

# **A New Community College Campus:** An Innovative Framework for Student and Community Engagement



**PROJECT NAME: College of the Desert: New Palm** 

**PROJECT LOCATION: Palm Springs, California** 

**PROJECT DATE: Master Plan Completed 2020** 

SITE CONDITIONS: Urban, brownfield site; Previous

**PROGRAM: New Community College Satellite Campus with Signature Programs in Digital Arts,** Sustainability, Health Care, and Hospitality + Tourism

### Identify project values to guide the master planning process

LEADERSHIP + **INNOVATION:** shaping institutional vision

SUSTAINABILITY + STEWARDSHIP: building a resilient future

PLACE + **IDENTITY:** enhancing student experience

CAMPUS + COMMUNITY fostering inclusive engagement

Master Plan Goals:

#### Leadership + Innovation:

- the future
- •
- ٠ model

#### Sustainability + Stewardship:

- ment
- ٠ hands-on learning

#### **Place + Identity:**

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#### **Campus + Community:**

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- and vehicular access







• Sustain College of the Desert's excellence long into

Promote collaboration and interaction Foster innovation for a new 21st Century learning

Design consistent with the District's 2020 Strategic Plan and 2020 Environmental Impact Report Embody a sustainable campus philosophy that features best practices and stewardship of the environ-

Integrate demonstrable sustainability features for

• Frame views towards the heart of campus, and outwards to the San Jacinto Mountains Respect and celebrate the unique heritage of Mid-Century Modernism in Palm Springs Celebrate the campus' unique adjacency to downtown Palm Springs and spectacular setting

• Shape new campus gateways to strengthen campus and student identity and connectivity to the community Enhance visibility of academic and associated infrastructure to the community

• Create a safe environment for pedestrians and bicycle riders at the campus perimeter with managed service

• Foster a sense of campus community by enhancing campus zones and linking them through pedestrian promenades to adjacent community assets

# Envision the campus as a bridge that connects students to industry through multi-modal means

The region's diverse population, graphically depicted as one dot per person by ethnicity, depends upon multi-modal means of transportation. Being centrally located in Palm Springs between downtown and the PS International Airport, the new campus serves the community through ease of access by bus, bike, car, or foot.

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Dinah

Line 30



Line 24 East Vista Chigo

### **User Typologies: Community + Guest + Students**



### PROFILES

- Middle-aged couple
- Seeking a specialty

- Young family with 2 kids + a dog
- with all amenities
- Movie lovers

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- with English as second language
- Full-time student for a 6-week specialty
- Needs a place to short term class

- person
- Seeking a nice
- Desires wifi and strong throughout the facility

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- Parents of COD
- Want a nice place visiting their child from out of town



### 6



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 Neighborhood young couple Looking for an food and drinks



# Integrate diverse programs that serve campus and community

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

The new satellite campus will be a vital student and community asset in the heart of Palm Springs that will serve the entire Coachella Valley. The bold physical planning vision builds upon the College's strengths and will provide state-of-the-art facilities to strategically grow their workforce programs through expansion of industry partnerships in Hospitality & Tourism, Digital Arts, Healthcare, and Sustainability.

Three main districts organize the campus plan with points of entry along the streets to the north, east, and south. The northeast quadrant serves the community with a Learning Hotel, Culinary Institute, and Convention & Event Center. The southeast quadrant serves the students with a Mobility Hub for a convenient multi-modal drop-off area, as well as modern, flexible academic facilities located in and adjacent to the Accelerator. The west district initially houses operations and maintenance facilities and surface parking, and allows for future expansion for the campus.

The building massing engages the streets to strengthen community edges, with setback foyers at the two main corners to welcome in the community. Programs are internally organized and connected by a sweeping Arc of Innovation which provides much-needed shaded walkways to traverse across the campus and dynamic views of the majestic mountains to the west.

- 1 Learning Hotel 14 - Outdoor Classroom 2 - Restaurant 15 - Arc of Innovation 3 - Drop-off 16 - Academic Accelerator 4 - Convention and Event Center Deck 17 - Exhibit / Presentation 5 - Ramp for Parking 18 - Aluminaire House 6 - Entry for Culinary Institute 19 - Central Plant 7 - Culinary Institute 20 - Mobility Hub 8 - Loading Area 21 - Drop-off (Car/Uber) 22 - Parking 9 - Convention and Event Center 10 - Drop-off (car/Uber) 23 - Maintenance and Operations 11 - Sunken Plaza 24 - Service Yard 12 - Bermed Garden 25 - Pedestrian Bridge 26 - Cultural Center 13 - Fire Truck Access 100' 250'
- °

### Master plan framework concepts





**3 Campus Entries** 



Primary Building Coverage Zone



2-2

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**Campus Axes** 



Secondary Building Coverage Zone



### **Pedestrian & Open Space Framework**







**Campus Entrances:** Key buildings and open spaces frame three primary entries that mark the campus edges, and join two critical internal campus axes.



