

3 urban design

The 2019 FAU Boca Raton Campus Master Plan Update creates a framework for growth that builds on the campus' physical origins as an Army Air Base and the original 1962 Campus Plan. It provides a road map for physically implementing FAU's Strategic Plan. The Urban Design Element establishes conceptual principles for the organization of future development, including buildings and open spaces on the Boca Raton campus.

The Element is structured around four main goals:

1. Strengthen Campus Districts
2. Enhance and clarify the overall Campus Framework
3. Implement Sustainable Growth strategies
4. Maintain Community Coordination of proposed projects

GOAL 1: Strengthen Campus Districts

Campus Districts are described by the intended primary use. Services such as parking, utilities and other needs are contained in each use zone. Some overlap of program or functional use may occur between or within zones and serves to both maximize efficient use of facilities and enrich the campus experience through multi-use opportunities. Clear connections between use zones should be maintained or created.

Objective 1A: Enhance the civic realm of the academic core.

- **Policy 1A-1:** Enhance Alumni Plaza to functionally and symbolically represent the heart of the Boca Raton Campus with shade, seating, and lawn suitable for campus events.
- **Policy 1A-2:** Enhance the entry plaza east of the Administration Building as both the historic campus gateway and as part of the north-south campus Greenway.
- **Policy 1A-3:** Site academic and study spaces along the Breezeway to promote collaboration and departmental identity.
- **Policy 1A-4:** Utilize infill sites for future academic facilities to increase campus density and create logical connections between buildings.

- **Policy 1A-5:** Create new, and enhance existing, courtyards and usable green space between facilities.
- **Policy 1A-6:** Add new parking structure on west side of existing Parking Deck 1 to accommodate enrollment growth.

Objective 1B: Consolidate service functions in Campus Support District.

- **Policy 1B-1:** Expand University Police Department facilities with an addition to existing building.

Objective 1C: Expand and enhance Student Housing and Support District.

- **Policy 1C-1:** Expand residence halls to house all first and second-year students in a centralized district southwest of the campus core.
- **Policy 1C-2:** Create new courtyards and enhance existing green space to encourage outdoor passive recreation and socializing.
- **Policy 1C-3:** Enhance the housing districts' frontage along the landscape buffer at Glades Road with shade, seating, and connected sidewalks.
- **Policy 1C-4:** Expand Student Union, (with new meeting facility), into existing Lifelong Learning Building, (move Lifelong Learning to Gateway District), to promote more student functions and a more dynamic campus social hub.
- **Policy 1C-5:** Enhance the open space to the north of the student union for events and social functions.
- **Policy 1C-6:** Enhance Heritage Park for outdoor social gatherings and study.
- **Policy 1C-7:** Site a new Welcome Center southwest of the Student Support Services building to orient campus visitors and share campus history and accomplishments.

Objective 1D: Expand and enhance Athletics, Recreation, and Wellness District.

- **Policy 1D-1:** Recreation Center addition to be sited at north end of the Breezeway creating a true northern pedestrian gateway to the campus core.
- **Policy 1D-2:** Add new parking structure on west side of existing Parking Deck 3 to accommodate enrollment growth.
- **Policy 1D-3:** Enhance west side of Athletics District with landscape and open space improvements and create pedestrian connections between venues.

