

Background

Cuesta College was established in 1963 on the 150-acre site of Camp San Luis Obispo, a California National Guard facility. Classes were conducted in refurbished barracks, recreation rooms, and mess halls. Enrollment continued to grow, and construction of the District's first permanent buildings began in 1970. Most original facilities are still in use today. The San Luis Obispo County Community College District (SLOCCCD) now offers instruction and student support services at three primary locations: the San Luis Obispo Campus, the North County Campus in Paso Robles, and the leased South County Center in Arroyo Grande. The College also offers programs and services via Distance Education. In the 2014-2015 academic year, SLOCCCD served 14,550 students at all locations (<http://datamart.cccco.edu>), (Educational Master Plan, 2016). Additionally, the community utilizes Cuesta's facilities for public events, recreational activities, and community education programs.

Purpose

The intent of the Facilities Master Plan 2016-2026 is to provide planners and campus administrators with a meaningful basis for future campus decisions. The Facilities Master Plan, as part of the SLOCCCD Integrated Planning Model, offers both flexibility and structure with an overall campus concept for the built environment, allowing for future changes in program and design specifics. The California Community College Chancellor requires Districts to prepare campus master plans on a periodic basis. The Chancellor's Office, in turn, refers to these plans when reviewing requests for facility improvement funds. To meet the goals of its mission, Cuesta College must appropriately maintain, renovate, and expand its facilities.

The SLOCCCD Board of Trustees adopted the 2016-2026 Educational Master Plan in May 2016, which sets forth the Institutional Goals and Program Needs that guide the College's educational development. Many of these goals are directly supported through the provision and improvement of the physical infrastructure of the campus, including classrooms, laboratories, student support facilities, grounds, parking areas, and other student and staff facilities. Consequently, the Facilities Master Plan is a keystone in realizing the Goals of the Educational Master Plan. The foundation of the Facilities Master Plan is built upon 1) the Goals of the Educational Master Plan; 2) specific direction from the San Luis Obispo County Community College District Board of Trustees; and 3) faculty, staff, and student identified facility needs.