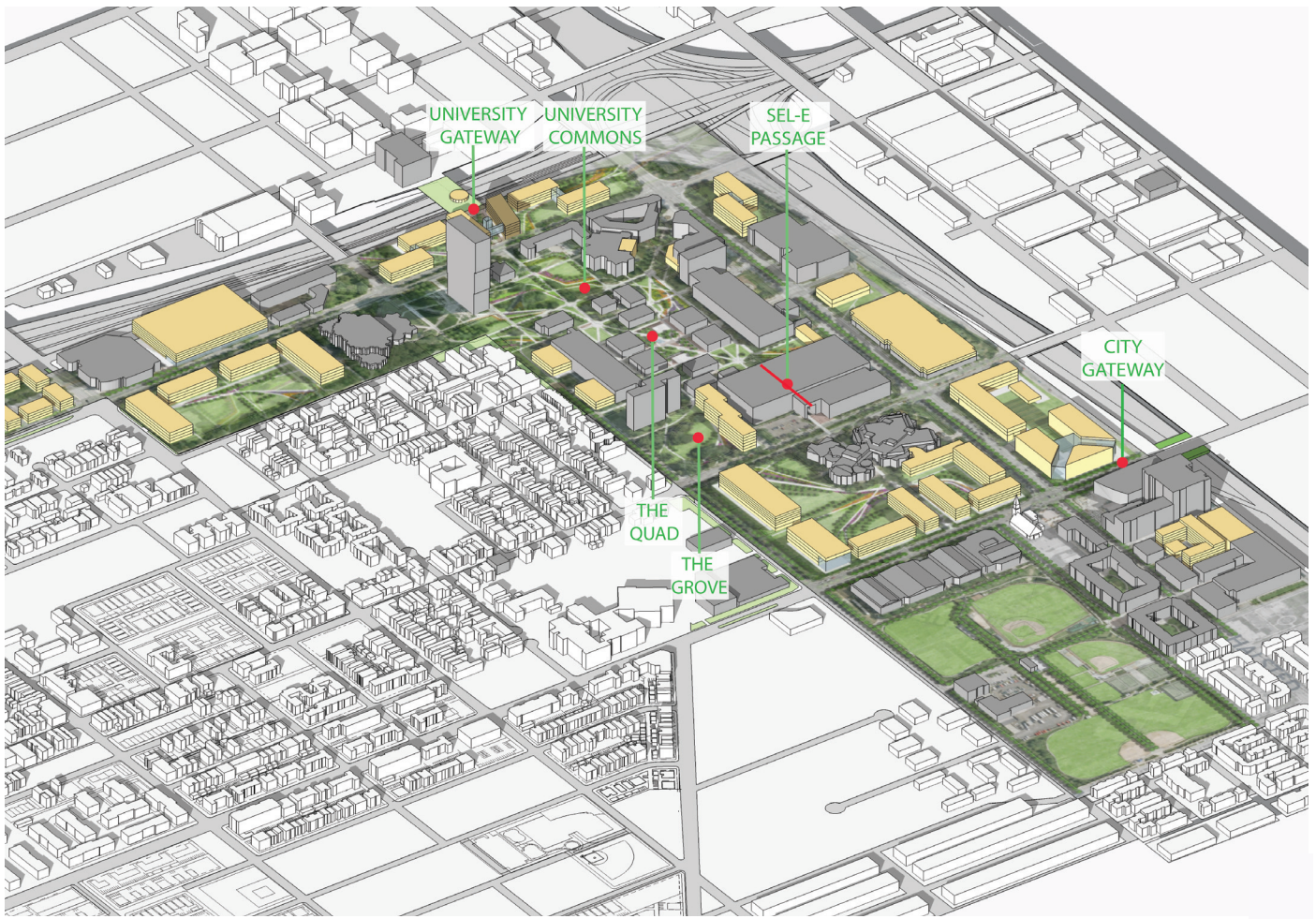




Key Elements

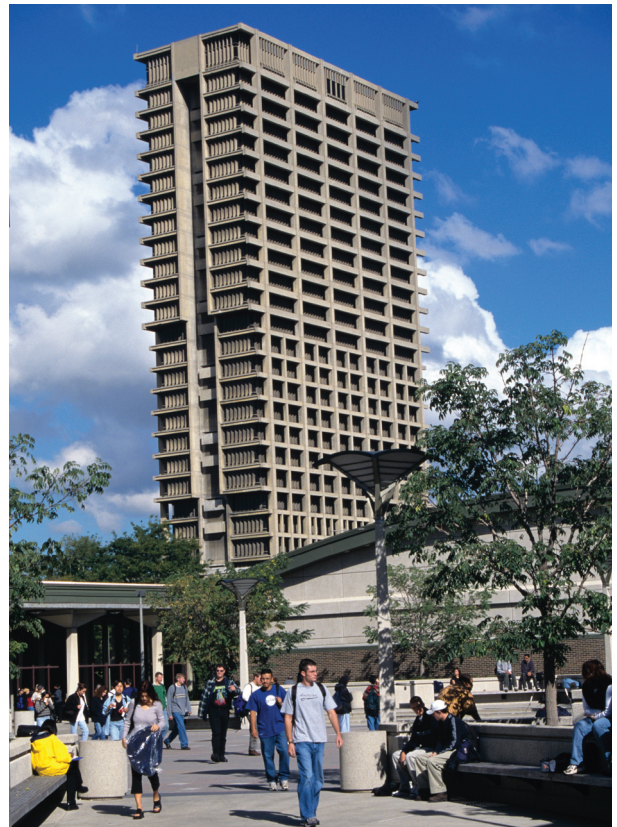
Delving into the specifics of the Master Plan, there are three types of Campus Places: Landscape places, Center places and Gateway places. Landscape places are greenways and courtyards central to the experience of UIC. Center places are the larger “core” open spaces that identify each side of campus. And finally, Gateway places are the campus edge conditions that identifies UIC to the surrounding community and city beyond. These “visions” of specific places on campus are indicated with a photograph of the existing condition followed by views of its future.



Campus Master Plan - East Side: Key elements of the places indicated above are described in this section.

EAST SIDE

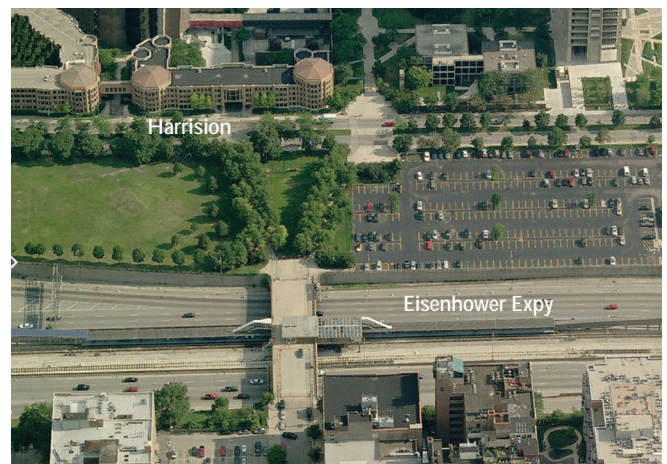
The East Side of UIC continues to evolve from an isolated commuter campus toward a more open and inviting community landscape campus. The campus is established with two new gateway developments that define the campus and become the visible identity of UIC. An intensive overhaul of existing key open spaces, The Quad and The Grove, makes for more useful interactive spaces that have stronger connections. This evolution continues with the removal of original fences and landscape walls, followed by a series of new open spaces such as the University Commons, and then subsequent perimeter building districts followed by strategic infill opportunities.



UNIVERSITY GATEWAY

The University Gateway development positions new academic buildings along the Eisenhower Expressway, effectively knitting a link from the East Side to Greektown on the north and the adjoining neighborhoods. This will be achieved primarily through the elimination of the surface parking lots currently separating the two and adding new buildings that increase the density of the north edge of campus, continuing the urban into campus. The main north-south axis of campus will continue across Harrison Street to the anticipated redesigned CTA Blue Line station and to the