

University of Alaska Anchorage Campus Master Plan Amendment for the MSC Valley Center  
for Arts and Learning

The President recommends that:

**MOTION**

**“The Facilities and Land Management Committee recommends that the Board of Regents approve the Campus Master Plan Amendment request for the University of Alaska Anchorage Matanuska-Susitna College Valley Center for Arts and Learning as presented. This amendment will be incorporated in the existing Campus Facility Master Plan 2010. This motion is effective September 24, 2012.”**

**POLICY CITATION**

In accordance with Regents’ Policy 05.12.030.C.3, a campus plan may be revised or amended from time to time. An amendment to accommodate a proposed specific capital project shall be considered and approved by the board prior to consideration of the proposed capital project.

**1. Purpose**

Significant changes have occurred at the Matanuska Susitna campus since the Matanuska-Susitna Campus Master Plan was drafted in 2008 and adopted in 2010. The new Trunk Road Realignment by the State of Alaska Department of Transportation was completed in 2011. The City of Palmer has installed a water main and road which has created a north entrance to the campus. The site and design for the Matanuska-Susitna Valley Center for Arts and Learning (MSC VCAL) building received Schematic Design Approval by the Board of Regents at its June 8, 2012 meeting.

The purpose of this master plan amendment is to address the MSC VCAL siting and parking at the Matanuska-Susitna campus which is impacted by the MSC VCAL site selection and the needs of that building. Although the 2010 Campus Master Plan identified a potential site for the MSC VCAL, the proposed building was projected to be substantially larger and included space that was excluded due to the lesser amount of funding. The proposed future parking noted in the master plan is unsuitable for cost effective construction due to the steep ravine.

**2. Site Considerations**

The MSC campus is situated on a ridge with steep slopes and significant valleys to the north and south. A depression of twenty five feet separates the main grouping of buildings from Snodgrass Hall, see Figure 1. Areas considered as potential sites for the MSC VCAL building project were reviewed by the design team for proximity to current buildings, current and future utility locations, future buildings, proximity to a new and suitable septic field, access to students, traffic burden upon the campus and avoidance of costly steep terrain.



Figure 1 MSC prior to Trunk Road realignment

### 3. Description

The current master plan describes parking as adequate with a total of approximately 360 vehicles. Currently the parking lots are fully utilized at peak times and parking will be inadequate when the MSC VCAL facility opens.

The MSC VCAL site eliminates 122 existing parking spaces from the main parking lot. The reconfigured parking adjacent to the building will result in 101 parking spaces, a loss of 21 spaces. A new parking lot sited a short distance from the new facility will create 111 parking spaces, a net increase of 90 spaces. See Figure 2.

