Bosque Design Vision Survey

U Boulevard Area Survey

Welcome!

Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey. Your survey responses are anonymous and this survey will take between 5-10 minutes to complete.

In this consultation, we are seeking input on the draft design vision for revitalizing the Bosque in the centre of campus. Your feedback will inform the redesign of this outdoor space.

The U Boulevard area is outlined in red.

In Spring 2018, we conducted public consultation to gather input on a variety of projects related to increasing student housing and academic opportunities in the U Boulevard area. Ideas and feedback received, in combination with technical work, have been used to refine project designs and strategies for the U Boulevard area.

Before completing this survey you may consider visiting planning.ubc.ca/uboulevard to review the information being presented during this consultation.

Privacy Notification
This privacy notification allows us to collect and release verbatim what we receive through the online survey. The contents of this public consultation may be made available for public viewing. Any personal information you provide in this Feedback Form is collected under the authority of section 26(c) of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. UBC Campus and Community Planning is collecting this information for the purposes of this consultation process. For more
U Boulevard Area Vision

The U Boulevard area is in the midst of significant growth to meet the needs of the university. The area combines academic and recreational facilities, shops, services, transit, housing, and engaging outdoor spaces that support a complete community. The vision for the area has three primary objectives:

- Draw people together by creating a vibrant academic and social hub.
- Contribute to UBC’s complete community by making services and amenities accessible.
- Serve as a welcoming academic gateway and entrance to campus.

Planning Updates for the U Boulevard Area

Two projects received Board 1 approval at the June 2018 Board of Governors – the new Arts Student Centre within the Bosque and additional student housing near the Walter Gage residences. Phase 2 of Brock Commons will be presented for Board 1 approval to the Board of Governors in September.

These new projects will support the academic mission, provide housing for students, and support building community for students, faculty and staff by enhancing social, recreational and outdoor spaces in the campus core. Please see planning.ubc.ca/uboulevard for more details on U Boulevard project updates.

Approved and Planned Projects

1. Arts Student Centre: A new 11,000 square foot building to support Arts students received Board 1 approval at the June 2018 Board of Governors. The ASC will be located within a revitalized Bosque.
2. Additional Walter Gage Residences: This project received Board 1 approval at the June 2018 Board of Governors. It will provide additional student housing in the heart of campus along the perimeter of the existing Walter Gage Residences.
3. Brock Commons Phase 2: This project will be presented for Board 1 approval at the September 2018 Board of Governors. This will be the third mixed-use hub in the north part of the campus. It will combine student housing with academic facilities, student services, amenities, and vibrant outdoor public spaces.
4. D.H. Copp site: The vision for this project is to combine student housing with academic facilities focused on innovation, collaboration, and entrepreneurship. Faculty and staff housing previously targeted for the site is being planned in south campus. This project is currently in the pre-planning stages with timing to be determined.
All U Boulevard area projects will have dedicated, quality, outdoor green spaces that support a range of academic, student, and recreational activities.

**Planned Green Spaces and Design Concepts**

5. A revitalization of the Bosque near the AMS Nest and UBC Life buildings, where the new Arts Students Centre will be located.
6. Upgrades to Student Union Boulevard and the new outdoor spaces around Gage student residences.
7. Addition of Brock Commons Phase 2 outdoor space.

**Design Vision for the Bosque**
The development of a new Arts Student Centre (ASC) located within the Bosque recently received the first stage of Board of Governors approval. The ASC will provide much-needed informal learning and social space for a large and diverse student population and provide a focal point to advance the mission and goals of the Faculty of Arts and the Arts Undergraduate Society. The facility will include a range of activity spaces and amenities to support creative engagement, such as media production, an art gallery and multi-use space.

The new 11,000 square foot ASC will be located in the grove of oak trees, known as the Bosque, immediately west of the UBC Life Building. Construction of the ASC will require the removal of approximately eight trees, which will be replaced elsewhere on campus. The ASC building is imagined as a lantern-like structure with a character that reflects and supports the natural setting of the Bosque.

The Bosque is a formal grid of Red Oak trees that was planted in 1968 with the completion of the Student Union Building. It was originally envisioned as a space for relaxation, studying and gatherings. Today, the space is failing as its intention of a green outdoor social space and is often dark, damp and uninviting as well as difficult to walk through in the rainy months. It provides limited ecological, aesthetic and social value.
Draft Vision for the Bosque

The vision for the Bosque is to enhance the ecology and biodiversity of the area, achieving a higher ecological performance relative to its current condition while also making the space a more functional public space, where people can gather, play and relax as well as stroll through.

