

SMITHGROUP

Case Western Reserve University

Campus Master Plan

2025



Executive Summary

The purpose of the Case Western Reserve University Campus Master Plan is to articulate a bold and forward-looking vision for the physical development of the campus. This plan identifies near, mid, and long-term opportunities that align with and support the University's strategic priorities.



Letter from the President

“I simply cannot overstate the critical role that institutions like ours must play in leaving this world better than we found it. Education builds knowledge and, we hope, understanding. Research changes lives. Our ability to advance both makes our societies—and our world—better.”

Eric W. Kaler
President



The Plan Ahead

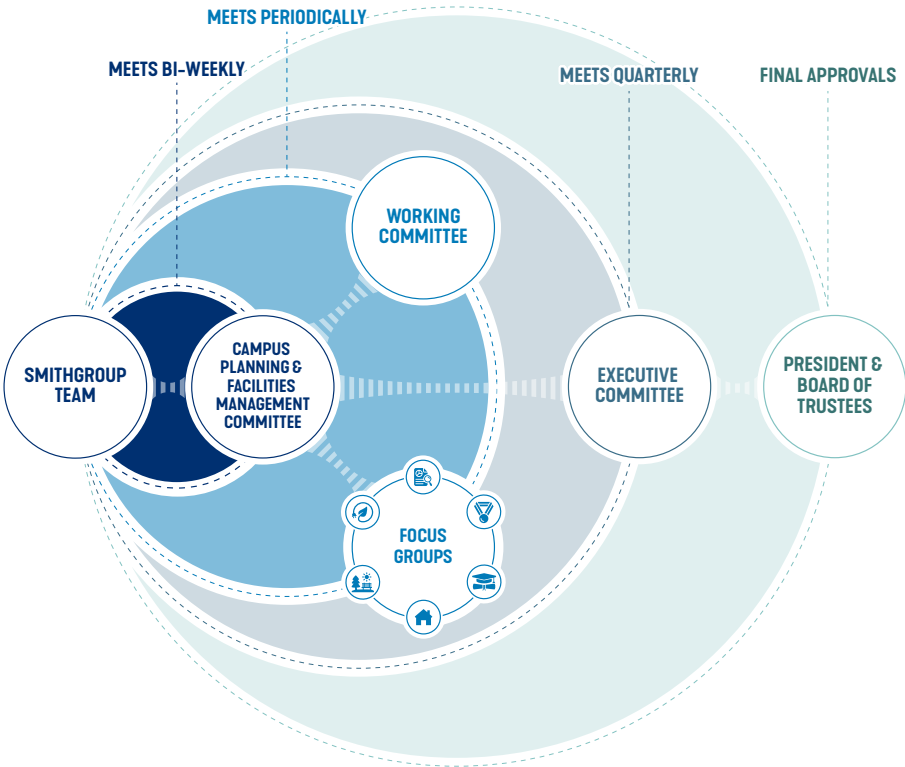
The Campus Master Plan is a bold blueprint for transformation, designed to amplify the University’s mission, accelerate interdisciplinary innovation, and create a campus that reflects the momentum of our people and ideas.

This plan is not just about buildings—it’s about breakthroughs.

Convergence

To “Be a Force,” the Campus Master Plan accelerates the convergence of academic, research, and community forces—shaping a future of transformative impact and innovation at CWRU.

The plan culminates a transparent, 15-month process led by Executive Leadership guided by a Steering Committee with input from students, alumni, faculty, staff, alumni, community members. The Campus Master Plan maintains the momentum of previous capital investments, leverages current improvements, and establishes a strong platform for a forthcoming capital campaign.



