



Academic Senate

COMMITTEE ON PHYSICAL RESOURCES PLANNING

March 4, 2021

To: Jason Stajich, Chair
Riverside Division

From: Ben Bishin, Chair
Committee on Physical Resources Planning

Re: Campus Review: Draft Strategic Plan

The Committee on Physical Resources Planning has reviewed the Draft Strategic Plan and offers the following feedback:

The Committee expressed concerns about the lack of specifics in the Strategic Plan broadly speaking. With respect to our Committee's charge, it seems clear the plan has potentially profound implications for physical infrastructure. Given the very general nature of the Plan, however, it is difficult to be specific about what these will be. There are potentially large implications from dramatically expanding on-line education, building relationships (and presumably infrastructure) to support an increased focus on community outreach, serving the public interest, increasing and supporting interdisciplinary research, renewed emphasis on environmental sustainability, and so on.

There are several specific references to the physical resources needed to support the strategic plan, with some details provided in the attachments provided by the Sustainable Infrastructure Working Group (particularly Appendix D of the strategic plan).

Committee members felt strongly that as part of the Physical Resource Sustainability Subcommittee report (point 11 as part of "safe facilities") and Appendix B, the issue of air quality in campus buildings (i.e., issues of ventilation, air filters, fans etc.) both with respect to the current pandemic and more broadly given the university location on a central highway artery and hence an area with high levels of air pollution should be addressed. Both retrofitting of buildings with the appropriate technology based on current research and integration of the relevant technology in current and future construction seems relevant.

In sum, the plan has significant and potentially very large implications for physical resources. These issues need substantially more detail, and the precise implications are difficult to assess given the ambiguous nature of the Plan. Several members feel that the strategic plan needs a re-visioning which would allow us to make more specific recommendations.