neighborhood beyond. With the new buildings, new quads will provide mixed-use amenities and a newly programmed entrance landscape that will connect students and visitors to the campus. This space will provide expanded walkways that knit together a fountain, gardens, cafes, and other retail for a 24/7 entrance to UIC.

By focusing density on this site, the campus is able to provide a concentration of academic facilities and classes close to both the center of campus and rapid transit, which facilitates a great location for professional evening courses and partnerships with businesses and civic identities. The functions that now reside across the expressway in CUPPA Hall and Art & Design Hall will move to the upper floors of the new buildings.



University Gateway before: For many students, this entry to the campus from the existing CTA station is the main gateway. The station opens to the campus through a birch allee, surface parking and an underutilized field, in effect distancing the campus from the surrounding community.



University Gateway after: This eye level perspective looking south of a new CTA station shows the balance of paving and native plantings that will define a main entrance to campus.



University Gateway after: The campus-wide vocabulary of pedestrian walks will knit the University Gateway to the rest of the East Side. The gateway will be identified with a new UIC marker. The University Gateway will be further enlivened by a four-season water feature and street level retail.

CITY GATEWAY

As Roosevelt Road is a major city connector street, this plan recognizes this prime location for a new public multi-purpose facility that will house programs dedicated to connecting with the larger community. This civic building site will form a gateway with the UIC Forum to offer expanded programmatic capabilities and capacity as well as include efficient connections to parking and transit. Concurrent streetscape improvements will expand the city's boulevard efforts while reconciling numerous pedestrian-vehicular conflicts.