Strategic Alignment

Case Western Reserve University (CWRU) is a top-tier research institution dedicated to advancing knowledge and improving lives. The Campus Master Plan is a physical manifestation of that mission offering a compelling vision for the next decade and beyond. This vision provides a flexible framework for guiding development while advancing the University as a top tier research institution. This plan aligns the Strategic Priorities with physical responses for continued campus growth and impact. CWRU Strategic Priorities include:



Intersectional Discovery

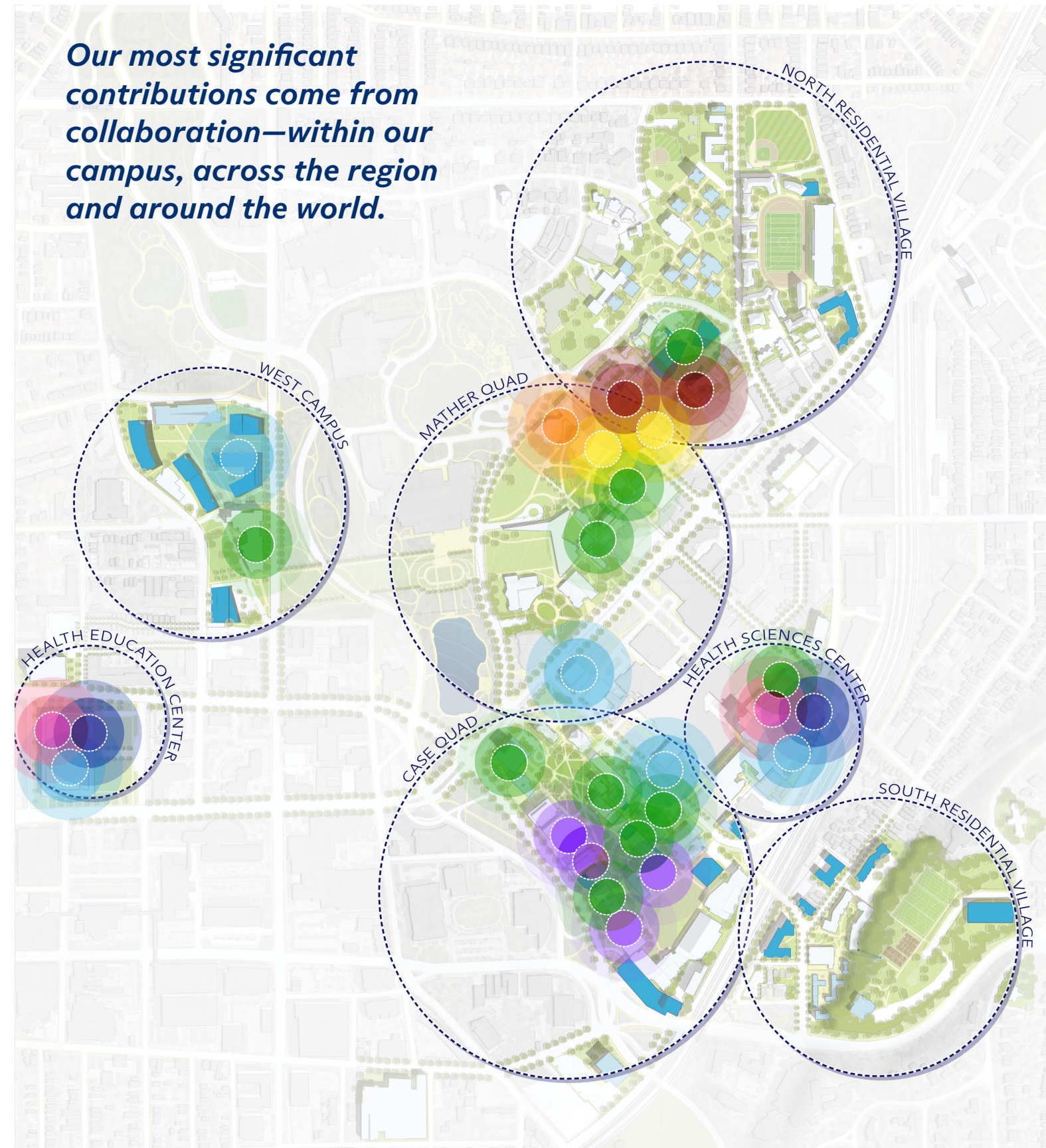
Case Western Reserve University is making a difference through our pioneering research and knowledge creation. We are leveraging our breakthroughs to address today's intractable problems—disease and infection, health outcomes, energy and materials, resilient communities, climate change, and artificial intelligence. The next ten years of research growth and differentiation for CWRU are essential, and the implications for the Campus Master Plan are important:

