I. INTRODUCTION

A. Project Purpose

The University Center and Sixth College neighborhoods occupy 82 acres at the heart of the University of California, San Diego (UCSD) campus. The two adjacent neighborhoods are located within the boundaries of Library Walk to the west, Gilman Drive to the south and east, and Matthews Lane and Voigt Drive to the north. Situated just southeast of Geisel Library, University Center is the core of the campus and its social and administrative center. The Chancellor’s Complex, the Price Center, and the student union are located here.

The University Center / Sixth College Neighborhoods Planning Study addresses the changes that have occurred since the completion of the 1992 Neighborhoods Study, including:

- A 110 percent increase in the development program for new buildings from 785,561 assignable square feet (ASF) to 949,142 ASF toward its steady-state program capacity.
- Establishment and growth of the permanent home for the Sixth College.
- The introduction of the Light Rail Transit (LRT) rail lines and station in Pepper Canyon.
- The development of neighborhood retail opportunities.

Because of the two neighborhoods’ interconnections, they are addressed in one document.

University Center is at the crossroads of the campus. This plan builds on the 1989 Master Plan Study’s concept for University Center to function as the campus’ “downtown”—its academic, student service, and administrative center, with special housing. See Figure 1-1.

Sixth College was established in 2001 as a living-learning environment with its academic focus on the intersection of art, culture, and technology. Its enrollment will reach steady-state with a population of approximately 1,118 freshmen and sophomores living in the neighborhood.
B. Planning Background

UCSD’s system of autonomous liberal arts colleges within the university campus was set by the 1963 Academic Master Plan. The intent remains to give students the benefits of a small liberal arts college within the confines of a large (1,200-acre) research university. Each college is a multidisciplinary academic community with its own general education requirements and major curricula, faculty, classrooms, housing, dining facilities, and administration. The physical arrangement of the college system continues to be a primary factor affecting the physical development of the campus west of Interstate 5.

The 1963 UCSD Long Range Development Plan established neighborhoods as the organizing concept for the campus to define a human scale within the larger system of preserved open space. Subsequently, the 1989 UCSD Master Plan Study advanced the neighborhood concept by offering the five following guiding principles. See Figure 1.2:

- Develop the campus within the clear boundaries and distinct character of the neighborhoods.
- Link disciplines across the campus along academic corridors.
- Develop University Center to be a “town center,” and function as the “heart” of campus social and academic life.
- Preserve and enhance the “Park” as a system of ecologically and culturally significant natural resources.
- Provide further campus connections via roads, paths, public entries, landmarks, view corridors and landscape features.

The 1989 UCSD Master Plan Study is the planning document that specifies design guidance for campus development. The Master Plan Study is consistent with the legally recognized Long Range Development Plan. Neighborhood plans build on the principles of the Master Plan at a more detailed neighborhood scale. The 1989 University Center Design Guidelines were prepared following the completion of the Master Plan to assist in the design of Center Hall. In 1992 the first neighborhood plan and design guidelines were prepared for University Center and Fifth College (Fifth College has since moved to Eleanor Roosevelt College, allowing the initiation of Sixth College in the area).

The 1989 University Center Design Guidelines defined boundaries, building height and massing, gateways, and the approach to urban design.

The 1992 University Center / Fifth College Neighborhoods Planning Study established land use and program objectives for the site and set forth the development pattern.
C. Neighborhoods Study
Planning Process

The University Center / Sixth College Neighborhoods Planning Study is the culmination of a six-month study, guided by a 13-member Planning Advisory Committee (PAC) representing a broad array of campus groups who have a stake in this core area of campus. Included were:

- Academic Affairs
- Academic Senate
- Alumni
- Analytical Studies and Space Planning
- Associated Students
- Auxiliary and Plant Services
- Bookstore
- Committee on Campus and Community Environment
- Facilities Design and Construction
- Graduate Student Association
- Housing and Dining Services
- Physical Planning
- Sixth College
- Student Affairs
- Recreation
- Student Life

The study considered relevant precedents and multiple configurations of program elements and assumptions of site design and phasing.

The Physical Planning Office initiated the study in October 2003 with a one-day design charrette involving the PAC, Design Review Board (DRB), and the consultant teams for the neighborhoods study and the four building projects in progress in University Center. The study process included monthly progress meetings with the PAC and review meetings with the Campus/Community Planning Committee (C/CPC) and the DRB. See the Appendix for the complete list of members and consultants.

Place Names
The Neighborhoods Study lays the groundwork for the creation of several new open spaces and streets. For the purpose of this study, temporary geographic place names have been assigned. However, the final naming of these places is a very important part of the campus development and is left to the appropriate committees.

Temporary geographic names to be replaced include:

- Lodge Quad
- Pepper Bowl
- Sixth Lane
- Sixth Lawn
- Sixth Mesa
- Sixth Plaza
- Sixth Quad
- Sixth Street “A”
- Sixth Street “B”
- Station Square
- Station Square Street
- Transit Walk
- Warren Field
“Camp Matthews began in 1918 as a Marine Corps rifle range in La Jolla. The first buildings were added 1927-1929. On March 23, 1942, it was commissioned as Camp Calvin B. Matthews and served as the firing range for the Marines with a permanent garrison of 700 men. In 1965 the firing ranges were moved to Camp Pendleton and the Marine Corps transferred 577 acres to the Regents of the University of California for UCSD.” http://history.acusd.edu/gen/local/kearny/page00e.html