Facilities Master Plan

2023-2033

East County Community Meeting

June 15, 2023

Montgomery College Facilities Master Plan
Community Meeting

A little about us...

Project Team
Today's Speakers & Hosts

Sherwin Collette
Sr VP for Administrative &
Fiscal Services
Montgomery College

Kerry Norberg
Planning & Design Director
Montgomery College

Michael Akin
LINK Strategic Partners

Mike Glaros
CannonDesign

100+

higher education master plans completed

100M

square feet of education projects completed in the last 10 years

600+

awards for design excellence and innovation in the last 15 years

Top 10
Most Innovative Architecture Firm

Fast Company, Worldwide, 2019 + 2017

MONTGOMERY COLLEGE
BY THE NUMBERS

39,757
Credit and Noncredit
STUDENTS
Maryland's largest
community college

66%
MC students
who attend
part-time*

24
Average
student age*

*credit students

24%
MC students who
receive Pell grants
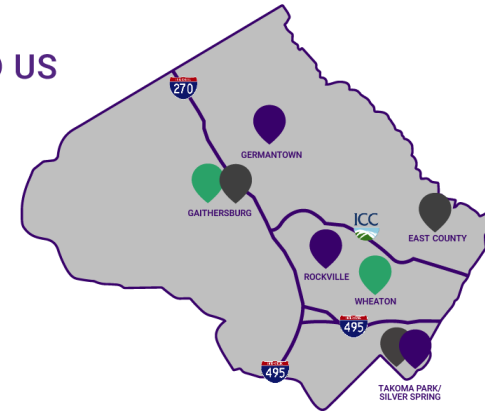(federal financial aid)

$27,238
Average household income for
federal Pell grant recipients

49%
Montgomery County Public
Schools graduates who stay
in state for college **attend MC**

WE'RE WHERE YOU NEED US
3 — Campuses
2 — Training Sites
3 — Community
Engagement Centers
— Online

144
Degree and certificate programs
From mechanics to engineers and
lab bench workers to scientists:
we fuel the economy

79%
Students of color
Student community
reflects today's
Montgomery County

155
Countries represented*

GERMANTOWN
GAITHERSBURG
ICC
EAST COUNTY
ROCKVILLE
WHEATON
TAKOMA PARK/
SILVER SPRING

$5,322
annual tuition & fees
The most affordable
higher education option
for county residents

9
Faculty members named
Maryland Professor of the Year
quality in classrooms

48%
New full-time students who
graduate or transfer within
3 years of entering MC

What is a Facilities Master Plan?

Goal

- Required by the state every 10 years

- Establish a framework to support the mission and academic vision of the College.

- Address key issues to support enrollment, define space needs, and new facilities initiatives.

- Address the relationship between the College and adjoining business and residential communities.

The FMP will include recommendations and plans for:

- An evaluation of current facilities conditions

- Summarize projected needs

- An overview of the College

- An implementation strategy

What is the Facility Master Plan schedule?

Process

April 2023
Listening and gathering information from MC constituents and neighboring communities

May 2023
Identification of common themes and overarching concepts

July 2023
Development of the details of the Facilities Master Plan

November 2023
Delivery of the FMP final draft to MC Board of Trustees
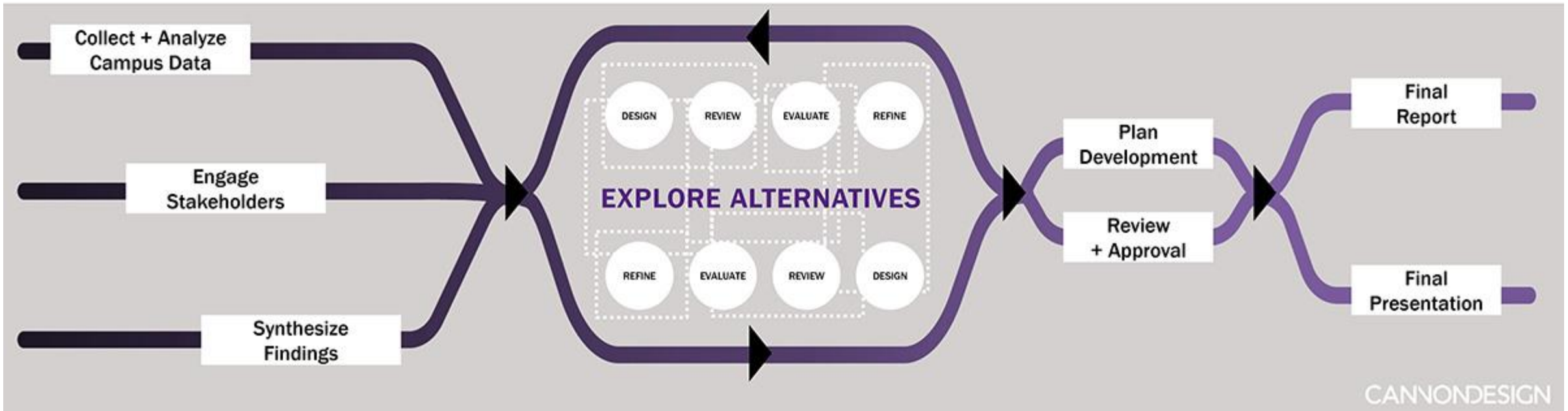
Public Meeting Schedule