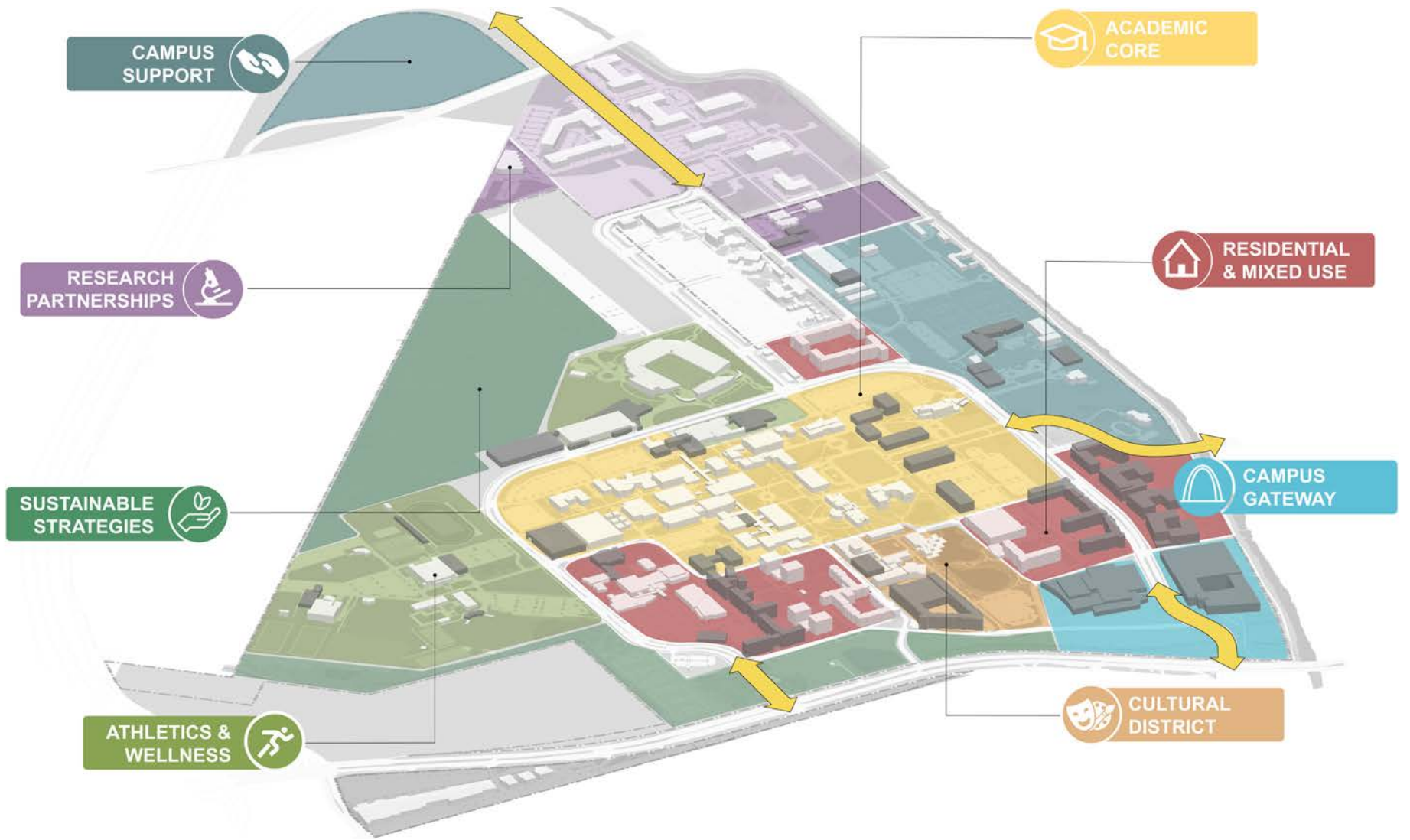


Figure 3.1, Campus Districts Diagram

- **Policy 1D-4:** Expand and enhance Athletics Facilities to improve team facilities, fan experience, and Athletics identity including:
 - New basketball practice facility on east side of the Arena
 - Renovated baseball stadium and practice field with new entry and signage
 - New soccer stadium adjacent to Oxley Athletic Center to improve team visibility
 - Addition to Oxley Athletic Center to act as a visual terminus to the district
 - New track and field stands and fieldhouse to also serve tennis needs
 - Replace Athletics Fieldhouse West with improved facilities
- **Policy 1D-5:** Maintain use of existing recreation fields and upon completion of new football practice facility, reclaim existing fields for student recreation and intramurals.

Objective 1E: Steward and protect Conservation Areas.

- **Policy 1E-1:** Continue practices to protect native plant and animal species on campus as outlined in Element 13, Conservation.
- **Policy 1E-2:** Initiate conservation land swap for new parking structure west of Parking Deck 3 with larger acreage and greater wildlife usage at location north of softball stadium and lot 12.
- **Policy 1E-3:** Improve trails and signage to promote appropriate use and education of the unique wildlife and plant life on campus.

Objective 1F: Create a Cultural District to enhance community engagement and strengthen programs.

- **Policy 1F-1:** Strengthen connection between arts facilities surrounding College of Arts & Letters with improved landscape and outdoor amenities at the Greenway.
- **Policy 1F-2:** Relocate Ritter Gallery to ground floor of Parking Deck 2 or nearby to expand cultural resources in the district and to activate ground floor of facilities adjacent to pedestrian walkways.
- **Policy 1F-3:** Site future Arts venues adjacent to Greenway to enhance campus and community involvement in the arts and to create a vibrant district connecting the Academic Core to the Gateway District.

