Bellingham Technical College provides student-centered, high-quality professional technical education for today’s needs and tomorrow’s opportunities.

KPM architects

Planning needs to lead the execution. The projects listed below are a few of those completed by HKP related to completing the goals of Campus Master Planning and developing campus standards.

- Campus Center
- Perry Center for Fisheries and Aquaculture Sciences
- Morse Center for Welding and Auto Collision Repair
- Surge Space (Addition to Des McArdle Center and College Services)
- McArdle Center for Process Technology
- Haskell Center for Business and Health Technology
- Building A Remodel
- Dental Lab Expansion 1 and 2
- Campus Signage
- Building B Classroom Remodel
- Building E Office Remodel
- Technology Center Compressor Shed Roof
- Site Lighting Improvements
- Bookstore Relocation
- Construction Pavilion
- College Services Re-Roof
- McArdle Center Signage
- Building 0 Conference Room Renovation
- Building K&G Mechanical
- Building H Mechanical and Re-Roof

Bellingham Technical College has worked diligently to establish itself as a premiere technical and professional collegiate institution. BTC continues to improve the campus environment in a manner which elevates the College’s overall image within the neighborhood, the City and the State.

When HKP started developing the first Master Plan, one of the College’s top priorities was to transform its Vocational Tech image to better reflect the first-rate and progressive learning going on behind its walls. They wanted to make their award-winning programs visible to other students and the public at large. To this end, the first Master Plan included the following goal statement, which has been carried through all subsequent plans and capital projects:

“Develop a “sense of place” that will become a unique signature of the BTC Campus”

Master Plan guidelines were developed to provide consistency of branding and image, including a consistent palette of building materials, landscaping, site lighting and site furniture. Well-planned and consistent planting is encouraged to reinforce campus edges, define outdoor spaces, and blend beauty and color into the views of the campus. The connections between buildings and between outdoor spaces have great importance, providing for ease of circulation, opportunities for social interaction, and the ability to create a sense of discovery from one end of campus to the other.

A Working Plan

The fundamental rationale for Master Planning is to continually confirm that the physical environment of the College is supporting the instructional strategic plan. Summarized as the Mission, Vision and Goals of the College, this plan is what guides the institution in its formation, continuation and development of programs, curriculum, community and workplace. A successful Master Plan provides direction and consistency while allowing for flexibility. This allows the College to plan, take advantage of opportunities that present themselves or to quickly adapt to provide for new needs in the workplace with ease.

Image and Identity

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The Plan develops standards for signage and graphics, wayfinding tools, and consistent use of the College’s logo. Other Over the past fifteen years, with each and every minor and major project, BTC has worked to follow these guidelines to create a place that is uniquely theirs and which positions them as one of the State’s finest Community and Technical Colleges.

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Framework Planning Elements

- Campus Image and Identity
- Campus Entrance and Access
- Land Use and Future Acquisition
- Architecture and Building Criteria
- Landscaping and Courtyard Spaces
- Social Gathering and Assembly Spaces
- Storm Water Treatment
- Vehicle Circulation and Parking
- Pedestrian Circulation
- ADA Accessibility
- Building and Site Lighting
- Building and Site Signage
- Safety and Security
- Emergency Systems and Response
- Utilities / Infrastructure
- Solid Waste and Recycling
HKP Campus Major Projects

**HKP Campus Major Projects**

1. **Morse Center** consists of a new 55,000 SF two-story facility for BTC’s Welding Technology program, Auto Collision Repair Technology program, general classrooms, computer lab and administrative offices. The building incorporates daylighting strategies, green roof trays, radiant heating, solar shading, natural ventilation and recycled content and material reuse. The mass is minimized to better fit into the adjacent neighborhood and existing campus context and the plan is organized in a way to handle the vehicular and material flow from outside through the building. The facility is designed to provide a catalyst for creative thinking and fabrication, showcase the harmony of art and science, foster sustainable practices and provide a safe place to learn and explore.

2. **Desmond McArdle Center for Electrical and Process Control Technology** is yet another piece of BTC’s Master Plan improvements. Completed in 2004, the 16,000 SF building houses specialized labs, general purpose classrooms, computer lab, offices and support spaces. The project includes numerous site improvements which provide staff and students with easy circulation routes, formal and informal social gathering spaces, and a consistent architectural “feel” as the campus and its identity develops.

3. **Campus Center** is a new 74,500 square foot, three-story building in the center of the campus. The facility is designed to meet the LEED Green Building Rating of Gold. The building houses the academic programs relocated from Buildings D, E and F, which include Computer Networking (C-NET) and Business and Computer Information Systems (BCIS) as well as general instruction. In addition, the facility allows for extra capacity for the Culinary Arts program and provides a library and assembly space in a technologically advanced facility. Also included is a Large Group Instruction space for presentations and events, the Campus Bookstore and a Student Center. Buildings D, E, F and I, which comprised the building site, were demolished in the course of this project and developed into rain gardens, landscaping and parking.

**BTC Strategic Values:**
- Student Centered
- Responsive
- Collaborative
- Principled

**BTC Strategic Goals:**
- Student Success
- Excellence and Innovation

**Master Planning Team:**

**OWNER**
State of Washington

**AGENCY**
Bellingham Technical College

**ARCHITECT**
HKP Architects

**CIVIL ENGINEER**
Wilson Engineering

**ELECTRICAL ENGINEER**
Travis Fitzmaurice

**MECHANICAL ENGINEER**
Notkin

**LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT**
Svr Design Company

**Awards:**
Merit Award, Northwest American Institute of Architects, 2015

**Project Overview**

Bellingham Technical College was built in 1911 and evolved from the local School District’s first “Industrial School” to a county Vocational Technical Institute and finally to the State governed Technical College in 1991. Most of the existing buildings on the original campus date back to 1957-74. A comprehensive Master Plan effort was charged in 2000-2001 to address future needs and to change the image of the college from the outdated “Voc Tech” to a state of the art institution.

The first Master Plan in 2001 by HKP began to look at replacing and improving existing conditions along with new opportunities for building at the northern undeveloped property. Among the key planning elements were to create a cohesive look, pedestrian pathways and courtyards, places for artwork, organizing features that would allow for systematic growth and alignment with the College’s Strategic Plan.

In 2004, HKP updated the Master Plan after several major capital projects had been funded and constructed. Helping BTC look ahead to their program development, community partnerships and physical environment, HKP advanced the plan in 2007 for the next major projects. BTC’s consistent Master Planning enabled the College to obtain funding for the new Campus Center, designed by HKP and completed in Fall of 2012.

Through collaboration and consistency, HKP and BTC established a 20 year Master Plan founded on providing a diverse yet cohesive, inspiring, safe, pedestrian friendly, and flexible campus that fosters sustainable Campus growth, a sense of community and student excellence.