05.02   College Wide Public Kick Off Meeting
05.04   Takoma Park/Silver Spring Public Meeting
05.25   Takoma Park/Silver Spring Walking Tour
06.06   Takoma Park/Silver Spring Public Meeting
06.08   Rockville Public Meeting
06.13   Germantown Public Meeting
06.15   East County Presence Public Meeting
09.TBD   College Wide Public Presentation

Feedback to Date

Faculty & Staff Engagement One Word...
to describe Montgomery College today

From your own perspective...

1. Diverse
2. Quality Education / Excellence
3. Student Centered
4. Transitioning / Changing
5. Complicated / Bureaucratic
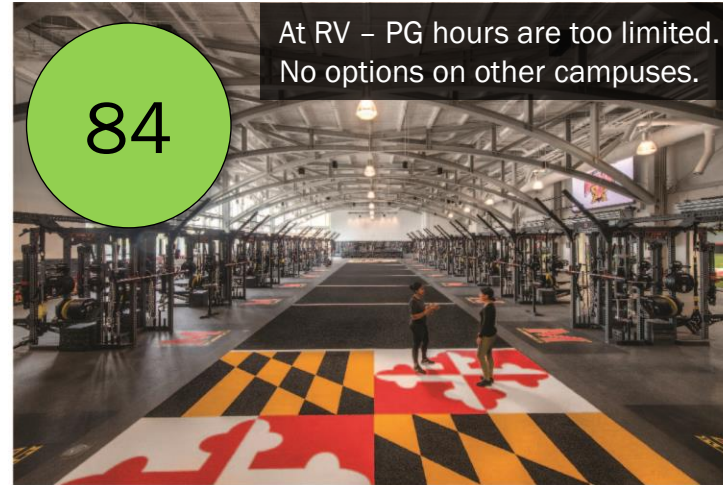
+ Innovative

What a student would say...

1. Complicated / Bureaucratic
2. Caring / Helpful / Supportive
3. Opportunity / Choice
4. Friendly / Welcoming
5. Open / Accessible

+ Quality Education / Excellence

Student Survey –
Spaces students would like to see more of on campus

87 — Updated & inviting café spaces with more dietary options & lower prices.
Cafe

84 — At RV – PG hours are too limited. No options on other campuses.
Athletics and Recreation

32
Experimental Technology Space
(Digital Scholarship or AR/VR Lab)
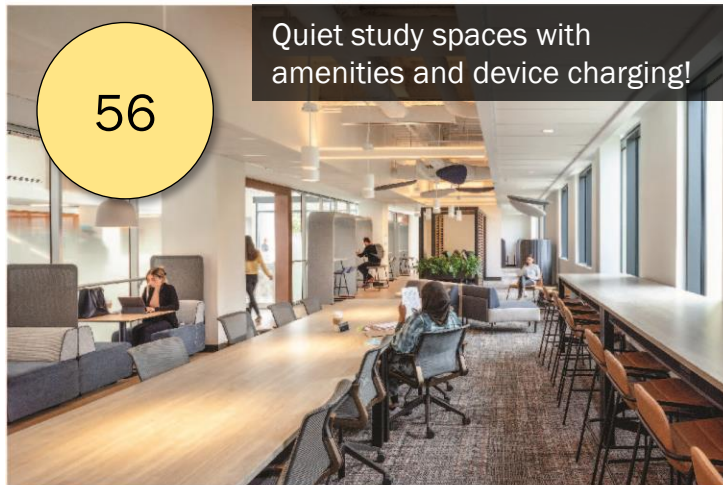
56 — Quiet study spaces with amenities and device charging!
Co-Working Space
(Online Class Participation Area)