- **Policy 1F-4:** Enhance the outdoor amphitheater adjacent to University Theatre with shade structure, expand use to include outdoor films and other events.

Objective 1G: Create a new Gateway District along East University Drive from realigned Indian River Street to 20th Street.

- **Policy 1G-1:** Create a mixed-use zone consisting of commercial/retail space with upper level and graduate student housing above, a new Lifelong Learning Center, and leasable office space.
- **Policy 1G-2:** Utilize a “complete street” concept to include on-street parking, site amenities to encourage outdoor dining, appropriate shade, lighting, and signage. Consideration should be given to adding bike lanes.
- **Policy 1G-3:** The Gateway District will have an urban character with continuous street frontage from Indian River Street to 20th Street. Ground floor program should be public in nature so as to promote pedestrian activity and provide a dynamic social environment complementary to the Cultural District.
- **Policy 1G-4:** Site larger “anchor” tenants so as to be visible from Glades Road and mixed-use housing closer to the campus core.
- **Policy 1G-5:** Utilize structured parking primarily with on-street parking so as to promote a continuous walkable streetscape.
- **Policy 1G-6:** Retain landscape buffer between Glades Road and Indian River street to retain FAU’s civic presence and to allow for traffic queuing.
- **Policy 1G-7:** Retain and enhance open space along El Rio Canal as part of a linear park running along the eastern campus boundary.

Objective 1H: Leverage Partnership Opportunities with adjacent districts.

- **Policy 1H-1:** Work with Research Park to explore academic research locations, research partnerships, and other entrepreneurial ventures.
- **Policy 1H-2:** Site School of Health Sciences facilities on FAU land immediately south of Research Park to promote academic and research growth and community engagement.
- **Policy 1H-3:** Explore opportunities with Palm Beach State College (PBSC) program and land use partnerships.
- **Policy 1H-4:** Explore partnership opportunities for the FAU-owned land north of Spanish River Boulevard.