Drivers will know they have reached UIC from the highly visible new UIC marker. To slow traffic and decrease pedestrian-vehicular conflicts in this heavily used area, boulevard streetscape improvements will include the addition of a sustainably landscaped median strip as well as clearly marked crosswalks. Parking for this facility will need closer analysis at the time of a new project to determine if expanded existing parking facilities are easily accessible to this site or if an integrated parking solution will need to be provided.

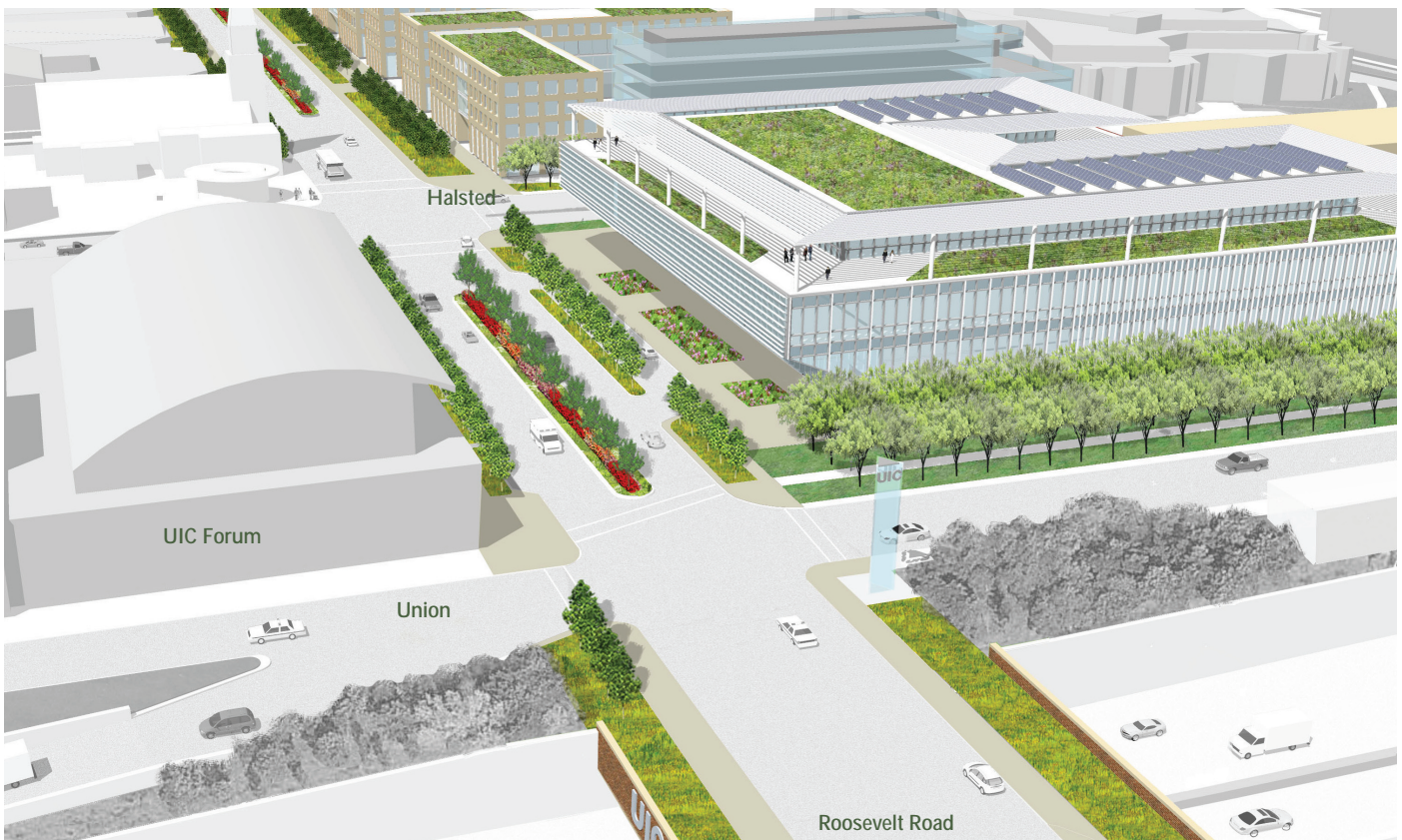
Close to transit and on-campus parking, this city/campus crossroads location is an ideal site for a new public multi-purpose facility. This building will support and expand the programming of the UIC Forum to the south and together these buildings will help define the City Gateway.



City Gateway before: Designed as a vehicular thoroughfare, this stretch of Roosevelt Road does not announce UIC's identity nor make connections to the city eastward.



City Gateway after: This eye level perspective looking west on Roosevelt Road indicates a new bridge across the Dan Ryan Expressway that identifies the campus and continues a new streetscape design.



City Gateway after: Anchoring the southeast edge of the East Side of campus, the City Gateway will solidify UIC's presence along Roosevelt Road and will continue the City's boulevard streetscape through campus.

