

To Learn More

We invite you to learn more about Columbia's proposal for a mixed-use academic center at the edge of West Harlem and share your ideas, concerns, and questions with us. Please contact us at (212) 854-2871, by e-mail at campusplan@columbia.edu, or on the Web:

www.campusplan.columbia.edu

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Manhattanville in West Harlem: Planning Update



Courtesy of Field Operations, L.L.C.

A new hub of education and economic opportunity, culture and community— weaving together the urban fabric of West Harlem with the new Hudson River park

For the past five years, Columbia has worked with our West Harlem neighbors, elected representatives, and civic leaders to craft a plan for a mixed-use academic center that provides a long-term future of shared opportunity in the old Manhattanville manufacturing zone.

After many months of extensive public review, the City Planning Commission and City Council voted by wide margins to approve zoning changes necessary for the plan to become a reality. We are thankful that our public officials believe that thriving universities are essential for New York to continue to attract creative minds with the determination to advance knowledge and serve society, while also remaining a vibrant source of good, middle-income jobs for a diversity of people seeking to improve their lives here.

The University's growth will be a platform for expansion of hundreds of existing partnerships between campus and community that provide education, health care, cultural enrichment, and civic engagement. In addition, the West Harlem Local Development Corporation and Columbia have reached an understanding that will form the basis of a community benefits agreement to ensure that those who live and work in West Harlem share in the benefits of local University growth. Columbia will invest \$76 million on initiatives to meet community needs over the years ahead and will provide \$20 million in access to University facilities and programs and \$4 million to expand support for tenant legal services, including protection from unlawful eviction and harassment.

The University is also ensuring that its leadership in employment and contracting for minority-, women-, and locally owned businesses continues to create a diversity of economic opportunity for those who live and work in West Harlem.

Ours is a city that has always thrived by being a center of ideas and providing an engine of economic opportunity for people on every rung of the economic ladder. Together, we are laying the foundation on which Columbia and West Harlem will remain a world center of ideas, culture, and urban life in the decades ahead.

Lee C. Bollinger
President, Columbia University

- Nearly 6,000 new University jobs with competitive health, educational, and retirement benefits
- An average of 1,200 construction-related jobs per year for the next quarter century
- More than \$20 million in University funding to support affordable housing initiatives
- An additional \$76 million in University funding to meet community needs
- Publicly accessible open spaces and improved, pedestrian-friendly streets—part of an environmentally sustainable urban design
- New commercial life, including local shopping and dining, as well as a range of public amenities
- A permanent site for the new Columbia-assisted public secondary school for math, science, and engineering
- Teachers College-assisted K–8 public school in partnership with local community

Creating Economic Opportunity in West Harlem and Beyond

As New York's seventh largest private employer, Columbia provides thousands of jobs and business opportunities for local citizens and businesses, whether they are starting out in the workforce, advancing their careers, or seeking entrepreneurial partnerships with the University.

Creating new jobs and opportunity in Manhattanville

- 6,000 new University jobs with competitive benefits for a diversity of workers with a wide range of experience and education levels.
- An average of 1,200 construction-related jobs per year for the next quarter century.
- Enhanced training and mentoring for qualified minority-, women-, and locally owned (MWL) businesses.

A record of investment in local jobs and local businesses

- More than two-thirds of Columbia's 14,000 employees live in New York City.
- Nearly 30% of Columbia's current administrative and support staff live in Upper Manhattan.
- Columbia has a standing goal of awarding at least 25% of contracts for construction, maintenance, and repair projects to MWL firms.
- In recent years, the University has consistently exceeded that goal.
- Local and minority-owned architectural and construction management firms already play a key role in Manhattanville planning.
- Columbia has long emphasized small and locally owned retail businesses in University buildings, an emphasis that will continue in Manhattanville.

Creating Common Ground for Campus and Community

Over the next three decades, Columbia's proposed development of the old Manhattanville manufacturing area in West Harlem will transform underused blocks into a new, environmentally sustainable center for academic and civic life, woven into the fabric of the community.

The first phase will include the Jerome L. Greene Science Center, for research with implications for the treatment of Parkinson's, Alzheimer's, and other neurological diseases; new homes for Columbia Business School, the School of International and Public Affairs, and the School of the Arts; as well as a permanent site for the newly opened Columbia-assisted public secondary school for math, science, and engineering.

The second phase, expected to be completed in 2030, will emphasize interdisciplinary scholarship, including biomedical engineering, nanotechnology, systems biology, and urban and population studies, as well as housing for graduate students and faculty.

Construction would occur in phases, primarily on the four large blocks, from 129th Street to 133rd Street between Broadway and Twelfth Avenue. Also included are properties on 125th Street and on the east side of Broadway, from West 131st Street to 134th Street.



First phase of proposed growth shown in yellow



Final phase of proposed growth shown in yellow

Renderings courtesy of Renzo Piano Building Workshop, Architects/Skidmore, Owings & Merrill, Urban Designers, except where noted.



West 125th Street as proposed: Enhanced public spaces would include more pedestrian-friendly connections to the new Hudson River waterfront park. Below: the existing view of Twelfth Avenue at 130th Street looking north and the proposed view. A reanimated Twelfth Avenue would have more light and space for sidewalks, with new shopping and dining beside the historic Riverside Drive viaduct.



- An open and welcoming environment with open spaces, landscaping, lighting, street furnishings, and public art

- Revived street life and local shopping and dining along West 125th Street, Broadway, and Twelfth Avenue, emphasizing local entrepreneurs and neighborhood needs and interests

- When completed, streets will remain public and open to pedestrian and vehicular traffic, with widened sidewalks and improved access to the new Hudson River waterfront park

- Human-scale urban design that honors the past, featuring architecture that captures distinctive features of the historic Riverside Drive and Broadway viaducts

- Environmentally sustainable buildings and an environmentally friendly urban design that has been selected as a national pilot, as well as placement of parking, truck delivery, and support services underground to limit local traffic and enhance the pedestrian experience

A New Commitment to Affordable Housing

- The University will invest \$20 million in seed capital for an independent affordable housing fund that will create or preserve approximately 1,100 affordable housing units in the community.
- The University will invest an additional \$4 million to expand ongoing support for tenant legal services, including protection from unlawful eviction or harassment.
- Columbia will build nearly 1,000 units of University housing to minimize potential increased demand for local housing generated by new job creation.
- The University has committed to providing equal or better affordable housing in the community for the current residents of some 130 apartments—comprising less than 4% of the largely former industrial site—and has secured local sites to provide for a net increase in such affordable units.



Please note: The illustrations depicting the proposal are sketches for concept and do not reflect the final architecture.

Left: West 130th Street between Broadway and Twelfth Avenue today. Below: As proposed, West 130th Street will provide access to an approximately one-acre public square.

