An Indispensable Asset, an Outmoded Facility

Bunker Hill Community College’s Charlestown Campus, located at New Rutherford Avenue is at the end of its useful life after half a century of service. Built to serve 5,000 students in 1974, the campus buildings now house approximately 13,000 learners annually.

More than just a matter of capacity, our campus was built for a different time. The College needs spaces designed for today’s degree, certificate, and workforce development programs in STEM, health care and biosciences, all of which are crucial to the region’s economy. We must also anticipate training in emerging areas such as green and blue industries, artificial intelligence and automation.

Bunker Hill Community College is an indispensable asset in the Commonwealth’s education and economic development systems. The College serves its students and communities by providing access to training, upward socioeconomic mobility, and essential and holistic student services that lead to college and career success. We serve our regional economy by working with industry partners to develop an educated, skilled, and motivated workforce. To fulfill this mission, BHCC requires a responsive environment and up-to-date facilities that will support the community college of the future.

A Vision for a Future BHCC Campus: Planning for Our Community’s Needs

After more than two years of study, the College has concluded that a complete replacement of the original 1973 campus buildings is needed for the College to deliver on its programmatic goals.

BHCC’s 32-acre Charlestown campus sits at the nexus of the region’s most dynamic and fast-growing technology and life sciences industry centers in Cambridge, Somerville, and Charlestown, and adjacent to the MBTA Orange Line, Interstate 93, and a short distance from Downtown Boston.
With the support of our key state partners, including the Executive Office of Education and the Department of Higher Education, BHCC is seeking permission from the Commonwealth’s Asset Management Board (AMB) to explore a public-private partnership with a qualified developer who would complete a master plan for a mixed-use development on the College’s Charlestown campus, including a fully-constructed, contemporary facility for BHCC students, educational and workforce training and student services programs, and industry partnerships. The College’s goal of self-funding this project through a public-private partnership would free the resources of the Commonwealth to serve other institutions and agencies, lessening the burden of the state in capital planning.

A New Chapter in the Community College Story

BHCC’s Vision Project for a Future Campus represents an extraordinary opportunity to ensure that the College can deliver on its mission for the next generation of students, communities, and employers in the region in a facility that fits the needs of our times. Right now, the College stands at the beginning of a thoughtful, deliberative planning process in which it will engage all of its stakeholders, including neighbors, local, state and federal officials, students and employees, and industry partners. The College looks forward to robust participation from our stakeholders in the months to come as together we work to expand on the successes of the College’s first 50 years and build a future campus for the next half-century.