Promote Theme-Based Research and Scholarly Collaboration

Connect across colleges and schools for a transdisciplinary, clustered, and team-based model that blurs physical and disciplinary boundaries. This differentiates the CWRU experience and remains at the core of our innovation ecosystem.

Connect Campus Neighborhoods

CWRU has diverse and distinct campus neighborhoods. Celebrate the “both and.” Reinforce unique intra-neighborhood program strengths, traditions, and character. And simultaneously, develop inter-neighborhood linkages reinforcing the whole institutional brand.



Our most significant contributions come from collaboration—within our campus, across the region and around the world.

Planning Drivers

CWRU has identified several important drivers to shape the direction of campus. Building upon the Strategic Priorities, the following elements form the foundation of the Campus Master Plan and inform decision-making and prioritization throughout both the planning and implementation phases. They include:



Elevate Academic Excellence

- Renovate facilities to match institutional reputation
- Invest in experiential and project-based learning
- Invest in quality over quantity



Invest and Expand Research

- Grow \$200M in additional annual expenditures
- Foster collaboration and theme-based research
- Expand engineering and science



Enhance Community Engagement

- Embrace the urban environment and be “of the city”
- Connect and celebrate campus neighborhoods
- Foster institutional, municipal, industry, and clinical partnerships



Ensure Responsible Stewardship

- Maintain current undergraduate and graduate enrollment levels
- Increase utilization of facilities
- Lower deferred maintenance burden and remove underperforming assets



Align Student Life Experience

- Enhance housing assets (location and typology)
- Diversify food offerings
- Consolidate student services and academic support



Case Quad

Neighborhood Overview

The Case Quad is an iconic campus neighborhood containing many of CWRU's core science and engineering buildings. The ongoing transformation of the Case Quad reflects the University's commitment to solving real-world problems through innovation and interdisciplinary collaboration in world-class facilities. The Campus Master Plan extends this trajectory through building modernization, site and campus-edge improvements, infrastructure enhancements, and expansion of the University's research capability.

