

CASE STUDY • HIGHER EDUCATION • PUBLIC UNIVERSITY

A Major Public Research University on the West Coast Eliminates \$52,000 in Annual Reporting Costs Across an \$8 Billion Capital Portfolio

Managing 121 active projects across an \$8 billion capital program, Public Research University was spending 94 hours every month on manual reporting coordination with no real time visibility in between. OnIndus deployed a purpose built analytics suite on Trimble Unity Construct that eliminated \$52,000 in annual reporting costs, resolved long standing process gaps, and gave executive leadership on demand portfolio intelligence for the first time.



THE CHALLENGE



No Executive Visibility

Leadership requested cost and schedule updates across 121 active projects with no automated mechanism to respond. Every update required manual intervention.



Platform Underutilization

Project managers tracked schedules in external tools and made minimal updates in Unity Construct, undermining it as a single source of truth.



94 Hours Lost Every Month

Four liaisons spent 19 hours each per month gathering status updates. Thirty five project managers spent 30 minutes each providing them. Total: 94 hours per month, 1,128 hours per year, equivalent to \$52,000 in annual staff cost.



Unresolved Process Gaps

Plan review, design review, and permit tracking had never been successfully configured in Unity Construct despite prior attempts, creating compliance and visibility risks.



Knowledge Lost to Turnover

Recurring project manager turnover eroded institutional knowledge around contracting, change orders, and platform navigation with no scalable infrastructure to close the gap.

THE SOLUTION

OnIndus engaged with the University in a multi phase partnership beginning in 2023, delivering four interconnected capabilities on Trimble Unity Construct.



Executive Dashboard Suite

A Capital Overview Dashboard and Program Metrics and Health Dashboard giving the Associate Vice Chancellor, Vice Chancellor, and department heads real time portfolio visibility, replacing all manual liaison driven reporting.



Exceptions Dashboard

A dedicated controls dashboard for the project controls team to proactively manage data quality and ensure executive dashboards remain accurate and current.



Process Design in Unity Construct

Configuration of plan review, design review, and permit tracking workflows that had remained unresolved despite prior attempts, bringing critical lifecycle processes fully into the platform.



Project Manager Training Library

A growing self service video library covering contracting, change order management, and platform navigation, giving incoming project managers a structured onboarding resource and reducing knowledge loss from staff turnover.



What truly sets OnIndus apart is the advanced knowledge and technical expertise they bring to every engagement, particularly in data mining and dashboard development. Their ability to extract and organize critical data, then present it through intuitive, actionable dashboards, has transformed the way we analyze project performance and communicate insights. OnIndus is more than just a consultant. They are a trusted partner whose impact can be seen in every layer of our operations.

Elaine Nosito

Business Development Manager, Capital Program Management

THE RESULTS

\$52K

Saved Annually

Manual reporting cost eliminated

94 hrs/mo

Coordination Eliminated

Across 4 liaisons and 35 project managers

\$8B+

Portfolio Now Real Time

On demand visibility for AVC and VC, first time ever

From reactive to on demand

For the first time, AVC and VC leadership gained real time portfolio visibility across all 121 active projects without waiting for manually compiled updates.

From invisible cost to recovered capacity

Eliminating 94 hours of monthly coordination freed the equivalent of \$52,000 in annual staff time and redirected four liaisons and 35 project managers toward higher value work.

From workarounds to working processes

Three critical workflows that had resisted prior implementation efforts were fully configured, closing compliance gaps and bringing all project lifecycle activity into a single system.

From turnover risk to scalable knowledge

The training library gave the program a durable onboarding infrastructure that survives staff changes and keeps process execution consistent as the team grows.

KEY PROOF POINTS

- ✔ Quantifying the cost of manual processes is the most compelling ROI story. Translating 94 hours per month into \$52,000 per year gave University a concrete, defensible measure of value.
- ✔ Data quality governance must be built into the solution. An executive dashboard is only as valuable as the data behind it. The Exceptions Dashboard made integrity proactive, not assumed.
- ✔ Platform adoption requires more than configuration. Unity Construct had been in place since 2010 yet key processes remained unresolved. Sustainable adoption requires process design, training, and governance alongside technical work.
- ✔ Phased engagements compound value. Each phase revealed the next opportunity. A trusted advisor relationship builds program maturity in ways a single project engagement cannot.

ABOUT THE CLIENT

The University in West Coast, is one of the nation's premier public research universities. They manage one of the largest capital improvement programs, with a Capital Improvement Budget exceeding \$8 billion across 121 active projects spanning new construction, renovation, infrastructure upgrades, and campus modernization. The university has operated on Trimble Unity Construct since 2010.

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