

Clemson planning \$45M alumni center

BY RILEY MORNINGSTAR
THE JOURNAL

CLEMSON — With several projects in the works to change Clemson University's main campus, plans for a \$45

million alumni center to be built near the Madren Center and Walker Course received approval Wednesday.

The university board

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Renderings provided by Clemson University show the early design plans for a \$45 million alumni center built near the Madren Center and Walker Course.

CENTER: Will be a high-profile project

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of trustees' finance and facilities committee unanimously approved design plans for the complex, set to sprawl over 101,404 gross square feet. Final approval is up for a vote from the full board of trustees next week.

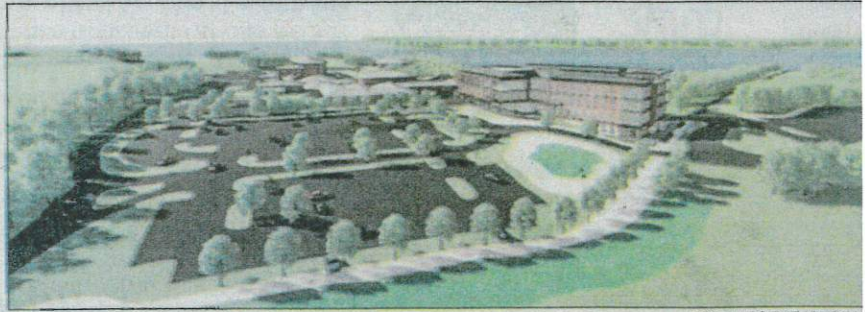
"The goal of this project is to provide a touchpoint for Clemson prospective students from their very first contact, while they're a student, upon graduation and beyond," Goodwyn Mills & Cawood lead architect Marc Warren said. "We're going to touch those students from the very beginning, all the way through their life and career being on campus."

Warren said the building is expected to bring in 100,000 visitors annually.

With final board approval, construction would begin next fall and finish in the winter of 2024, according to executive vice president of finance and operations Tony Wagner. Earlier this year, school officials said the complex would also house the Clemson University Foundation (CUF). CUF was chartered in 1933 as an independent nonprofit that promotes the future of the school. CUF offices are located along S.C. Highway 93, while the Alumni Association is located at 109 Daniel Drive.

FINANCING AND DESIGN PLANS

The concept budget is expected to cost slightly more than \$1 million and will be funded through main-



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Up for final approval by the Clemson University Board of Trustees next week, the school's new alumni center would be situated near the Madren Center and Walker Course.

tenance and stewardship dollars. The total project (\$45.8 million) will be paid for with state institution bonds (\$35.8 million) and gifts (\$10 million). The project was originally designed to cost \$29 million and span about 60,000 square feet, Wagner said.

The complex would be located near the 18th green of the golf course and just north of the Madren Center, according to officials.

"It'll create a multi-use building that would have event space and flexible office space for student, alumni and donor facing activities," Wagner said. "It'll be designed to fully utilize a great building location around the 18th green of the golf course. This will be a high-profile project and important to our future fundraising efforts."

Construction of a new pro shop, grill and outdoor patio space near the golf course are also included

in the project's plans. Nearly 2,000 square feet will be dedicated to the board of trustees, while 11,988 square feet will be dedicated to the Michelin Career Center.

The aesthetics of the complex will line up with other buildings on the main campus, according to Warren.

"We've focused very much on the architecture being compatible with the other projects and buildings on campus, creating this new sense of arrival and experience with tremendous views of the golf course, lake and campus from the new facility," he said. "We're really focusing on how this building fits into the campus and creating some outdoor amenity spaces so visitors and users can really engage with this building in multiple ways. That's really critically important."

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