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UC and CSU Long Range Development Planning

LEGISLATIVE ANALYST'S OFFICE

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Background

- ☑ ***Plans for Future Development.*** Based on academic goals and projected enrollment levels, each UC and CSU campus periodically develops a long-range plan that guides its physical development—such as location of buildings and transportation systems—for an established time horizon. Such a plan is commonly referred to as a Long Range Development Plan (LRDP) at UC and a physical master plan at CSU.
- ☑ ***Not Subject to Local Land Use Control.*** Each plan requires approval by the UC Board of Regents or the CSU Board of Trustees. However, as state institutions, the universities are exempt from local land use control. Local governments do not have the jurisdiction to approve or oppose the plans.
- ☑ ***Environmental Impact Report (EIR) Required.*** Existing law requires an EIR to be prepared for each LRDP or physical master plan. The EIR must (1) discuss a project's likely effect on the environment, (2) identify measures to mitigate significant environmental effects, and (3) examine alternatives to the project.
- ☑ ***Local Concerns With Off-Campus Impacts.*** In developing the plans and the accompanying EIRs, campuses are required to consult surrounding communities to achieve a mutually agreeable plan. In recent years, however, campuses and communities have sometimes disagreed about the responsibility for impacts that occur off campus.



LAO Report on UC's LRDP Process— Major Findings



Lack of State Accountability and Oversight

- Generally, the state neither approves an LRDP nor monitors the implementation of mitigation measures identified in the accompanying EIR.
- Although the Legislature considers funding requests for individual capital outlay projects as part of the budget process, it does not directly review related LRDPs to determine whether the plans are aligned to its fiscal and policy priorities.



Lack of Standardization in Public Participation

- The UC Office of the President does not provide campuses with specific requirements for how local communities should be involved in the LRDP process.
- Thus, the degree to which local communities are involved in the planning process can vary across campuses.



Minimal Systemwide Coordination in Projecting Enrollment for Recent LRDPs

- Future student enrollment is one of the main drivers of a campus's LRDP.
- In 1999, UC developed systemwide enrollment projections through 2010-11, which were used to develop an enrollment plan for each campus.
- However, when a campus prepares an LRDP that goes beyond 2010-11, it independently develops its own enrollment projections for those subsequent years. The UC has not made systemwide enrollment projections since 1999.



LAO Report on UC's LRDP Process— Major Findings

(Continued)



Campuses Want to Primarily Expand Graduate Enrollment

- Much of the projected growth identified in recent LRDPs will not be due to increases in freshman enrollment, but rather because of the campus's desire to add and expand graduate programs (such as law and public policy).
- Undergraduate students' share of campus enrollment would decline as a consequence of declining public high school graduates.



No UC Campus Has Yet Reached a “Fair Share” Agreement

- Since 2002, each EIR prepared for an LRDP includes a general statement that the campus will work with the appropriate local jurisdiction and contribute its fair share of payments to mitigate significant off-campus impacts.
- At this time, no UC campus has been able to reach a fair share agreement with a neighboring jurisdiction in accordance to the above policy. (This is not to say that campuses have never made monetary payments to local governments in years past.)



Proposed Supplemental Report Language For Both UC and CSU

- ☒ ***Copies of Draft Long-Range Plans.*** The universities shall provide the Legislature with copies of draft long-range plans at the time they are submitted for public review.
- ☒ ***Systemwide Enrollment Projections.*** The UC and CSU shall provide systemwide enrollment projections through at least 2020, including an explanation and justification of the assumptions and data used to calculate the projections.
- ☒ ***Use of Summer Term.*** The universities shall report on their efforts to make fuller use of the summer term as a means to accommodate an anticipated increase in the number of students with existing classrooms.
- ☒ ***Mitigation of Off-Campus Impacts—Current Projects.*** The UC and CSU shall report (by campus) on the status of mitigating significant off-campus impacts of each capital outlay project (including any monetary payments that have been agreed to and made by the campus). For those impacts that have not been sufficiently mitigated, the universities shall report on what additional steps are being taken to reach resolution.
- ☒ ***Mitigation of Off-Campus Impacts—Future Projects.*** Funding requests for new capital outlay projects shall identify any significant off-campus environmental impacts, as well as specify plans to mitigate such impacts (including efforts to work with local jurisdictions).