29
Specialized Classroom
(Technology Rich Lab Specific to My Major)
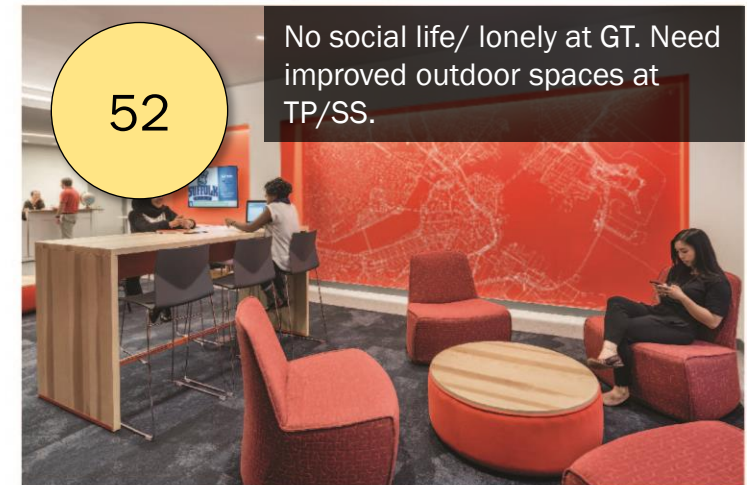
52 — No social life/ lonely at GT. Need improved outdoor spaces at TP/SS.
Social Spaces

Student Survey
Campus Hotspots

- **68%** of students take their online courses at home.

- On campus, the library is the hub of study activity. Many comments noted seeking "quiet space" or "lack of quiet space".

- Students also tended to gravitate towards major/discipline specific buildings or spaces.

- **45%** of students did not socialize or spend time outside of coursework on campus and didn't identify with places/buildings with these activities.

- **New space types:** food/drink, outdoor spaces, and relaxation/respite spaces

Where do you go to take an online course?

4% 1% 1%
4%
4%
7%
14%
68%

- Home
- Specific Campus Location
- Library
- Home / Library
- Home / Other Campus Location
- Place of Work
- Coffee Shop
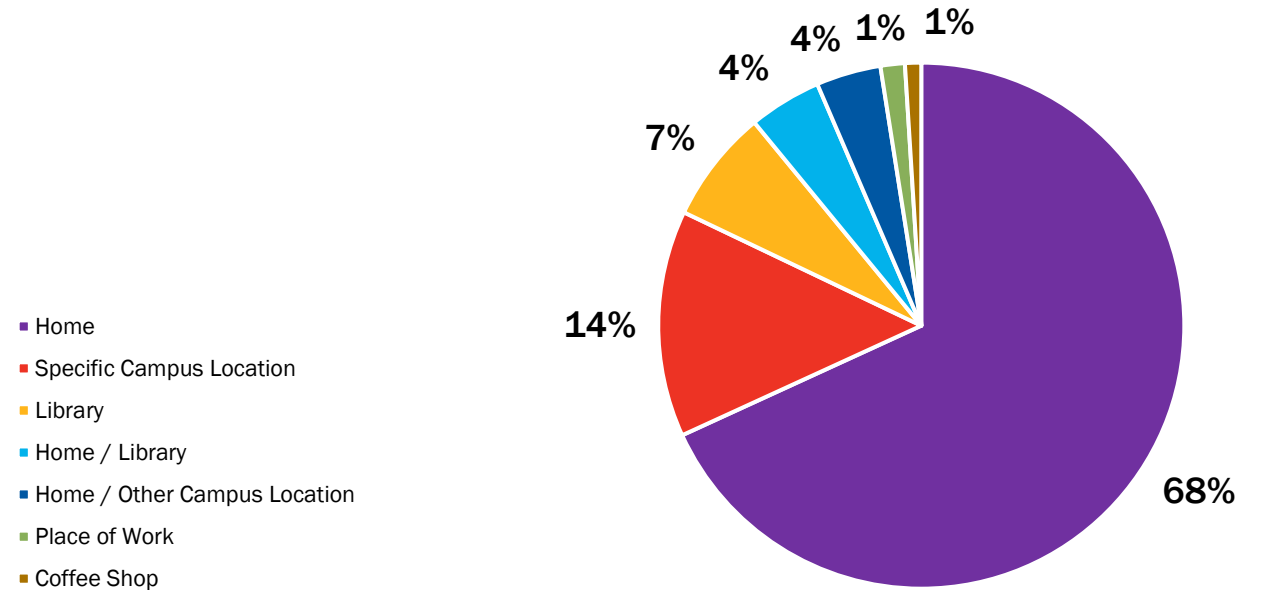
Where do go to socialize with friends?

