
Campus Planning Newsletter

The Office of Finance and Administration

CONNECTICUT
COLLEGE



September 2025

Facilities Management and Campus Planning Update

Dear members of the Connecticut College community,

This summer has been one of the busiest summers for facilities management and campus planning in College history! For those of you who experienced the ever-changing work and traffic patterns, we thank you for your continued support and patience. We've been actively communicating logistical changes and project updates but below is a recap of the history of the work we perform, what work was completed and what is still ongoing this fall.

Campus Master Plan and Project Initiation

Facilities Management and Campus Planning are two distinct offices that work collaboratively to plan, design and execute a variety of projects at Connecticut College. We are in the midst of a multi-year campus transformation, driven by the 2018 Campus Master Plan and the Defy Boundaries campaign. This Master Plan lays out a 20-year roadmap for improving the campus environment in alignment with the College's strategic goals around academic excellence, inclusivity, sustainability, and student well-being. Since 2017, the College has worked on major capital projects, including the renovation of Palmer Auditorium, the redesign of the Career Center in Fanning Hall, and improvements to over 30 classrooms. Recent efforts have focused on enhancing social, academic, and residential spaces, such as Harris Refectory and Crozier-Williams.

One of the most impactful changes has been the creation of the Crozier Boulevard Pedestrian Promenade, a transformation that prioritizes walkability and safety while visually unifying the campus. Additional efforts, including accessibility upgrades, athletic facility enhancements, and improved circulation routes, reflect the six guiding principles of the Master Plan: visibility of campus life, inclusive design, systemic coherence, reinvestment in existing assets, sustainability, and a stronger connection to the natural landscape. While future plans include further investment in residence halls and academic facilities, the work completed to date is already reshaping the campus in support of Connecticut College's mission and long-term vision. You can read about the projects we've completed for the [Campus Master Plan](#) timeline on our website.

While we strive to continue moving forward with the Master Plan, we make every day impacts that involve directive from all of you at the College. Whether you are looking to renovate your office, add signage or electrical outlets or need guidance on a long-term plan for your academic space, we encourage you to submit a [Facilities Projects Request](#) through CamelWeb under Getting Things Fixed. One of our project managers will reach out in 2-4 weeks to begin initiating the request. To learn more about this process, visit the Campus Planning [website](#) or email facilitiesprojects@conncoll.edu.

Bathroom Privacy Improvements

The College is committed to improving student safety and as part of this initiative, the Campus Planning office, in collaboration with the Division of Student Life, spearheaded a multi-year bathroom privacy improvement project. The last phase of this project was completed this summer with privacy upgrades in Jane Addams, Freeman, Harkness and Windham dorms. The work was substantially completed August 1 with the remaining work expected to be finished by the end of August. Appropriate signage will be installed to clearly communicate which bathrooms are available for use during this time.

Crozier-Williams

The college center is near completion. As we continued to navigate challenges with product lead time this summer, we are close to a full project closure. We hope you have had a chance to enjoy an event in the 1962 room, a bite to eat in Oasis or a morning coffee on the patio!



Cro Boulevard and Crozier-Plex Pedestrian Connector Projects

Quite possibly the biggest change this summer is the continuance of Cro Boulevard and the renovation of the landscaping between Crozier-Williams and the Plex. This project is designed to enhance student safety and ease of movement across campus with a new central pathway and accessible routes. In the spring you will see the dedicated seating areas, including an amphitheater, provide inviting spaces for students, faculty, and staff. A new path links Zachs Hillel House to the central pathway and the Plex, making campus navigation easier for students. Additional parking is underway to expand the existing East Lot to accommodate campus community needs. The loading dock for Oasis was completed last week and is open for deliveries. Please be mindful that parking across from Smith is dedicated to accessible parking and other vehicles should not park or cross the intersection in this area. It is important we keep this lane open and that parking does not extend into the Oasis loading zone to keep ample room and access for deliveries. Please remember to park in designated spaces only.

Notable sustainability initiatives include increased biodiversity and new trees, along with efforts to maintain the campus tree canopy, support a healthier environment and better stormwater management. In the upcoming weeks check out the [Sustainability Trail](#) for more information on these initiatives!

In less than three months, the construction team worked swiftly to ensure student safety for move-in and the start of the academic year by completing the sidewalks along Morrison, Lambdin and Hamilton. While a lot of work progressed over this summer, this is an intensive project that will last until the spring of 2026. Please stay alert to signage and construction barriers while this work is underway. Remember: traffic is one-way near the East Lot to accommodate pedestrian access while this construction is ongoing. Another message will be sent in early September to update the community on the next phase of this project.



As mentioned earlier in the newsletter, this project is part of the College's ongoing commitment to improving the student experience and we are grateful to the donors who helped make it possible!

Harris

By definition, a "Summer Slammer" in construction refers to a project that is scheduled during the summer months when the population of a school or university is lower to minimize disruptions to students, faculty and staff. The summer slammer at Harris held true to its promise. While construction began prior to students' departure, the majority of this renovation happened in a 12-week period. Contractors will work over the next couple months to complete detailing and there will be minor disruptions over the winter break to close out the project. Despite time constraints, coordination challenges and unforeseen building conditions, our contractors remained flexible and were able to deliver a newly renovated dining hall in time for student arrival. We encourage you to stop by for a meal to enjoy the improved food stations and updated kitchen equipment, accommodating and upgraded seating arrangements and overall modernized finishes and ambiance.



Switchgear

Site work is underway at the switchgear project located across from the Power Plant, near Unity House. Throughout the summer, the contractors have made substantial progress to prepare the land for the new switchgear that is scheduled to arrive this fall, as well as the generator set to arrive in spring 2026. As site work continues, we will communicate regarding any disruptions to the campus.



Facilities Management Projects

In addition to the large capital projects underway, Facilities Management has been addressing a series of critical building repairs, equipment upgrades and maintenance improvements across campus this summer. Air conditioning repairs were completed in Shain Library and Blaustein following a significant mechanical issue, while New London Hall has also undergone air conditioning repairs. The Natatorium and Dayton Arena have both received repairs to their ice-making equipment, as well as a full dehumidification system replacement to ensure optimal ice conditions and humidity control. Elsewhere on campus, Becker House received steam system repairs and the River Ridge sheds were removed.

Multiple residence halls received improvements, including the full interior painting of Wright and Lambdin dorms, along with 78 additional rooms and apartments across campus. Fire alarm panels have been replaced in Harkness, Knowlton, Blunt, Larrabee, Blackstone, Crozier and Harris, with additional fire alarm device upgrades in several student houses. Also, in Harkness Chapel, roof repairs took place. These projects reflect the College's ongoing commitment to maintaining an accommodating, functional, and welcoming campus environment.

We will continue to provide updates as the projects progress and as future plans are developed. Thank you again, and we hope you enjoyed a restful and restorative summer. Continue to visit our [website](#), where we will provide updates, including pictures and logistics, on these projects.

Sincerely,

Justin R. Wolfradt, MSM CM, FMP

Executive Director of Facilities Management and Campus Planning
