renovated, programs have expanded, and new inter-professional, interscholastic programs are being formed within the AHC and with other areas of the University, including the Institute of Technology and the College of Biological Sciences. Additionally, to support the University's goal to become one of the top three public research universities in the world, new facilities and new models for delivering health sciences research, education, and clinical care are needed. The AHC Precinct Plan needs to be updated, incorporating these changes and looking to the future.

Charge

Specifically, the task force was charged to:

1. Review the current precinct plan and update it to reflect facility changes completed since its formulation in 2000 and those facility projects currently underway.
2. Review the current Regental Six Year Capital Plan and make recommendations for future additions, including a new biomedical research building, reuse of the Minnesota Department of Health Building, reuse of Hasselmo Hall, plans for clinical facility renewal, the needs of the Lillehei Institute and the Cancer Center, and an education building.
3. Assess the current AHC classroom inventory, current utilization and future educational needs.
4. Project and analyze, on a 5 to 15 year horizon, the facility needs of the Academic Health Center to support education, research, clinical practice, and outreach.
5. Formulate a new precinct plan for the Academic Health Center.

Task Force Members

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The Facility Challenge

While over \$158 million has been invested in AHC facilities since 2000, other states have been making even greater investments in their health sciences. Minnesota is falling behind its peers, and the facility challenge facing the Academic Health Center is significant. To recruit the best faculty and students and attract patients, the AHC must make significant investments in its aging facilities.

- The AHC's educational facilities need to be renewed, renovated, and/or rebuilt to support a modern curriculum.
- The AHC must dramatically expand and modernize its research space in order to hire the faculty needed to achieve the University's goal of becoming a top three research institution.
- The AHC and its clinical partners must renew and rebuild clinical facilities to remain competitive in the intense Twin Cities health care market place.

The New Precinct Plan – First Steps

The new AHC precinct plan must extend beyond the Minneapolis four square block area of earlier plans – to include the Riverside campus, the St. Paul campus, the growing research area near the proposed stadium, the area north and east of the Student Housing Superblock, as well as areas in Duluth and Rochester. The plan needs to encompass not only education and research, but patient care as well. Over the past six months, the task force identified and defined key strategic facility issues, planning principles, design concepts, and building needs for incorporation into a new precinct plan for the Academic Health Center. The next steps are to:

1. Verify and refine the space projections for AHC programs over the next five to fifteen years.
2. Incorporate the principles, findings and conclusions of this report into a new precinct plan – one that encompasses the entire physical span of the AHC, its multiple missions (education, research, patient care, and service), and its key partners. The plan also needs to include potential sites, cost estimates and sequencing of major projects, as well as address transportation and access issues.
3. Incorporate the AHC precinct planning effort into the University-wide initiative to update the Minneapolis Campus master plan.
4. Update the University six-year capital plan to reflect projects currently underway and identify the next development priorities for the AHC.