THE PLAN

The Plan section of this LRDP describes the strategies that Berkeley Lab will employ to meet its long term facilities needs and support its daily operations. The Plan is organized in the following sections.

Land Use
Development Framework
Vehicular Access, Circulation, and Parking
Pedestrian Circulation
Open Space and Landscape
Utilities and Infrastructure
The Berkeley Lab 2006 Long Range Development Plan provides a general land use plan and a framework for the revitalization of Laboratory facilities and infrastructure; and the preservation of open space and landscape. Strategies for each of these elements provide guidance to ensure that each new project contributes to a cohesive development of the site that forms a safer, more efficient and campus-like research environment.

This Plan reflects an evolutionary process and not a dramatic departure from the previously adopted plan. All of the basic concepts embodied in the 1987 LRDP are retained and strengthened, or adjusted to reflect existing site conditions and the Laboratory’s current scientific vision and goals. This Plan provides the flexibility necessary to accommodate both known and unforeseen programmatic needs yet places an emphasis on the qualitative aspects of the site’s natural and built environment.

The Plan’s basic principles and the strategies discussed in this section are in step with the Laboratory’s institutional values and scientific work. The 2006 LRDP has been developed in conjunction with the Berkeley Lab Sustainability Policy that formalizes the Laboratory’s continuing role as a leader in resource conservation and environmental stewardship. As each new project is developed according to this policy and the strategies provided in the Berkeley Lab Design Guide, the Laboratory will build an environmentally sustainable research facility that reflects its scientific endeavors.

Sustainability is broadly defined as “providing for the needs of the present generations without impinging on the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.” Accordingly, each project at Berkeley Lab will consider the long-term effects of actions taken during development. This Plan integrates the sustainability principles of energy efficiency, waste minimization, high quality, lowest lifecycle cost, stimulating architecture, and open space preservation with the functional aspects of facilities and infrastructure.
Land Use

CONTEXT AND EXISTING CONDITIONS
The Laboratory’s main site is located mid-level of the Berkeley/Oakland hills at elevations ranging from 500 to 1,000 feet above sea level. Roughly one-half of the main site is within Strawberry Canyon and has a south-facing orientation; the balance is within Blackberry Canyon and is oriented toward the San Francisco Bay. The Laboratory’s western edge adjoins an area defined by residential use and a number of UC Berkeley facilities such as student housing and academic buildings adjacent to the main campus. A portion of the main site’s northern border adjoins residential neighborhoods.

The site is surrounded on the north, east, and south sides by the 800-acre portion of UC Berkeley known as the Hill Campus, which extends from Stadium Rim Way to Grizzly Peak Boulevard. The UC Berkeley Hill Campus is primarily designated as open space and includes a 300-acre Ecological Study Area and the Botanical Garden. The UC Berkeley Hill Campus also includes the Strawberry Canyon Recreation Area and the Witter and Levine-Fricke sports fields at lower elevations as well as the Lawrence Hall of Science, Space Sciences Laboratory, and the Mathematical Sciences Research Institute at higher elevations.

In 1998 the Laboratory assumed management responsibilities for 68 acres of adjacent Regents land to broaden and strengthen its wildland fire and vegetation management programs. Since then the Laboratory has cared for these lands in accordance with the UC Berkeley’s LRDP. Once approved, land use regulations and other such guidance for future projects within this “management zone” will fall under the jurisdiction of this Plan.
Figure 3.3 1998 – Present Berkeley Lab Boundary