5% 4%
10%
23%
14%
22%
21%

- Off Campus
- Does not socialize
- On Campus
- Cafeteria
- Student Center
- Outside
- Library
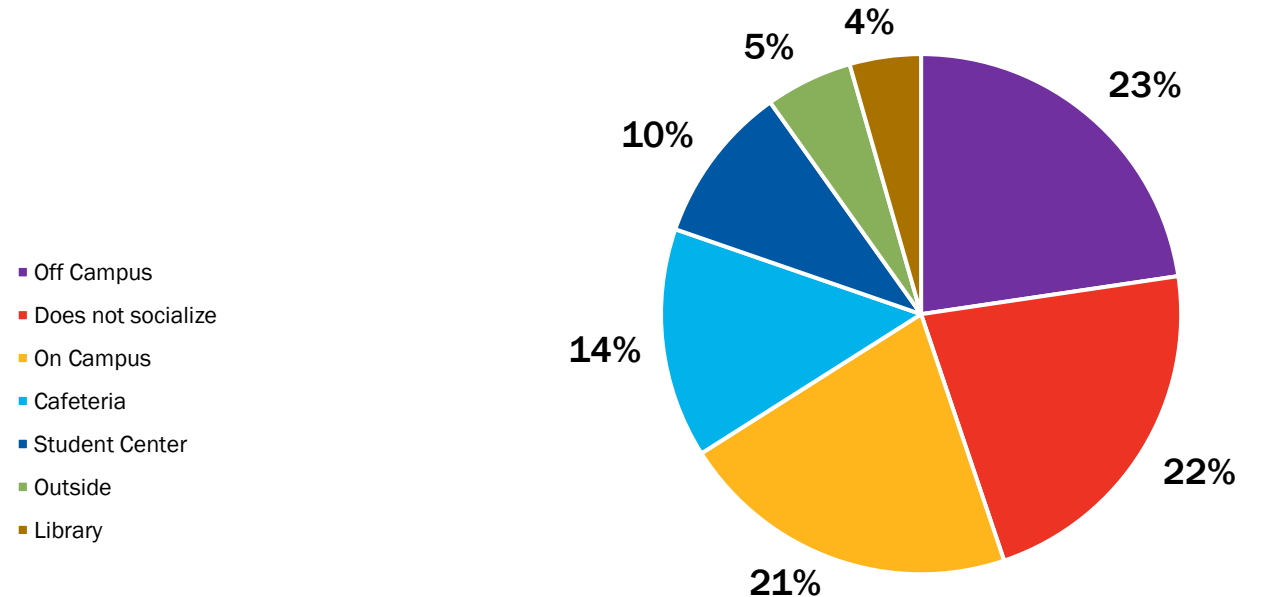
Community Input

What is the primary way you interact with the College's campuses?

33 Answers

work - Rockville

I am staff on the Rockville campus.

Swim team practice and future student (3 or 4 years)

Take continuing education classes and live near the Rockville campus.

I live near TP/SS

I am an employee of a swim team that rents time at the Rockville and Germantown pools.

Rockville & Germantown - pool facilities.

Rockville Campus - work nearby and often drive by, but rarely go onto campus

Projects w colleagues, emails

I am an employee at the Rockville campus and live near the Germantown campus

I am on RV campus for work 4 days a week.

Rockville. I drive to campus from PG county to teach as a full time faculty member

On the PIC MC Foundation Board. Germantown campus.

work at all three

Professor

Germantown by way of PIC MCRockville through volunteer eventsTakoma Park for meetings such as MCFoundation

Customer Service support to non-credit students. Communicate with all sites to inclue Gaithersburg Business Training Center.

Department Chair - all 3 campuses

How have the communities around the College's campuses changed over time?

44 Answers

Increasing urbanization and traffic

The entire county is far more diverse.Students are under more pressures.The pandemic has really flattened social lives in the communities.

Traffic has increased

Lived very close to the Rockville Campus. Seems like the MCPS Facility next to the campus is underutilized, any chance of transfering the property?

Increased population. Challenge for students to travel to campus.

There is a fair amount of vacant commercial space near the Rockville campus. Very difficult to walk to cafes/coffee from Rockville without having to walk on 355.

Lots of traffic near East Campus location.

There's also an under-utilized parking lot owned by MCPS adjacent to the Rockville campus.

There are a lack of walkable food and coffee options near Germantown and Rockville, Limited hours of cafeterias on campus and sold out vending machines.