Arc of Innovation: The Arc of Innovation organizes all program elements and associated pedestrian traffic. This broad arcing line joins the campus program elements together as a singular campus composition.

Campus Axes: The east-west axis frames the dramatic view to the San Jacinto Mountains and serves as the entrance for the community. The curvilinear axis that runs north-south, serves as a pedestrian promenade.



Campus Edges: The Arc of Innovation is complemented by the campus edges that daylight at the corners of the campus as Campus Foyers. These plazas provide welcoming entrances to the community.



**Organize all campus programs around an Arc of Innovation**, framing the unfolding views to the regional landscape

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Space Ratio: 36%

Footprint Ratio: 14%

Site Shaded Footprint: 15%

**Roof Programmed Space to Building** 

Variety of program that foster hands-on learning through industry partnerships Shaded circulation connects campus as **Key Master Plan Metrics:** the Arc of Innovation -FAR (Floor Area Ratio): 0.26 Restaurant Learning Hotel Culinary Arts Site Building Coverage Ratio: 17.1% Loading Area Convention & Event Center Site Softscape Coverage Ratio: 27% Outdoor Classroom Central Plant Pedestrian Bridge Site Programmed Space to Paved Academic Accelerator Arc of Innovation

> Rich and inviting open spaces for campus and community



### Employ parametric modeling to understand circulation, movement, and thermal heat throughout the site





Data and modeling informs key decisions. The image on the left captures an animation screenshot depicting pedestrian flow modeling- assessing how people interact with buildings, processes, and environments, and confirming the expected performance of the design. The image on the right models thermal comfort at specific areas on campus- informing building massing, overhangs, and canopy locations to adequately respond to the intense desert climate.

Embody a sustainable campus philosophy that features best practices in design, demonstrable tools for education, and stewardship of the environment





MATERIAL 25%+ recvcled and/or sustainable *materials;* Low emitting interior materials



Reduce potable water demand by 40% for indoor use and 50% for irrigation



### LANDSCAPE 20% of the site designed for regional habitat; 100% native/ adaptive landscape; <20% building footprint coverage

BIOSWALE Convey surface water to enhance infiltration and reduce surface stormwater runoff



### Engage campus and community to shape their campus to meet their specific needs

#### SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT:

The College of the Desert is committed to developing a rich campus experience for their students, faculty, and the local community to use and enjoy- and that begins with Shared Governance in the planning process. In order to solicit input from all, the master planning process incorporated multiple scales of engagement, from detailed discussions with a diverse working group of College representatives to community-wide dialogues. The community interface was critical during the process and included multiple coordination meetings with the Palm Springs Architectural Alliance, open public presentations, and preliminary introductory meetings with local partners including traffic, transit, energy and water agencies.





# Main Entry Gateway

Academic Accelerator

Pedestrian Bridge

Welcome campus and community through a gateway that frames the majestic mountains beyond

COLLEG R DES

### Culinary Arts

### Event Center



# Academic Accelerator & Central Plant



Integrate student services and associated campus infrastructure as feature gateway elements to the campus

### Mobility Hub





Arc of Innovation

Pedestrian Bridge

Provide a diversity of protected outdoor educational environments that interconnect campus programs and precincts

### Academic Accelerator

# Academic Quad

Convention and Event Center

Learning Hotel Culinary Arts Pedestrian Bridg

Academic Accelerator

Draw on the region's architectural legacy to create an accessible, visible community space



#### Outdoor Classroom

Arc of Innovation: Pedestrian Bridge

**Convention and Event Center** 

Learning Hotel

Provide shade and comfort as a reprieve to the intense desert climate while embracing the regional beauty

#### Academic Accelerator

# Learning Hotel and Culinary Arts



Create experiential spaces to convey the value of the people and their activities on campus



"MRY worked effortlessly with College of the Desert leadership, industry partners, and community stakeholders to establish a physical master plan that is responsive, inspired, novel and feasible." John O. White, Executive Director – Bond Program and Facilities Planning, College of the Desert

Foster innovation for a 21st Century educational model through hands-on learning in a dynamic setting

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