

CHAPEL CONNECTION

The R.R. Hodges Chapel is the flagship of the campus and the architectural symbol of the university's calling. It is the image that greets guests as they approach campus. However, once on campus, the chapel's prominence is diminished by its limited visibility and exposure. The master plan seeks to maintain the chapel's role at the main entrance while reinforcing its relationship to the heart of the campus. This is achieved by improving pedestrian and vehicular accessibility to the chapel.

Because the chapel is approached primarily by students walking from class or the dorms, improving the pedestrian connection is key to connecting the chapel to the center of the university. This could be accomplished by improving the approach sequence to the facility. Improving the walks, limiting road crossings and creating a large plaza at the chapel entrance would all work together to achieve that goal.

Although the chapel is primarily used by the students of MVNU, many events are intended for audiences beyond the traditional campus community. By routing the vehicular traffic around the chapel, guests would be able to get to the chapel and find parking more readily than the current configuration provides.

Finally, the chapel would be one of the regular stops on the proposed shuttle loop. This could afford visitors and guests yet another option by which to arrive at the chapel.

Easy access is the key to anchoring the R.R. Hodges Chapel to the rest of the campus. These three methods combined will insure the success of this strategy.