Need for increased access to recreation and Fitness facilities. Community access to fitness centers:/ outdoor community fitness centers/ tennis/pickle ball

The college offers "mobile markets" in partnership with the Capital Area Food Bank to distribute food. We need flow or ability to get traffic in and out to them. Job fairs and other events to serve.

Increasing population, especially around the GT campus with new housing development.

fewer students on campus, seems more online courses

Need for more "third spaces" and places to gather outside.

more pool hours

So much traffic on 355 near Rockville campus

Influx of immigrants. English classes are vital and funding for more support specialist is needed.

Tracks/fitness trails

Master Plan Drivers

Organizational Change
- Launch East County Campus
- Growth in Applied and Health Sciences
- Providing "just in time" support
- Improve Instructional Space

Academic Delivery
- Expand Informal Learning Environment
- Learning Centers Could be Transformed

Technology
- Expanding Access to Learning
- Re-Imagining Both Time & Space

Space Use
- Create Intuitive Campuses
- Growth in Athletics & Recreation

Brand, Identity, & Culture

Recruitment, Retention, & Student Success
- Focus on MCPS, Dual Enrollment, and WDCE
- Blurring Lines Between Credit & Non-Credit

MC MONTGOMERY COLLEGE

East County Study

East Presence Could Fill Gap for Services Needed

East Montgomery County public high schools provide many services for their students and the community to be successful, but several key services are currently missing.

Innovation Incubator

- Sandbox model that allows for the design, implementation, and assessment of new ideas and programs
- Opportunity for students, businesses, and faculty to come together and innovate, build partnerships

Social Services Support

- Ensuring that community members have access to the services they need to be successful
- Co-locating services such as a library space or basic needs services, and providing staffing to then perform outreach and connect students to those services

Community Gathering and Empowerment

- Place-making; creating a welcoming culture that invites inclusivity, a sense of connection and belonging
- Leveraging and celebrating the cultural capital of East County residents, multi-generational spaces
- Creating a congregation space for the county

Technology Center

- Future-oriented, multi-use space that allows for the intentional design of virtual learning
- Faculty workshops that provide engaging online teaching strategies
- Serve as the "virtual hub" for coordination of all remote services

Stakeholders repeated that the East presence must be unique, and one of its key differentiation features could be addressing student and community needs, allowing for greater accessibility and successful outcomes.

Five Key Themes Emerged In Stakeholder Interviews

After conducting more than 25 interviews with Montgomery College stakeholders, several central topics continued to arise that are categorized in the themes below.

Mental Health Services
Student Basic Needs Assistance
Student Services

Holistic Student Support and Student Wellness

Post-Pandemic Spacing and Student Needs

Student Services
New Communication Needs
In-Person Needs
Academic Core
Role of Virtual Environment

The campus presence must be mission-driven

Career & Tech Education
Community Engagement Center
Partnership Pathways,
Education Pathways
Hub for Student Support Services