CORE

THE QUAD

The original circulation system was predicated on pedestrians using a network of second story walkways to move between buildings. With the removal of the elevated system in the late 1990's, pedestrians began using the ground plane to navigate the campus. While walking through the campus is preferable to walking above on an elevated walkway, many of the building entrances were also at the second level, triggering a reconfiguration of entrances, and the ground plane landscape that had previously been dedicated to building services. In effect, the service landscape has incrementally been repurposed as a pedestrian landscape, with new paving and trees, but with little planned programmed activities.

EAST SIDE



The Quad before: The current Quad plaza is wide open and flexible, yet stark and not inviting to small groups of users.



The Quad before: As a retrofit to the original second-level Forum, this open space is enclosed by window-less buildings that block views of the campus and do not showcase campus life.



The Quad after: With a view to the City beyond, the new Quad will allow for a diversity of activities in a more comfortable engaging outdoor space.



The Quad after: The Quad is transformed into a vibrant heart of the campus, with a variety of paving materials balanced with lawn, shade trees, and an interactive fountain.

THE QUAD

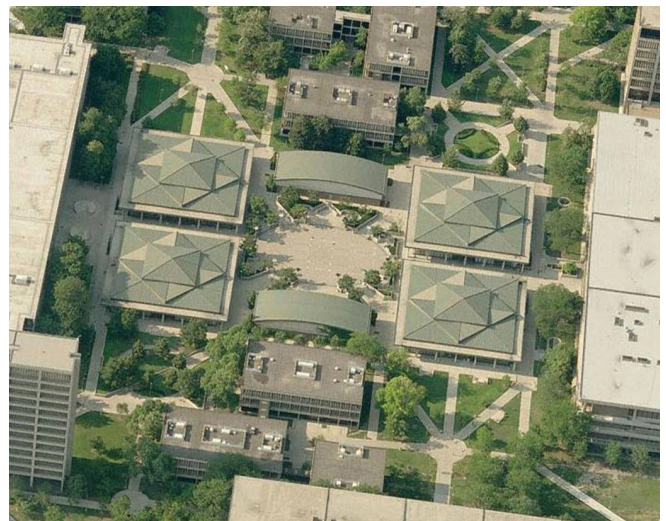
The Master Plan proposes a series of adjustments to The Quad, beginning with the re-cladding of Lecture Centers B and E, with new windows to reveal internal activities as indicated in Alternate A. This alternate, that has also been proposed by CUPPA students, could be an Immediate Impact Project before any major work is done on the Lecture Centers.

Alternate B includes reducing by 50% these two lecture centers to free up additional exterior space while simplifying the diagonal desire lines that enter The Quad from the four corners. The addition of a campus café, or other constantly active program visible to The Quad, will generate foot traffic and encourage users to congregate and linger.

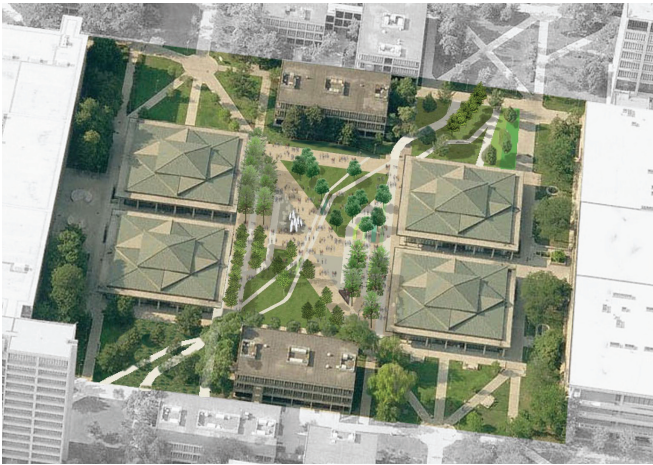
Alternative C removes the two lecture centers entirely to maximize the available footprint for balancing pavements with vegetated surfaces. As a 24/7 center of campus, The Quad will allow for the influx of pedestrians at peak times and for student groups to set up tables to promote their interests. With plenty of seating, a fountain and new café, The Quad will re-define the campus experience. The objective is to increase shade trees and seating opportunities, and add an active water feature to yield a vibrant 24/7 campus open space at the core of the East Side to increase the sense of shared community and pride of place.



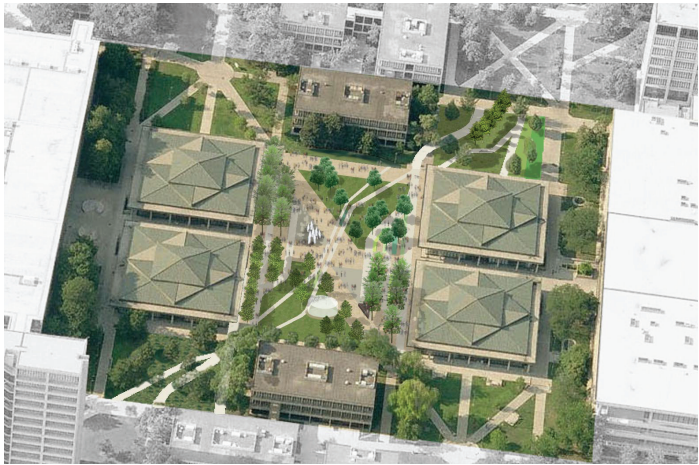
The Quad Alternate A: Reclad Lecture Centers B and E