Strategic Planning Opportunities



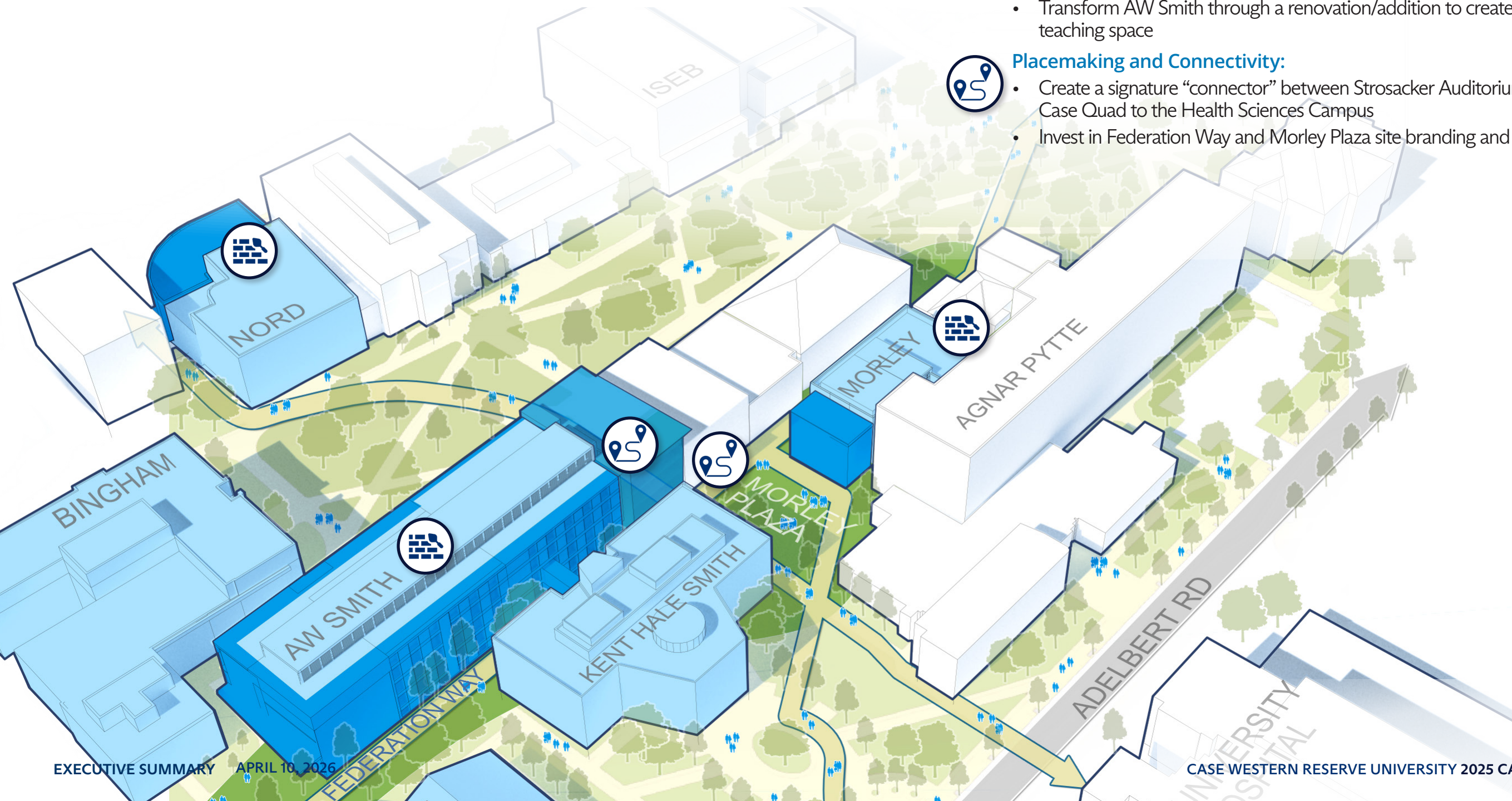
New Construction/Renovations:

- Renovate Morley building for Mathematics, Applied Mathematics and Statistics, and emerging AI technology
- Redevelop Nord Hall into a student-focused collaboration space engaging MLK Jr. Drive
- Transform Crawford Hall through a renovation/addition as a public facing gateway, event space, and student services hub
- Transform AW Smith through a renovation/addition to create collaborative research and teaching space