Evolving Purpose of New Presence and its Features
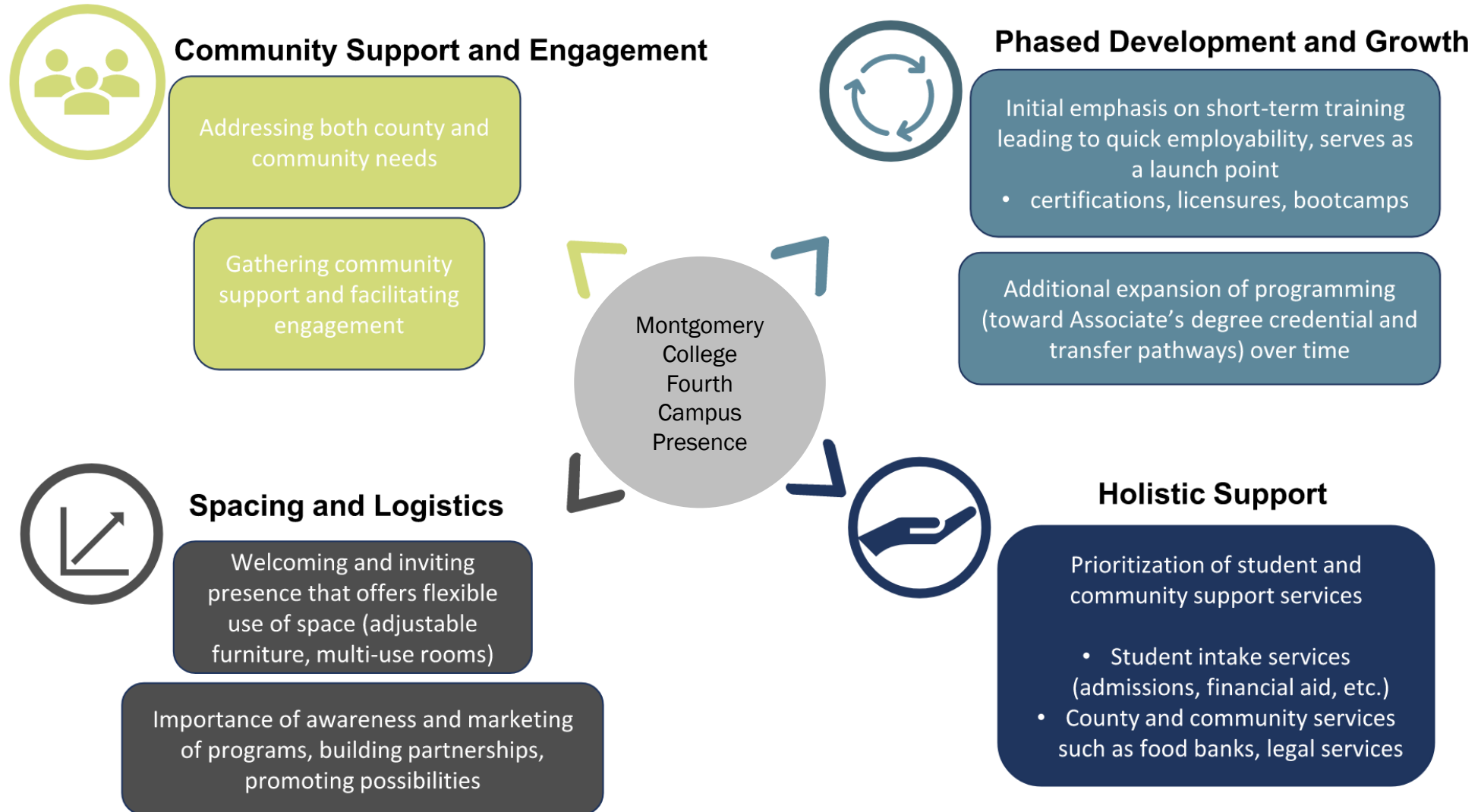
Infrastructure of Eastern Montgomery County Presents Several Challenges

Physical
Technological

Qualitative Assessment: Academic Affairs Overview

Initially, Montgomery College's new fourth presence could offer career and technical education training programs (workforce development) and continue to expand its offerings over time.

Community Support and Engagement

Addressing both county and community needs

Gathering community support and facilitating engagement

Phased Development and Growth

Initial emphasis on short-term training leading to quick employability, serves as a launch point
- certifications, licensures, bootcamps

Additional expansion of programming (toward Associate's degree credential and transfer pathways) over time

Montgomery College Fourth Campus Presence

Spacing and Logistics

Welcoming and inviting presence that offers flexible use of space (adjustable furniture, multi-use rooms)

Importance of awareness and marketing of programs, building partnerships, promoting possibilities

Holistic Support

Prioritization of student and community support services

- Student intake services (admissions, financial aid, etc.)
- County and community services such as food banks, legal services

# East County Community Focus Group Takeaways

Desired features of a Montgomery College campus presence in East County varied and include workforce training programs to holistic student support features.

Access & Information
- Staffing, services, and space to fill in information gaps-- specific to learners of different backgrounds. Ie// how to fill out the FAFSA
- Transition services

Flexible Physical Space
- Multi-use space with furniture that can be moved around, converting from a classroom to a technology space for students

Career and Workforce Development
- American credentialing for foreign-born populations, certifications and diplomas
- English language courses

Building Partnerships
- Creating space for community organizations, such as an on-campus food pantry, to connect students to needed resources
- Leveraging hyperlocal groups (within churches, neighborhoods) to create a community hub and learning groups