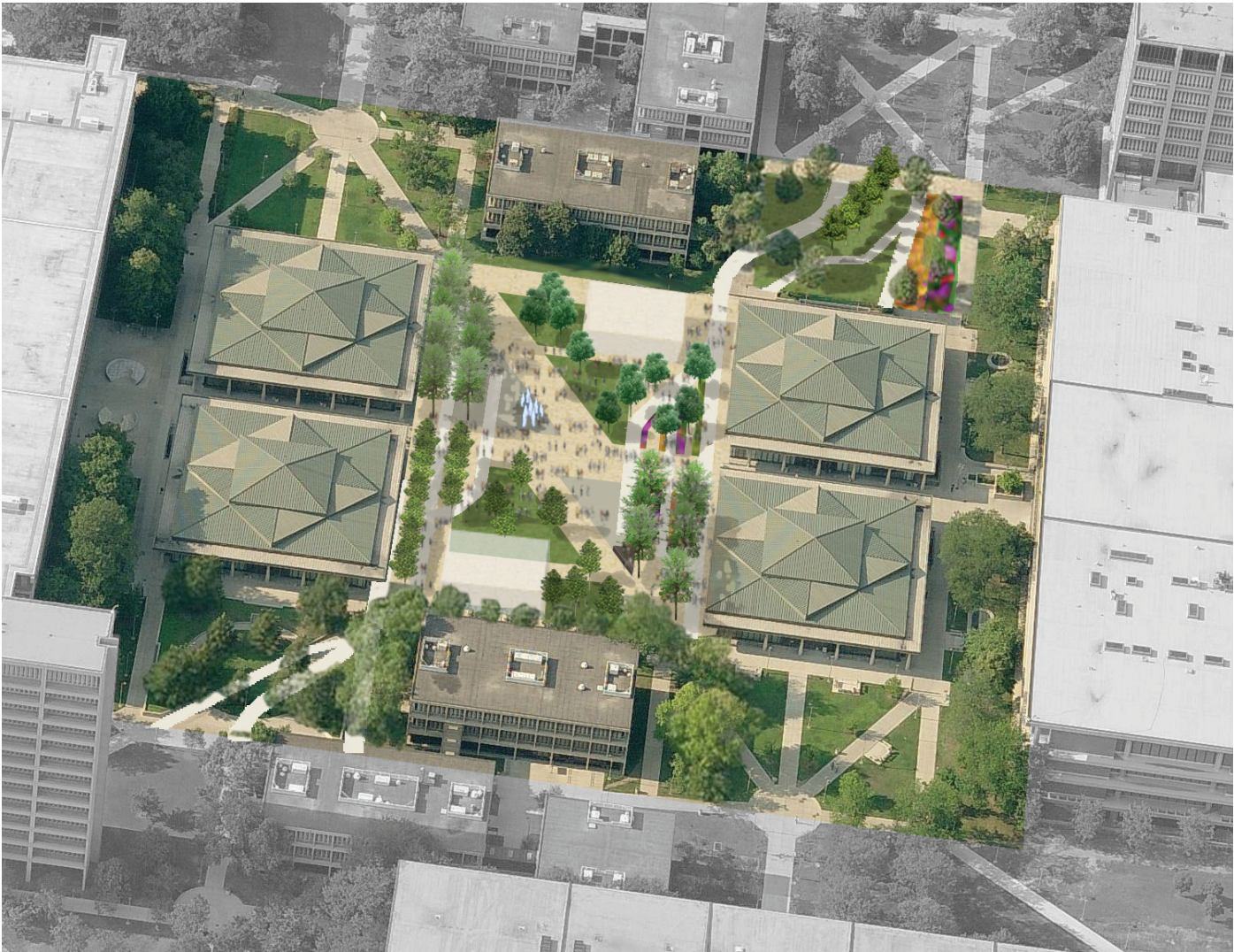
The Quad before: The existing Quad is comprised of six lecture halls around the central ellipse bound by seat walls and small trees.



The Quad Alternate B: Remove Lecture Centers B and E



The Quad Alternate C: Construct a new single centralized pavilion



The Quad after: Halving the Lecture Centers B and E will allow the diagonal walks from the northwest and southeast to connect into the heart of The Quad.

SEL-E PASSAGE

A key component of the primary pedestrian axis running north/south through campus, is the Science and Engineering Laboratory East (SEL-E) Passage. A renovation of this portal will alter the pedestrian experience from a dark, overscaled and cold passageway to a light, warm, inviting passageway to the East Side. Opening the roof ceiling structure (as originally conceived by Walter Netsch) will allow light to get down to the ground and provide the opportunity for greater variety of planting – more flowering perennials and a variety of vegetative ground cover. Upgrading seating and lighting will transform the corridor to create a place for lingering and enjoying gardens. This portal may become an opportunity for an outdoor art installation utilizing lighting and reflection to transform this space through the day and nighttime hours.

