

The Planning Process

STAGE 1

Discovery and Analysis

- Begin discussions with internal and external groups
- Gather information
- Analyze information



STAGE 2

Generate Development Approaches

* WE ARE HERE

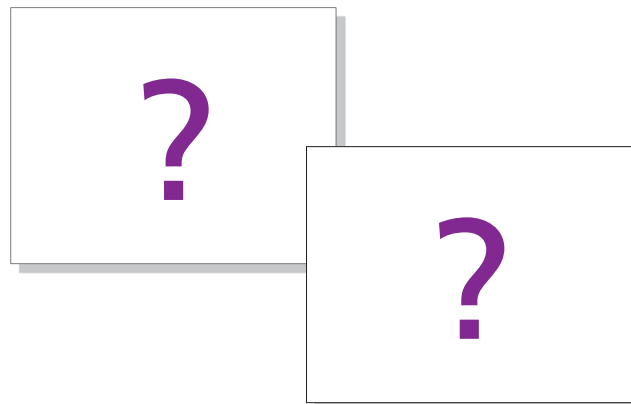
- Continue discussions with internal and external groups
- Develop guiding principles for future growth
- Identify development approaches



STAGE 3

Refine Preferred Development Approach

- Solicit and review feedback from internal and external groups
- Evaluate approaches against NYU's program goals and Community Task Force Principles
- Identify / refine preferred development approach



What We Heard...

...FROM NYU, FACULTY, STUDENTS, STAFF, NYU NEIGHBORS, AND ENGAGED COMMUNITY MEMBERS WHO HAVE JOINED THE PUBLIC DISCUSSION SINCE "NYU PLANS 2031" BEGAN ITS WORK IN THE SPRING OF 2007.

We have synthesized what we heard and applied that guidance to the creation of the diverse, alternative concepts for growth, on display at this Open House. Please give us your comments. We appreciate any feedback.

ON PRIORITIES IN THE WASHINGTON SQUARE CORE...

- The Washington Square area is the heart of the University.
 - Because of limited space in the Washington Square Core, the University must prioritize which parts of the University need to be *in or near* the Core, and what elements can be shifted away from the Core.
 - Classrooms and academic spaces that serve students must be *in or near* the Core because students need to travel between classes on tight schedules.
 - First-Year and Second-Year undergraduate housing should be near the Core to foster the sense of community that helps students adjust to college life and acclimate to living in the City.
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ON DESIGN...

- All design initiatives should make a commitment to improving the public realm: streets, plazas, parks, open spaces, and the way buildings contribute to an inviting urban experience.
 - Excellence in architecture should be a priority.
 - NYU must be creative in meeting space needs in a tight urban setting.
 - Design and space improvements should focus on both building exteriors and interiors.
 - Improvements should include adding or preserving ground-level retail, opening existing buildings to the street, exhibiting public art, and other strategies for energizing the streetscape.
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ON PRESERVATION...

- In the heart of Greenwich Village, the University should make historic preservation a priority.
 - Preservation of neighborhood character, diversity, and traditional architecture is vitally important to NYU's neighbors.
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ON DENSITY...

- The University must achieve a balance between adding density within its current property footprint and expanding beyond that footprint.
- The University's future plans need to be more sensitive as it looks to "cluster" together to ensure it is not creating an overwhelming presence. Some in the community experience the 3rd Avenue corridor, where a number of NYU residence halls are located, as oversaturated.

What We Heard...

ON COMMUNITY INPUT. . .

- The University has a long history of difficult relations with its neighbors regarding the level of community input on development projects.
 - “NYU Plans 2031” should deliver a transparent and predictable plan for the University’s growth to strategically guide the University and allow neighbors to better understand the University’s plans.
 - A new approach to assessing development projects is desired. This approach should allow greater community consultation on the part of NYU and a willingness on the part of the community to judge projects on their merits.
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ON NYU AS A NEIGHBOR. . .

- NYU’s neighbors often feel disappointed and frustrated at the University’s lack of outreach and consideration of the community’s concerns.
 - The University should open its facilities and better integrate itself with the local community. This can be achieved, in part, by improving the design and architecture of its buildings. In addition, the University should reevaluate the capacity, safety, and other key factors of its facilities in order to open them to the community.
 - Many aspects of the University’s positive impact on the surrounding neighborhoods and the City are not well understood. Greater communication could go a long way toward improving the community’s understanding of the University.
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ON OPEN SPACE. . .

- There should be more open space in the area. NYU should improve the existing open spaces that it controls.
 - Some “easy fixes”—simple, lower-cost, quickly achievable enhancements—can be implemented by the University to improve the public realm for the Greenwich Village community and the NYU community alike.
 - Existing open spaces that do not “work” should be replaced or improved to make them more inviting, more usable, and contribute to a sustainable environment.
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ON REMOTE LOCATIONS. . .

- The University’s future growth will require looking for development opportunities outside of the immediate Washington Square area.
 - Creating an opportunity for growth where NYU can forge academic synergies—such as those that would exist through collaborations with the NYU School of Medicine or Polytechnic University—will make remote locations more feasible.
 - Remote locations should still be within a reasonable commuting distance (20 minutes by public transit) of the NYU Washington Square Core.
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ON TRANSPORTATION. . .

- The University should reassess its transportation system: the need it is serving, its potential improvement, its efficiency, and environmental sustainability.
- Special attention to transportation modes and level of services will be essential as the University considers Remote Locations to assure that they feel part of NYU.
- The University should take advantage of the City’s public transportation system and be aware of the limits of the existing infrastructure.