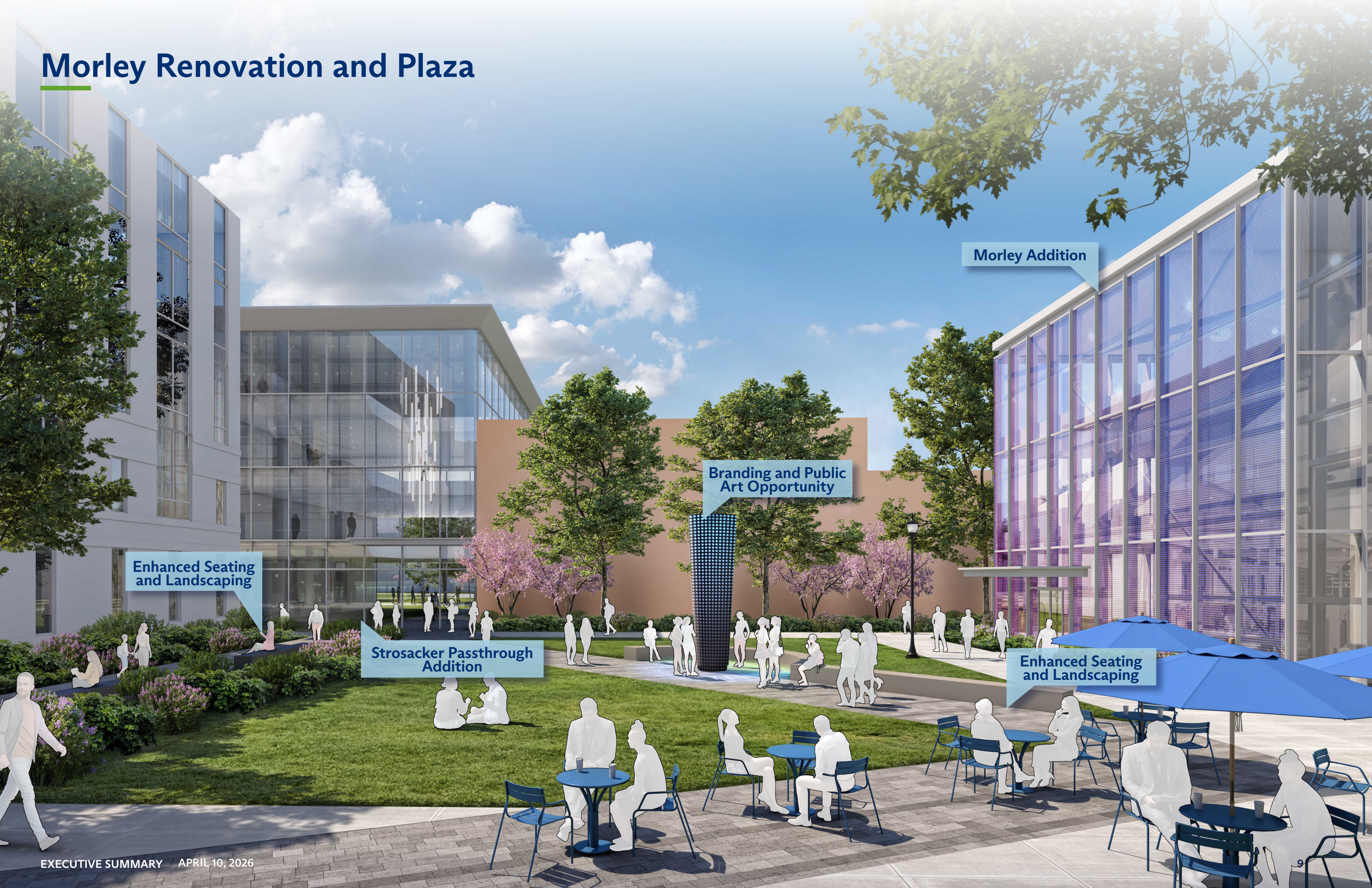


Placemaking and Connectivity:

- Create a signature "connector" between Strosacker Auditorium and A.W. Smith linking the Case Quad to the Health Sciences Campus
- Invest in Federation Way and Morley Plaza site branding and placemaking initiatives



Morley Renovation and Plaza



Enhanced Seating and Landscaping

Strosacker Passthrough Addition

Branding and Public Art Opportunity

Morley Addition

Enhanced Seating and Landscaping

Crawford Addition and Gateway

Renovated VIC Lot and Drop-Off

Enhanced Plaza Space

Crawford Hall Gateway Addition

Enhanced Euclid/MLK Gateway

Mather Quad

Neighborhood Overview

The historic Mather Quad was the original campus of the Flora Stone Mather Center for Women as part of Western Reserve University. This beautiful space contains Gothic Revival architecture, noteworthy sculpture, and is home to the College of Arts and Sciences. The Campus Master Plan recommends repositioning the Mather Quad to better connect the urbanity of Euclid Avenue, the cultural amenities of University Circle, the existing professional programs, and the vibrancy of the Tinkham Veale University Center.