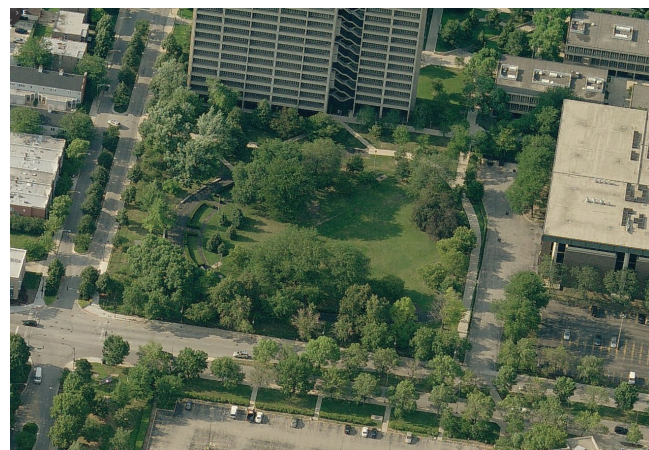
While this may be accomplished with little to no impact to the SEL-E building itself, additional improvements may be realized by creating punched or storefront window openings to allow views of the activity within the building from the “street” level.



SEL-E Passage before

THE GROVE

The Grove exists at the corner of campus, largely fenced off from both Taylor and Morgan Streets. Making a positive direct connection through this area from Little Italy and Taylor Street all the way to The Quad, will allow UIC to capitalize on the adjacent retail neighborhood. Major iconic trees will be maintained and trimmed to provide an area capable of hosting larger outdoor events. Editing paving and plantings, while introducing new walkways and gardens, will restore The Grove as a desired campus destination and signature open space, activated by pedestrians passing through. To take advantage of this new front yard community gateway, an ideal location for a new building site is created such as a Student Services Building or facility that serves both sides of campus.