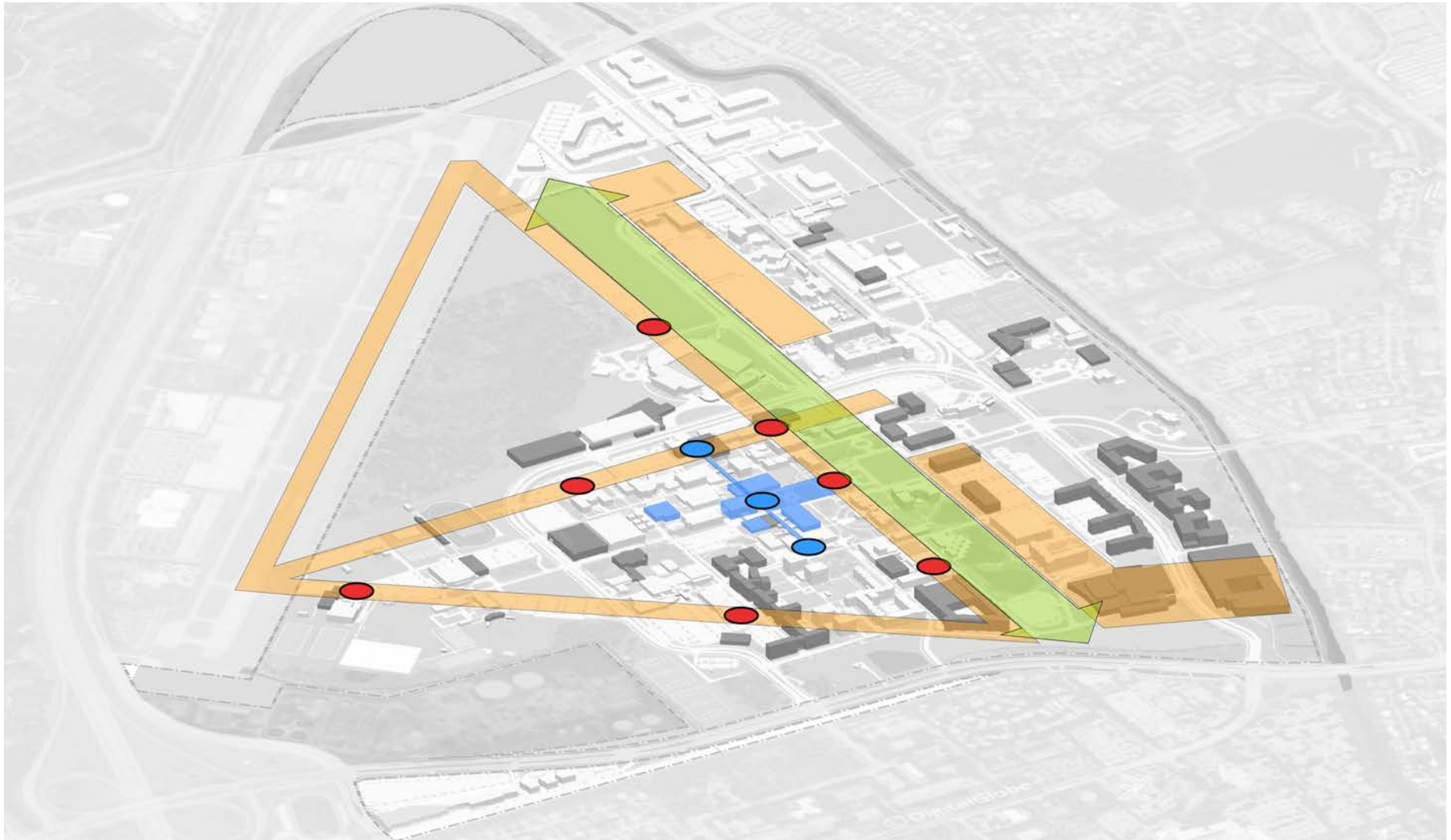


Figure 3.2, Historic Overlay Diagram

GOAL 2: Enhance and clarify the overall Campus Framework

Objective 2A: Structure growth around primary east-west and north-south axes.

- **Policy 2A-1:** Strengthen east-west axis connecting the historic 20th Street entry, Alumni Plaza, Library Walk, and Volusia Street to the Athletics District with shaded walks and enhanced site amenities.
- **Policy 2A-2:** Implement The Greenway as a primary north-south axis connecting the Gateway District and Cultural District at Glades Road northward to the Research Park.
- **Policy 2A-3:** Extend The Breezeway north to connect across North University Drive to the Schmidt Center and Athletics.

Objective 2B: Recognize the historic framework of the former Army Air Base and Breezeway

- **Policy 2B-1:** Implement historic markers or exhibits along The Greenway and at other prominent locations on campus along the former runways. Other locations may include Lot 5 (the last remaining intact remnant of the runways), the south end of the football stadium, the Administration Building, the outdoor amphitheater, the Education Building, the Oxley Athletic Center, and at the proposed Welcome Center at the West University Drive gateway.
- **Policy 2B-2:** Recognize the original Campus Plan with historic markers along The Breezeway. Specifically honor the position in Alumni Plaza where President Johnson dedicated the new university.

Objective 2C: Maintain and enhance the functional linkages and quality of the campus.

- **Policy 2C-1:** Extend the pedestrian systems within the core campus, to serve pedestrians better. The University shall add extensions to the pedestrian-way system as needed that encourage walking and provide the armature for future campus facilities and infrastructure.
- **Policy 2C-2:** Extend secondary east-west pedestrian pathways:
 - Academic Way: from the track eastward connecting multiple academic departments along the southern edge of the College of Business to the Henderson School at the east edge of campus.

- Diversity Way: connecting the student union to The Greenway and to the Gateway District.
- **Policy 2C-3:** Extend multiple north-south paths to connect the core campus south to the South Housing Village, Cultural District, and Gateway District and to the north to Athletics, Innovation Village, PBSC, and the Research Park.

GOAL 3: Implement Sustainable Growth Strategies

Objective 3A: Support the development of energy-efficient facilities.

- **Policy 3A-1:** Design facilities to meet or exceed current state energy design guidelines and to site facilities, utilize materials, shading devices, and landscaping to improve energy efficiency.
- **Policy 3A-2:** Promote passive energy conservation techniques, such as the planting of shade trees, and solar orientation of buildings and windows. These techniques shall be among the criteria for evaluating the siting, orientation, landscape and architectural design of all new and renovated facilities.
- **Policy 3A-3:** Explore opportunities to harness renewable energy sources, specifically solar “umbrellas” on parking structures and arrays on rooftops.