Strategic Planning Opportunities



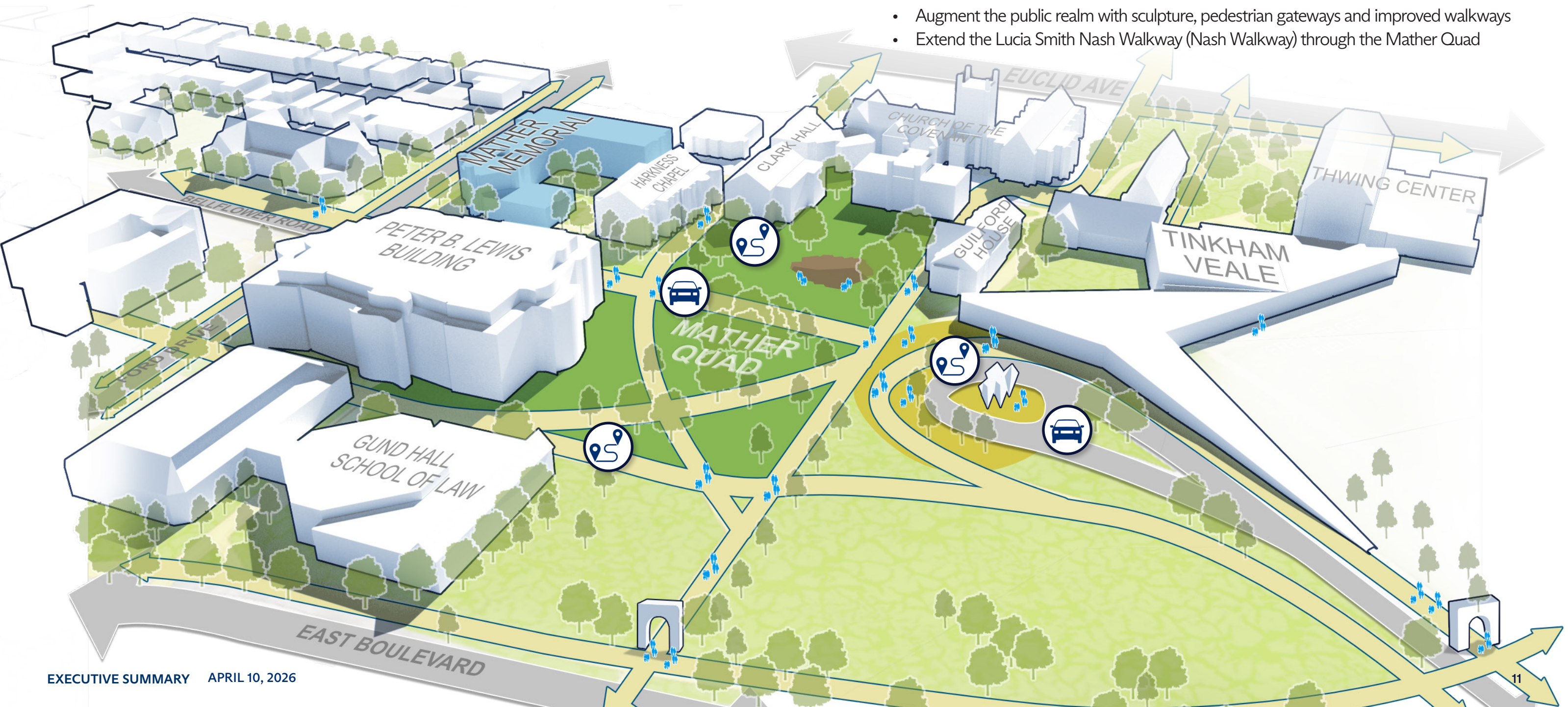
Streets:

- Transform Bellflower Road between East Boulevard and Ford Drive into a pedestrian mall
- Develop a ceremonial campus entry/drop-off at Tinkham Veale University Center



Placemaking and Connectivity:

- Expand the Mather Quad from Haydn Hall toward the Wade Oval, encompassing East Bell Commons
- Augment the public realm with sculpture, pedestrian gateways and improved walkways
- Extend the Lucia Smith Nash Walkway (Nash Walkway) through the Mather Quad



Bellflower | North Residential Village

Neighborhood Overview

The Bellflower Neighborhood | North Residential Village at CWRU is adjacent to Uptown Cleveland and embedded in the cultural amenities of University Circle. This neighborhood contains residential living, athletic venues, and academic environments for community engagement and creative expression, highlighting the importance of critical thinking and communication at the University. The Campus Master Plan recommends enhancing this neighborhood's impact through both new construction, site improvements, and strategic building renovations.

