

Belmont University is fortunate to be part of one of Nashville’s most attractive and desirable urban areas. The mixed-use character is mutually beneficial to the campus, residents, businesses and churches. The University’s situation among several distinctive neighborhoods provides a unique opportunity for creating a model environment for learning, living and recreating.

Belmont shares this vision for a model environment. The Master Development Plan reflects the University’s transition to an urban campus with uses that are complementary and integrated with its residential, businesses and institutional neighbors. The recently completed Curb Event/Beaman Student Center on Belmont Boulevard, Kennedy Hall residences on 15th Avenue and the under-construction Health Sciences Building on Wedgewood Avenue demonstrate Belmont’s commitment to enhancing this model environment and to respecting the distinctive character of each of the adjoining neighborhoods.

Belmont’s Plan provides a *flexible* and *descriptive* guide to future development as an alternative to a site specific, time-locked prescriptive plan. The neighborhoods and Belmont are in transition. The location and timing of transition in the neighborhoods are not predictable since owners of potential expansion areas for the University can choose if and when to sell their properties to Belmont. As educational subjects and methods evolve and major donors for construction projects set their timing, so must Belmont be flexible in its programs, space and time requirements. What can be done at this stage is to ensure the quality and compatibility of both the neighborhoods’ and Belmont’s transition whenever they occur.

Belmont’s Master Development Plan is based on the following elements:

1. Guiding principles and related objectives
2. Parameters for change
3. Use and design characteristics

The Master Development Plan is the result of the combined efforts and constant cooperation of many people. The consultant team appreciates the invaluable assistance of the students, faculty, administrators and staff at Belmont University. The team also wishes to extend its gratitude to those dedicated people who represented the Belmont neighborhood and Metro Nashville Council: Lora Alexander, Rick Collins, Jan Johnson, Damon Warfield, Bertha Walker, C.W. Eubanks, Jayne Gordon, Gene TeSelle, John Green, Gail Scott, Denise Gyauch and Councilmember Ginger Hausser.