GOAL 4: Community Coordination

Objective 4A: Work together with the host city to continue/develop compatible land uses in the context area of the campus.

- **Policy 4A-1:** Coordinate on-campus development and development within the campus context area as outlined in Element 12, Intergovernmental Coordination.
- **Policy 4A-2:** The University shall work closely with the City of Boca Raton to coordinate the integration of bike paths, walkways, transit, and other linkages to the community into the City’s plans for similar facilities.

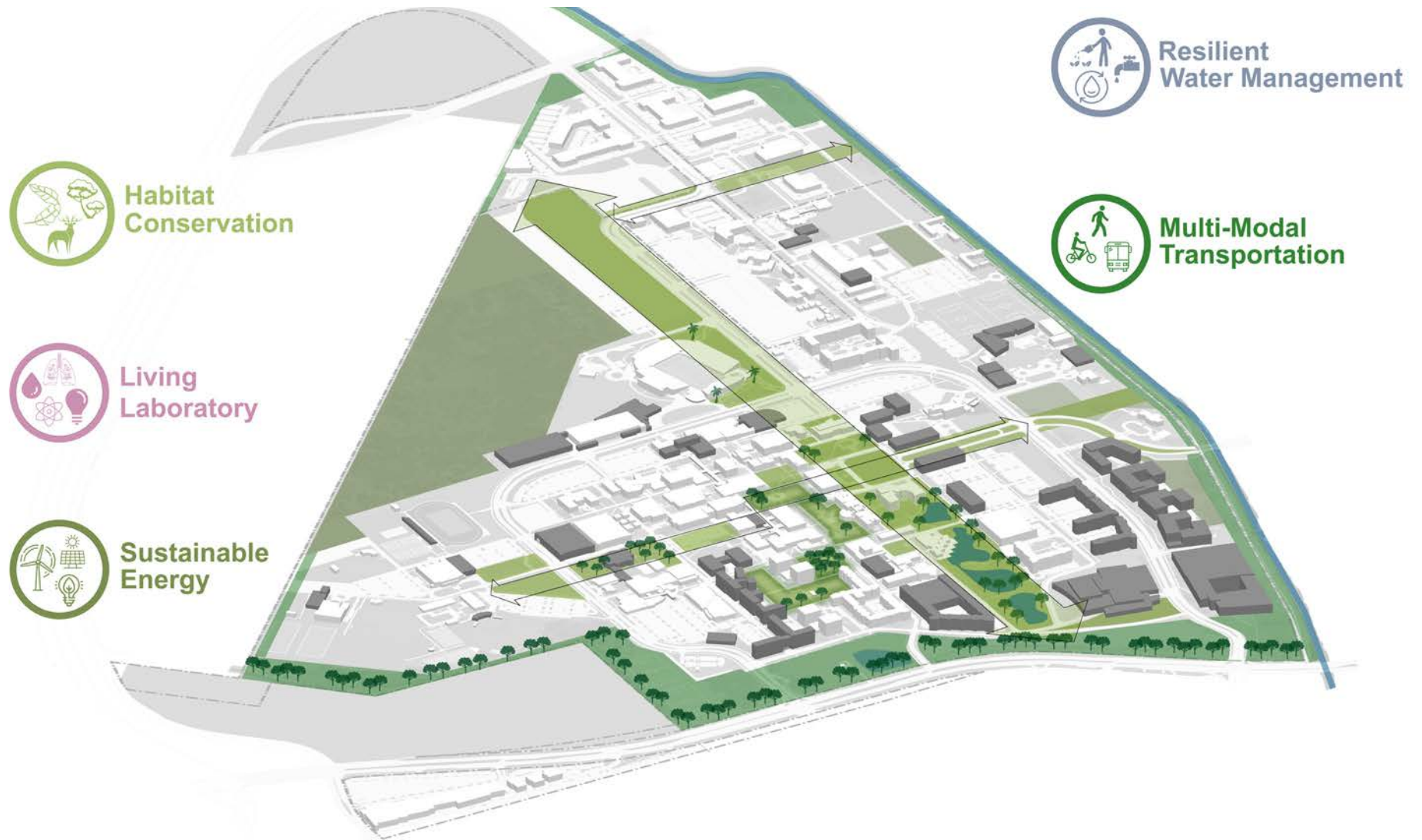


Figure 3.3, Natural Systems Diagram