Strategic Planning Opportunities



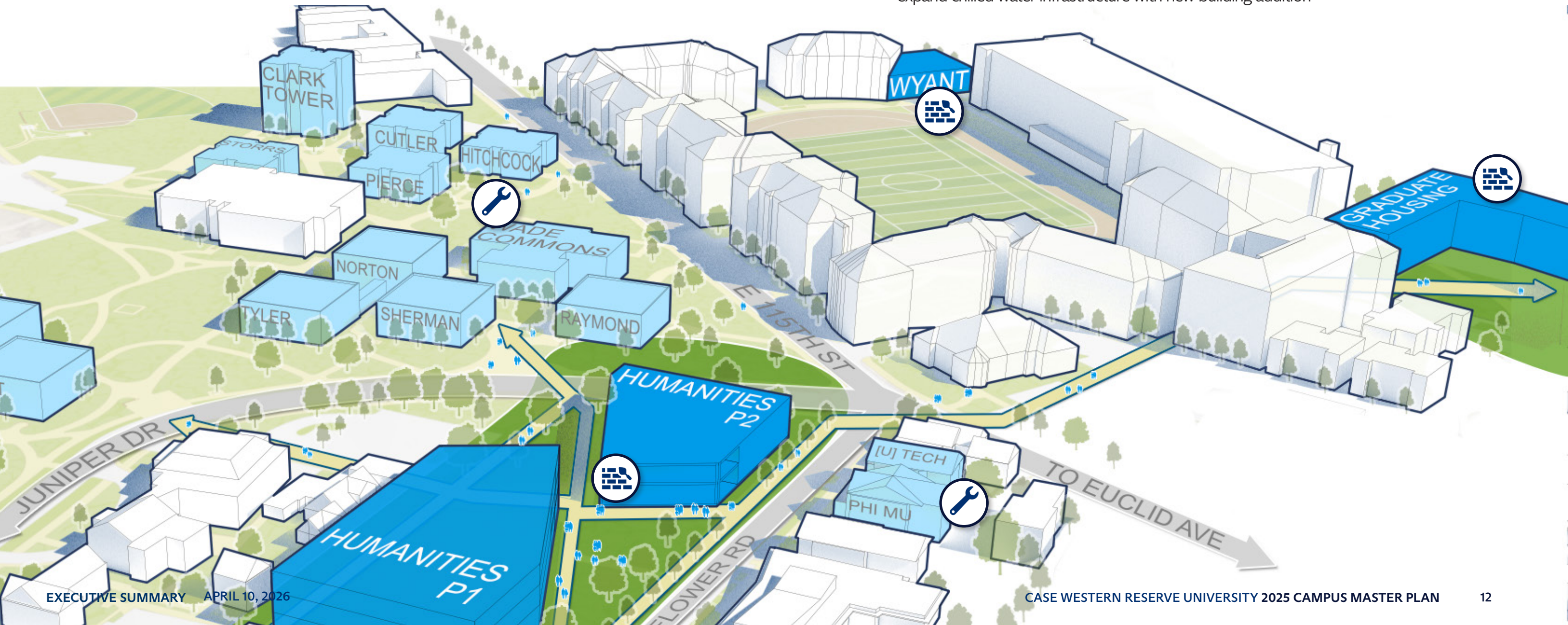
Renovation:

- Upgrade North Residential Village housing assets
- Repurpose assets to consolidate and migrate Greek life into this neighborhood



