

University of Oregon 13th Avenue Conceptual Design Project Statement of Need

Purpose

Create a visionary Conceptual Design for the 13th Avenue Axis to be a model of excellence in campus open-space design, reflect the *Campus Plan* principles and university values, and be a memorable part of the campus experience.

Current Issue

13th Avenue is a major Axis within the campus open space framework and is the primary east-west corridor for pedestrians and bicyclists through campus. However, the visual character, circulation patterns, and levels of safety on 13th Avenue vary throughout the axis. Today the majority of the axis looks and feels like a typical street designed for automobiles.

Currently, the western portion of 13th Avenue (Kincaid Street to University Street) gives pedestrians and bicycles priority, restricting vehicle access to service and emergency vehicles. However, the extremely high volume of pedestrians and bicycles, along with service vehicles and crowded transition areas, can make the experience feel chaotic and unsafe. The eastern portion of 13th Avenue (University Street to Agate Street) attempts to limit personal vehicle access, but not successfully. Drivers dropping off passengers or looking for parking continue to circulate amongst the high volumes of pedestrians and bicyclists. The eastern-most segment of 13th Avenue (Agate Street to Franklin Blvd) is a city street that serves critical vehicular needs. The *Campus Plan* and past studies have identified opportunities for enhancements of 13th Avenue to improve visual character, gateways, circulation, and universal access. However, without a holistic 13th Avenue Axis Conceptual Design which recommends specific improvements it is not possible to understand how to move forward with implementation.

Project Description

A Conceptual Design for the 13th Avenue Axis is critical to analyze opportunities, recommend improvements, and define an implementation strategy. The intent of this project is to build upon opportunities and recommendations identified in previous studies for a visually cohesive, pedestrian oriented axis through campus. The University intends to retain the services of a nationally-recognized leader in campus open-space design to lead the Conceptual Design process. The Conceptual Design will reflect the *Campus Plan* and provide the basis for future design phases and ultimately the implementation of the design. Following Conceptual Design the University may elect to continue with Schematic Design for all or parts of the 13th Avenue Axis Conceptual Design with the hired Consultant.

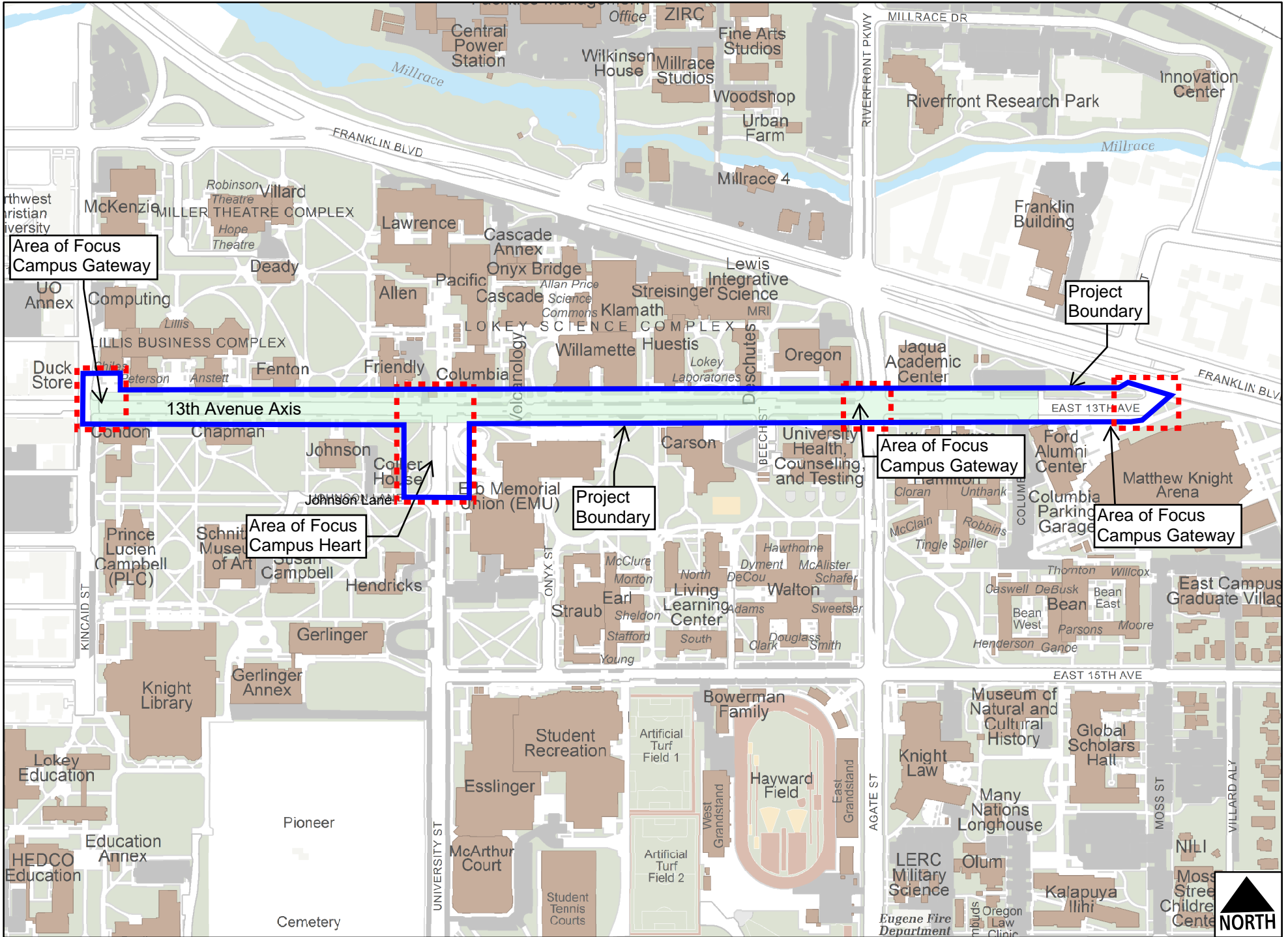
Goals

- Create a Conceptual Design to unify the 13th Avenue Axis as a cohesive corridor promoting pedestrian and bicycle safety while providing for emergency and service access needs.
- Redefine the visual character of the 13th Avenue Axis to create a unique and unified axis reflective of university values and history. Eliminate the visual impact of the original use as a vehicular thoroughfare.
- Promote universal access throughout the corridor.
- Implement applicable principles and recommendations of the *Campus Plan*, FVP, and past studies into site specific design solutions.
- Develop a Conceptual Design to implement in phases or as stand-alone projects.

- Engage the UO community to identify needs, opportunities, and refine project goals.
- Implement strategies for storm water treatment and sustainable design.
- Accommodate the full ranges of uses throughout the 13th Avenue Axis including special events like the ASUO Street Fair.
- Enhance campus gateways and the Heart of Campus (13th Avenue and University Street) to improve safety, wayfinding, and circulation.

Outcomes

- Develop a Conceptual Design for the 13th Avenue Axis (Kincaid Street to Franklin Boulevard) which addresses the project goals and provides the basis for future schematic design plans and ultimately construction projects.
- Determine needs for utility improvements within the 13th Avenue Axis.
- Present the project to the CPC and advisory group for review and feedback.
- Develop a construction cost estimate for implementation of the design.
- Prepare plans, sections, and perspective images to illustrate design intent.
- Expand the Conceptual Design Area at the Campus Heart to extend south to Johnson Lane.
- Prepare a final Conceptual Design booklet to document the project.



Attachment C - Area Map