County Master Plans

- In Progress - Fairland and Briggs Chaney
- **2020 - Thrive Montgomery 2050**
- **2014 - White Oak Science Gateway**
- 2013 - Countywide Transit Corridors Functional Master Plan
- 2012 - Burtonsville Crossroads
- 2000 - Silver Spring East
- 2000 - North and West Silver Spring
- **1997 - Fairland Master Plan**
- **1997 - White Oak Master Plan**
- Special Protection Areas
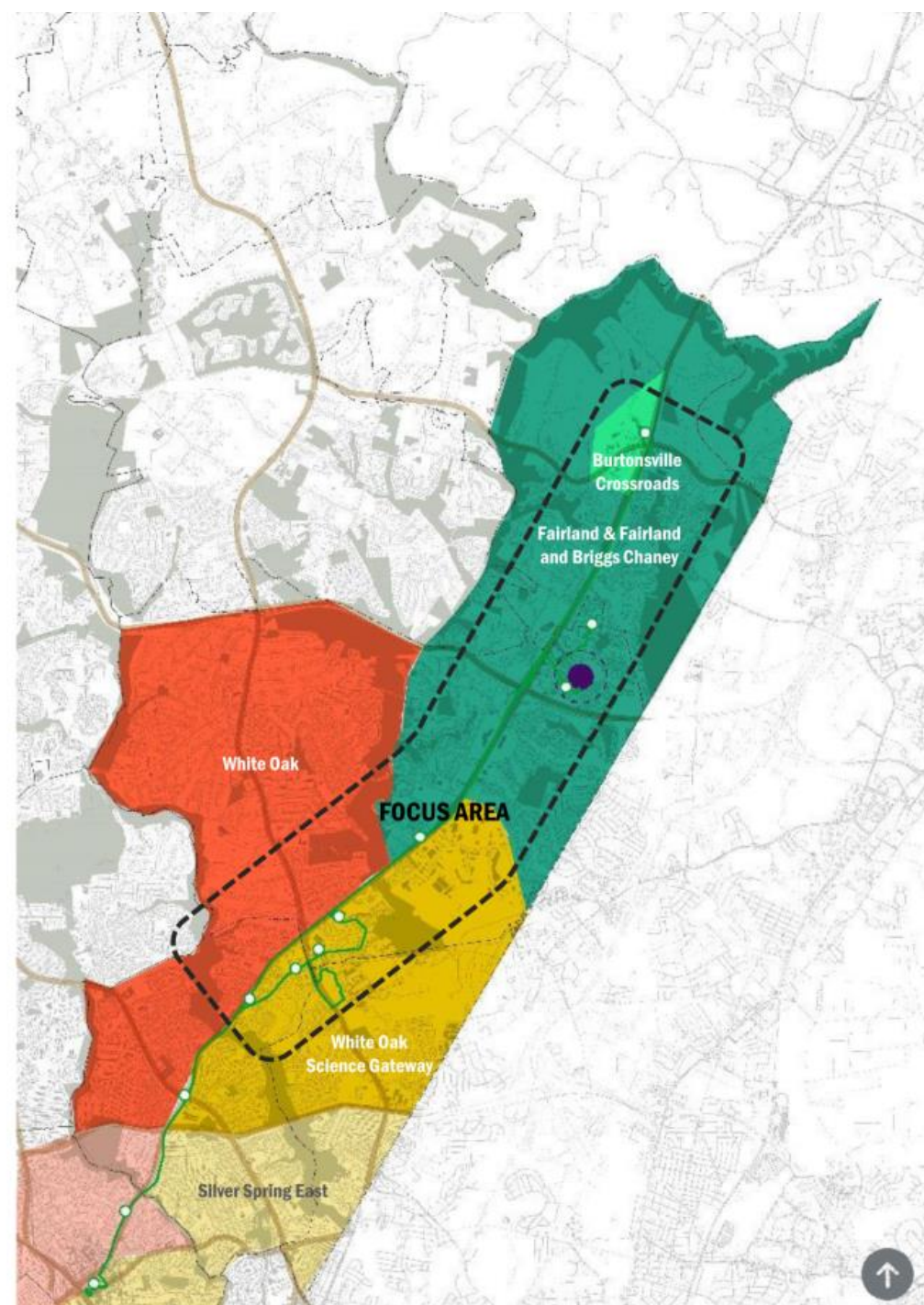
To find out more...

