

Update - April 22, 2008:

In accordance with the Request for Qualifications (RFQ) that was issued in December 2007, Cooper, Robertson & Partners, L.L.P. will develop conceptual master plans for the development of the Brackenridge Tract in Austin, Texas, which plans will be integrated planning documents that consider building sites, streets, parking and land uses; utility infrastructure and capacity; transportation within the tract and between the tract, the surrounding neighborhood, and arterials; recreational and open space, community services, and landscaping; way-finding/graphics; design guidelines, including building heights; compatibility with surrounding neighborhoods; sustainability and stewardship of resources; environmental and endangered species issues; and other relevant components; the focus of the resulting conceptual plans will be the strategic use of the Brackenridge Tract to support the educational mission of The University of Texas at Austin.

The RFQ set out three objectives, one of which was that the master planning process provide opportunities for members of the University community, members of the Austin community, neighborhood, civic and governmental leaders, other stakeholders, and the general public to give input with respect to development options and strategies for the tract. In keeping with that stated objective, opportunities for public input and communication will be announced in the near future and will occur throughout the approximately 12-month planning process.

The other two stated objectives of the master planning process are:

1. To enable the Board of Regents to meet its fiduciary and legal obligations under the terms of the gift deed from Colonel Brackenridge: to use the tract in the best interests and for the maximum benefit of The University of Texas at Austin; and
2. To achieve redevelopment of the tract in a manner that will not require that the Board of Regents sell portions of the tract, absent a compelling reason to do so, since, because of the perpetual nature of The University of Texas at Austin, truly long term future needs cannot be determined