

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA-CHAPEL HILL

Carolina North Infrastructure

Chapel Hill, North Carolina

Ayers/Santl/Cross Architects & Planners



Biohabitats participated in a multi-disciplinary planning effort for the proposed 250-acre Carolina North campus in Chapel Hill, N.C. The planning focused on site infrastructure and sustainable design. Over the course of several months, the University and its consultant team developed principles, strategies, metrics, and goals for the infrastructure, natural landscape, and built environment of Carolina North. While some

Sustainability planning allows a major university to responsibly develop land while enhancing ecology and thoughtfully integrating the natural and built environments.

of the goals may be achieved early in the project, others reflect desired conditions for a 30-year horizon. The sustainability vision was then used by the University and the design team, along with many other inputs and background studies, to layout and test various development scenarios and to develop Site Development Guidelines.

Representative themes and principles that were developed include:

- Account for existing and potential natural capital of the site to inform the planning process and associated conservation/development strategies.
- Sustain and restore the structure, function, and beauty of

an indigenous North Carolina Piedmont Forest in areas identified for conservation, and mimic it for areas identified for development.

- Design Carolina North as a walkable/bikeable campus.
- Design, construct, maintain, and operate Carolina North to be carbon neutral.
- Treat waste as a resource.
- Increase human potential.
- Encourage collaboration.
- Integrate research, education, and outreach in both built and non-built conditions.

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