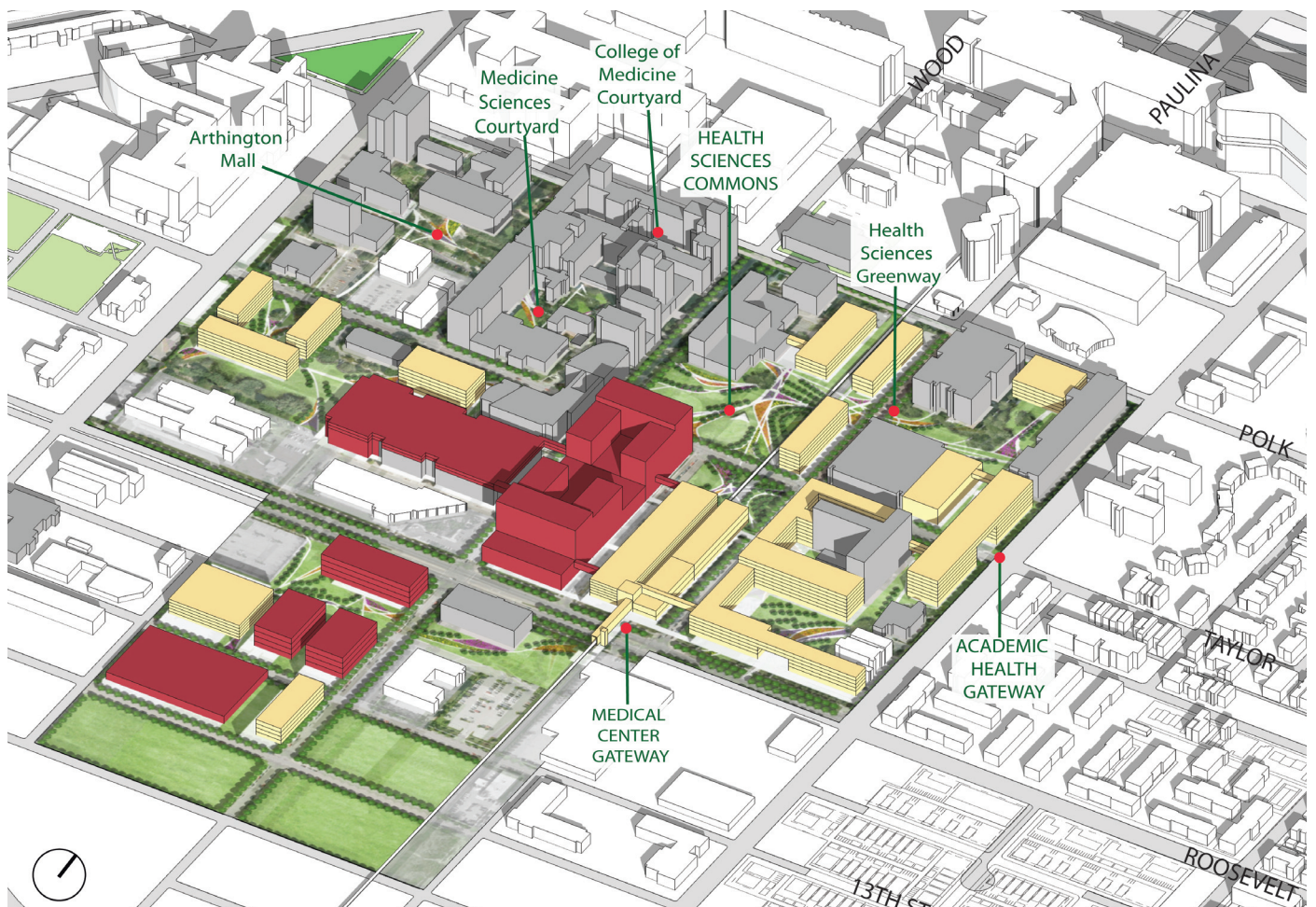
The Grove aerial before



SEL-E Passage after: The addition of daylight will immediately relieve the current cavernous feel and allow for plant growth. Seating, lights and a varied plant palette will transform this space and the identity of the East Side's pedestrian network.



The Grove after: This redevelopment of The Grove provides for a perfect location for a campus unit that serves both sides of campus such as the Student Services Building.



Campus Master Plan - West Side: Key elements of the places located above are described in this section. Places identified in all capital letters are highlighted in the Executive Summary.

WEST SIDE

The West Side of UIC is typical of many urban medical centers: dense development with few campus open spaces and circulation primarily restricted to the street grid. The Master Plan will reinvigorate the streetscapes while carving out midblock pedestrian circulation and signature open spaces that will connect to existing open spaces. The Campus Master Plan identifies ways to open up, connect, and enhance the various areas within UIC's health sciences campus. The creation of gateways in prime locations, signature open spaces, and reinvigorated streetscapes will unify the West Side and at the same time distinguish it within the Illinois Medical District.

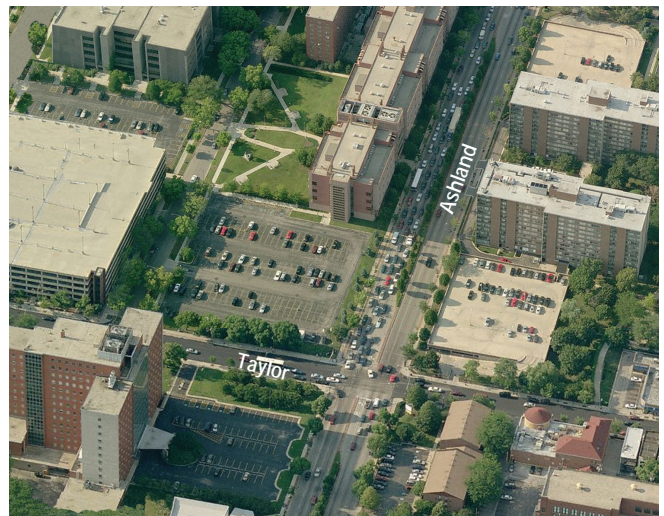


ACADEMIC HEALTH GATEWAY

An opportunity exists to position a building-as-gateway at the intersection of Ashland Avenue and Taylor Street, thus continuing the street wall of the Molecular Biology Research Building. This building site would be the first of a three-phase Teaching-Learning-Research Center that becomes a unique multi-college, multi-disciplinary resource for all six Health Science colleges to work together in new state-of-the-art facilities. This would establish a new academic gateway to the West Side of UIC. Additionally, this new Academic Gateway will showcase the latest in green building technologies while forming an edge and a portal.



Ashland and Taylor before



Ashland and Taylor Intersection before: The current edge of the West Side is primarily surface parking lots and buildings set back from the street.



Academic Health Gateway after: This unique site on campus would not only define the campus edge on Ashland Avenue but also creates a gateway “portal” to the West Side.



Academic Health Gateway after: Defining Taylor Street as the primary connector between the East and West Sides of campus, this new academic gateway building will house a new concept in providing interdisciplinary teaching and research spaces for the six Health Science colleges.

MEDICAL CENTER GATEWAY

Roosevelt Road represents an opportunity for UIC to establish a strong Medical Center presence with significant new infill development. New structures will incorporate sustainable design approaches with spaces for education and healing that show the Medical Center as a leader in medical treatment, education and research. Coupled with a new intermodal transit station supported by the CTA's plans for a new Pink Line station, the Medical Center Gateway will become an easily accessible hub from anywhere in Chicago. The Roosevelt Road landscape should be urban, assertive and uniquely identified as UIC, providing a bold contrast to other development both east and west of the campus, through dense groves and sweeping native gardens rather than suburban lawns.

