The Future of UMD

The University of Maryland is working with partners to create the modern land-grant university. Research and industry in lockstep. Public and private enterprise working in close collaboration. An academic and economic engine for our region and our nation.

Over $1 billion in investment in Greater College Park includes innovation and improvements to local schools, transportation enhancements including the coming Purple Line, public safety, sustainability and an unprecedented boom in development projects on and off campus.

The University of Maryland Discovery District is the heart of this new regional ecosystem of innovation and entrepreneurship, with dynamic new academic spaces, new amenities, and public-private partnerships.

Encompassing over 150 acres that stretch from Baltimore Avenue to the research-rich community along River Road, the Discovery District will be the epicenter of academic, research and economic achievement. The Discovery District sits at the intersection of the Green and Purple Lines, making it a key gateway to the state’s flagship university.

We invite you to discover the benefits of joining this innovation ecosystem in the dynamic new University of Maryland Discovery District.”
THE DISCOVERY DISTRICT LOCATION
The University of Maryland Discovery District and Pop-Up Park are less than 2 miles from the University of Maryland, College Park campus and a 10 minute walk to the existing metro.
ABOUT THE POP-UP AT THE DISCOVERY DISTRICT

The Pop-Up is a special installation at the research park full of social and restorative spaces for research park employees, students and visitors to enjoy. The design plays with color, light and the unique topography to provide a food truck dining garden, clustered hammocks beneath vibrant shade cloths, opportunities for sports and yard games and a diverse meadow to draw wildlife, beautiful views and enhance storm water management. A dynamic land art installation grows vines across a trellis system which guides views over the hills and provides shade as it arches overhead.

Overall, the Pop-Up will create a dynamic public space that is open to throughout the year. We are reaching out because it is essential that faculty and students at UMD be engaged in and feel ownership of this new Pop-Up landscape. Your contributions and enthusiasm will help create a diverse and meaningful local venue to engage with each other and nature so close to home.

WHO’S INVOLVED?

Corporate Office Properties Trust (COPT) in Columbia, MD is teaming up with the creative team of Groundswell Design Group in Philadelphia, PA to design this vibrant public space. COPT is an office real estate investment trust that owns, manages, develops and selectively acquires office and data center properties in locations that support United States Government agencies. Groundswell Design Group is a full service design firm specializing in placemaking, public space and hospitality.

For more information, contact: info@groundswelldesigngroup.com / groundswelldesigngroup.com
HOPS AND MEADOW INSTALLATIONS

The Pop-Up seeks to collaborate with professors and students at UMD to plant, maintain and/or harvest a creative planting installation at the research park. A 350-foot trellis will curve across the hilly landscape as an intriguing land art installation. While our original thinking was to plant hops along the trellis, potentially culminating in a festive harvest and small-batch brewing day, we are open to suggestions. Additionally, students are encouraged to contribute content for informational signage to accompany the hops planting installation and a large wildflower meadow that will draw wildlife and improve storm water management on the site. These activities may take the shape of a course project, a call for entries or a unique volunteer day, depending on community interest. The initial installation will take place in May 2017.