The feasibility can be viewed at:

https://www.montgomerycollege.edu/_documents/offices/planning-and-policy/strategic-planning/montgomery-college-expansion-feasibility-report.pdf
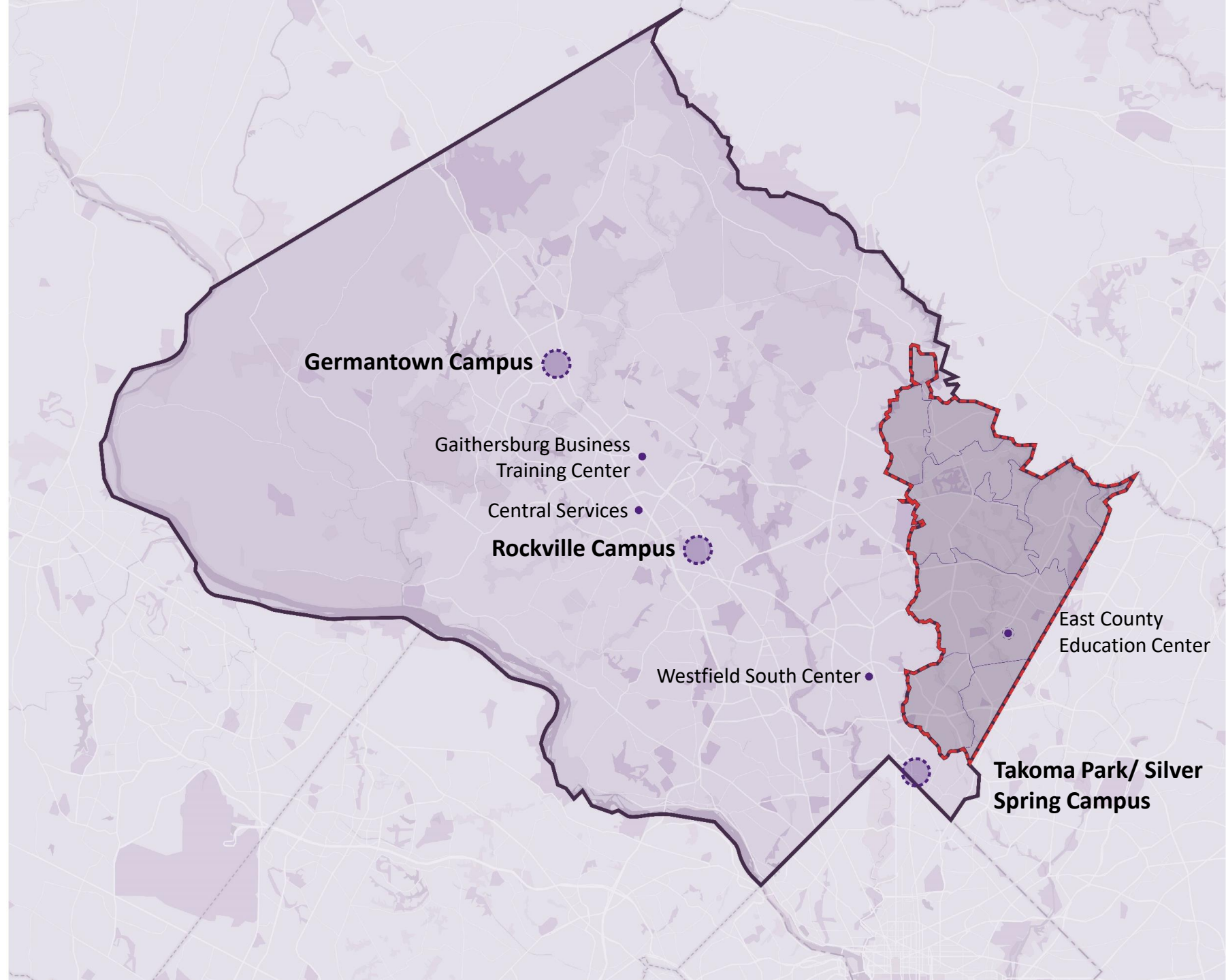
Discussion

Overarching Planning Goals

- **Prioritize Student Success** – through expanded spaces in support student wellness, informal learning/study, dining and amenities, branding, and intuitive wayfinding.

- **Reinvent Existing Facilities** – through renovation and strategic interventions, right size classroom and lab spaces, create faculty hubs, repurpose under-utilized square footage.

- **Expand Access** – provide a touchdown for county services, non-profits and businesses, enhance options for parents and consider both physical and virtual environments.

- **Plan Prudently** – each campus has land use constraints, limiting future development. Project development should consider maximizing future development potential while continuing to create activated, green campuses.

East County Campus Presence

- What aspects of the College could be reinforced in the East County?

- What could be unique to the East County location?

- What is the biggest impact a new location could have on the community?

Germantown Campus

Gaithersburg Business Training Center

Central Services

Rockville Campus

East County Education Center

Westfield South Center

Takoma Park/ Silver Spring Campus

How to Provide Additional Feedback

Go to the Montgomery College Facilities Master Plan Website and navigate to Frequently Asked Questions:

https://www.montgomerycollege.edu/facilities-master-plan

Thank you!