New Construction:

- Develop a two-phase Humanities Building to grow and consolidate campus-wide programs
- Expand graduate housing
- Increase indoor athletics and recreation space at the Wyant Athletic and Wellness Center and expand chilled water infrastructure with new building addition



Humanities Building

Humanities Building
(Phase 1)

Public Art Opportunity

Pathway Branding
and Lighting

Plaza with Variety of
Seating and Landscaping

Glassy Atrium/
Interior Visibility



South Residential Village

Neighborhood Overview

The South Residential Village (SRV) is an important residential neighborhood and home to second-year undergraduate students. Adjacent to both the academic core and historic Little Italy, the SRV includes suite-style and Greek housing and proximate dining amenities. This community is vital for student retention, enhancing the CWRU experience, and creating a supportive living environment. Looking forward, multiple suite-style housing assets require long-term repositioning – requiring a coordinated strategy of demolition, new construction, and/or relocation. In addition, low occupancy rates for Greek housing require consolidation and locational migration. Campus Master Plan recommendations include:

Strategic Planning Opportunities



Renovation/Redevelopment:

- Renovate Staley, Tippit, Howe, and Alumni Halls for suite-style housing
- Consolidate and relocate all SRV Greek housing assets to the North Residential Village
- Redevelop the upper terrace for recreation, athletics, and additional parking
- Renovate Carlton Commons for indoor recreation



New Construction:

- Develop new suite-style housing along Murray Hill Road to replace Kush, Michelson, and Glaser Houses
- Redevelop the corner of Adelbert and Murray Hill roads for innovative mixed-use



West Campus | Health Education Campus

Neighborhood Overview

The West and Health Education Campuses are complimentary neighborhoods that support the University's larger strategic goals of advancing education, world-class research, and interdisciplinary collaboration. The Health Education Campus is well positioned to advance interprofessional health education and West Campus is poised to advance the research ecosystem—moving from testing and market assessment to commercialization.

Strategic Planning Opportunities



New Construction:

- Leverage the West Campus for growing research capacity and capability
- Consider additional structured parking as development demand exceeds surface parking capacity



Placemaking/Connectivity:

- Create a unique campus character for the West Campus
- Enhance pedestrian connections between the Health Education and West Campuses
- Strengthen transit options between campus locations



Implementing the Vision

Numbers are for map location purposes only and do not reflect priority or chronological order of projects.

Case Quad

- 1 Morley Renovation
- 2 Nord Hall Renovation and Addition
- 3 Crawford Hall Renovation and Addition
- 4 AW Smith Renovation and Wrapper
- 5 Strosacker Passthrough Addition
- 6 Federation Way and Morley Plaza

Mather Quad

- 7 Bellflower Road Closure/Pedestrian Mall
- 8 Campus Gateway/Drop Off
- 9 Mather Quad Expansion
- 10 Nash Walkway Extension

Bellflower/North Residential Village

- 11 First-Year Housing Renovations
- 12 Humanities Building
- 13 New Graduate Housing
- 14 Wyant Athletic and Wellness Center Addition and Chilled Water

South Residential Village

- 15 Staley, Tippit, Howe, and Alumni House Renovations
- 16 Carlton Commons Renovation
- 17 Recreation Fields and Sports Courts Redevelopment
- 18 New Second-Year Housing
- 19 Mixed Use Redevelopment

West Campus/HEC

- 20 Research Development
- 21 New Parking Structure
- 22 Enhanced Pedestrian Connection to HEC

SmithGroup and CWRU Campus Planning & Facilities Management would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to the entire campus community and our valued off-campus partners and stakeholders for your participation in supporting the 2025 CWRU Campus Master Plan (CMP).

Your insights, contributions, and collaborative spirit were instrumental in shaping a visionary campus plan that will guide our university into the future.

Special thanks to the CMP Executive Committee and the CMP Working Committee for their unwavering leadership and commitment to ensure that the plan is both comprehensive and achievable.

CMP Executive Committee

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