The future hospital and proposed new medical buildings will form the University of Illinois Medical Center at Chicago corridor, affirming the university's presence along this important east-west thoroughfare.



Roosevelt Road at Ashland before: Roosevelt Road is currently a city boulevard loosely bounded by suburban-style development setbacks for institutional buildings housing several state and federal agencies.



Medical Center Gateway after: In this view looking west from Ashland Avenue and Roosevelt Road, a linear gateway, which is a showcase for a new University of Illinois Medical Center at Chicago, is defined by new buildings and an intensive landscape significantly expanding the city's boulevard streetscape.

HEALTH SCIENCES COMMONS

The Health Sciences Commons will be the signature open landscape or ‘heart’ for the West Side. It will be created through the consolidation of surface parking into structured garages and the removal of the existing UIC Hospital north of Taylor Street. A network of arcing walks will connect existing and new buildings from Wood Street, under the ‘L’ and to Paulina Street and to the Health Sciences Greenway. The series of intertwining ‘strand’ walks provide multiple direct and indirect pedestrian routes between buildings and across campus. The pedestrian paths balance flexible landscape open spaces against dense groves of shade trees and native gardens. With a pavilion centered in the space, the Health Sciences Commons would be an ideal location for both campus and neighborhood events. Drawing upon the existing activity on Taylor and Wood Streets, the Health Sciences Commons would provide new embedded gardens and green space critical to future healthcare facility designs as well as the entire West Side of campus.



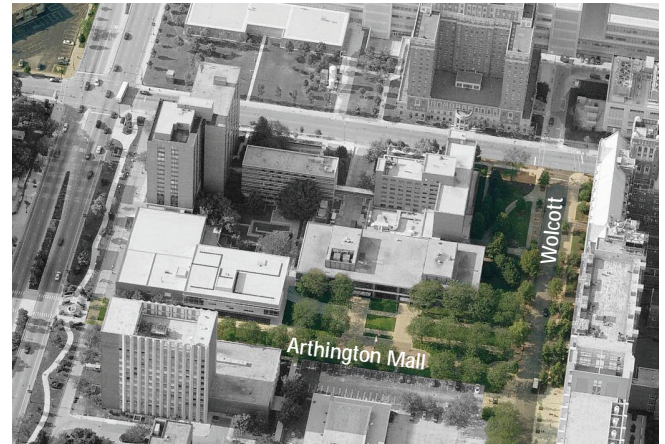
Taylor and Wood Streets before: The existing surface parking lot sprawl from Marshfield Avenue to the UIC Hospital renders a vast tract of campus unappealing to walk through and creates an opportunity for intensive redevelopment.



Health Sciences Commons after: After the replacement of the existing UIC Hospital, south of Taylor Street on Roosevelt Road, the Health Sciences Commons will provide the signature landscape for the entire health sciences campus that interconnects with the Health Sciences Greenway.

ARTHINGTON MALL & WOLCOTT AVENUE

The Master Plan enhances pedestrian throughways across campus. Arthington Mall is an opportunity to refocus the space on the Student Center West. The north end of Wolcott Avenue will be closed to vehicular traffic, thereby expanding the pedestrian landscape between the Student Residence Hall and the College of Medicine. The Arthington Mall will directly connect to the Medical Sciences Building, as vehicular traffic will terminate mid-block with access to Lot B2. The reconfigured Student Center West entry landscape will continue the network of pathways, connecting and resolving desire lines through this area to make pedestrian movement more seamless.



Arthington Mall and Wolcott Avenue before: The residence halls and student center at the northwest corner of the West Side are separated from the rest of campus by Wolcott Avenue.

HEALTH SCIENCES GREENWAY

The existing axis between the College of Pharmacy and Molecular Biology Research Building is implied more than physical, as it is primarily surface parking in Lots E and F, and bisected by the 'L' and Paulina Street. A new open area and spine provide the organizing framework for subsequent infill development on either side, including Teaching-Learning-Research buildings. Eventually, the spine will expand to become the Health Sciences Greenway, an east-west landscape connecting the closed Marshfield Street corridor to the signature Health Sciences Commons.

An Immediate Impact Project is included in this report to establish a narrow pedestrian corridor across the surface parking, collecting pedestrian traffic from lots and structures along a common shaded spine.



Health Sciences Greenway before: This mid-block zone that directly links the entrances of several buildings: College of Pharmacy, College of Dentistry, and Molecular Biology but is currently a vast parking lot, almost impossible to negotiate as a pedestrian.



Arthington Mall and Wolcott Avenue after: Closing a portion of Wolcott Avenue to vehicular traffic will increase the landscape area in front of the residence hall and strengthen pedestrian connections to the reconfigured Student Center plaza.



Health Sciences Greenway after: The curving walks, or “strands”, resolve desire lines by consolidating pathways into broadly arcing trajectories that funnel pedestrians across campus through native gardens and shaded groves.