What We Heard

The draft vision for the area is based on feedback gathered from a Public Realm Ideas Fair (2014), a review of the Public Realm Plan (2017/18), and recent U Boulevard Area consultation (2018).
Concern over tree removal and loss of green space on campus.
Support for improving the feel and use of the Bosque through better lighting, pedestrian connections and access, as well as public seating with weather protection.
Support for designing the Arts Student Centre building to complement and enhance the natural ecology of the Bosque.

Draft Design Vision

The vision for the Bosque offers the potential for significant improvements to the social and ecological health and experience of this important outdoor green space, including:

- Developing a system of “boardwalk” pathways that facilitates heavy pedestrian traffic and avoids negative impacts on the health and viability of the existing Oaks.
- Significantly augmenting the undergrowth soils, native plantings and species types to enhance the growing conditions of the Oak trees.
- Adding an understory layer of planting that provides food and shelter for birds, and creates a distinctive landscape experience in a busy area of campus.
- Applying green infrastructure approaches to rainwater management and planting eight trees elsewhere on campus to replace the trees that must be removed, in order to create a net positive impact.
- Creating a variety of spaces for gathering and quiet contemplation, for example an outdoor “room” with informal seating and a heating feature to encourage gathering on cooler days.
- Integrated infrastructure to support compatible recreation, such as slacklining.

Click and drag the following pictures to tell us your favourite ideas for using the Bosque (please select all that apply):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Items</th>
<th>Favourite Ideas</th>
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<tr>
<td>Raised paths</td>
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<td>Permanent seating</td>
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<td>Hammocks</td>
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<td>Slacklining</td>
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Add your own idea for using the Bosque:

Draft Vision for the Bosque

The vision for the Bosque offers the potential for significant improvements to the social and ecological health and experience of this important outdoor green space.

Birdseye view of the revitalized Bosque looking towards the Nest:

View of the revitalized Bosque from East Mall with the Nest in the background:
View of the revitalized Bosque from University Commons looking north:

Enhancing Ecology

Studies indicate the ecological value of the Bosque is limited by soil conditions, uniformity of vegetation, and pedestrian foot traffic. The Bosque vision provides an opportunity to increase its ecological health through the following:

- Improve soil conditions by adding organic matter and reducing compaction to support more rainwater infiltration, more carbon storage, and more capture of pollutants in runoff.
- Enhance vegetation complexity with shorter vegetation to contribute to rainwater capture and infiltration, and support birds and other biodiversity.
- Increase the experiential qualities to improve access to nature and create a sanctuary in an urbanizing campus core.

What more could we do to enhance the social and ecological health and experience of this important green space?

Anything else to add?

Next Steps

Your ideas and feedback on the draft design vision for the Bosque, in combination with further technical work, will be used to refine the project design for revitalizing the Bosque.
The vision for the U Boulevard Area will continue to be implemented as each project in the area moves forward. These new projects will bring much needed new student housing, academic facilities and additional green spaces to the social heart of the campus.

Your ideas and feedback on the draft design vision for the Bosque, in combination with further technical work, will be used to refine the project design for revitalizing the Bosque.

- Each specific project, including the Arts Student Centre and Bosque revitalization, will proceed through a standard capital approval process, as applicable.
- The updated U Boulevard area design guidelines will be presented to the UBC Board of Governors in December 2018.
- The UBC Board of Governors will also consider requesting a Land Use Plan amendment from the Province to enable more student housing for Brock Commons Phase 2. Any amendments would involve a public hearing in early 2019, and will be included with any Land Use Plan amendments associated with the Stadium Neighbourhood Plan. The provincial government approves Land Use Plan amendments.

Tell us what you think about plans underway in the U Boulevard area:

What is your affiliation with UBC? Please select all that apply

- Student
- Faculty
- Staff
- Neighbourhood Resident
- Alumni
- Other

Where do you live?

- UBC Student Resident
- UBC Neighbourhood
- University Endowment Lands
- City of Vancouver
- Other

How did you hear about the U Boulevard area survey?

- Campus + Community Planning website
- Public open house
- Newsletter (please tell us which one)
- Email
Would you like to sign up for University Boulevard updates?

- Yes (please provide email)
- No

Thank you for taking the time to complete the University Boulevard area survey and contribute to the future of the area.

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