



**BOARD OF REGENTS
MOTION CONSIDERATION FORM**

October 21, 2011

Open Session

I. Motion to be Considered:

Authorize administration to contract for architectural and engineering services to complete a Greek Housing master plan and related utility infrastructure.

II. Background:

The current housing for Greek organizations was constructed in the 1960s and the double occupancy rooms are among the smallest on the Southeast campus, an average of 165 square feet per double room. As part of a future plan to further develop Greek Life on the Southeast campus, new housing that continues to provide fraternities and sororities the opportunity to live together, while providing housing that better meets the needs of upper-class students, is needed. Student rooms must reflect the increased requirements of upper-class students related to privacy and amenities. Future Greek Housing must seek to meet these needs to continue to support an on-campus Greek student residential community. As the University continues to expand our suite style housing options, there is an increasing level of dissatisfaction among students about Greek Housing. Many students live in suite-style housing and after joining a Greek organization find themselves, in their sophomore and juniors years, living in community style residence halls more typically reserved for first year students.

The creation of new Greek housing would facilitate three important housing goals. While a new residence hall on the north end of campus would add approximately 250 beds to the residence hall system, these additional beds will be readily filled when the residence hall opens by students living in Candlewood, students assigned to expanded or overflow housing, and by allowing the sale of private rooms. To maintain the availability of private

Recommended By:

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|---|------------------------|
| Student Government _____ | Chairperson _____ |
| Faculty Senate _____ | Dean _____ |
| Administrative Council _____ | Academic Council _____ |
| VP, Enroll. Man. & Stu. Sac. _____ | Provost _____ |
| VP, Finance & Admin. <i>Rodney M. Mangels</i> | President _____ |
| VP, University Advancement _____ | |

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|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| Board Action on: _____ | Postpone: _____ |
| Motion By: _____ | Amend: _____ |
| Second By: _____ | Disapprove: _____ |
| Vote: Yeas: _____ Nays: _____ | Approve: _____ |
| | Secretary: _____ |

rooms similar to the number available in fiscal year 2007, additional housing above what is being planned for new residence hall on the north end of campus is necessary.

The most ideal housing on the Southeast campus for learning communities and theme communities are the current buildings that are home to Greek chapters. These houses are designed for small group living and they would be an ideal location for academic learning communities. Currently, the learning communities are located in the residence halls with the highest level of amenities and are priced at the highest price point.

The facility needs of some residence halls, for example Cheney Hall built more than 70 years ago, are increasingly difficult to maintain. The creation of a Greek Village will allow for future renovation of these older facilities that will require they be taken off line for part or all of an academic year, or for the closing of select facilities if that is determined to be the more appropriate course of action.

The development of possible Greek Housing must include significant input and active involvement by members of the Southeast Greek Alumni community. Consideration of possible new Greek Housing would begin by working with a firm to complete a Greek Housing master plan (See Attachment 1). The purpose of this planning process would be to engage Greek chapters, both locally and through their headquarters, for input in any future housing. As part of the Greek Housing master plan, the areas of housing size, estimated to be between 20 and 30 beds per chapter, community spaces, and funding arrangements will be reviewed in detail. For any Greek Village, there will need to be a partnership between the University and chapters; however, the nature of this partnership will need to be agreed upon through an active dialogue with Greek organizations. Possible options for a Greek Village range from a completely University funded and managed series of residence halls that are assigned to Greek students, which is our current arrangement in the Greek Area, to Greek chapter funded construction of individual housing facilities that are managed by individual chapters with limited University involvement.

While the University is expanding utility infrastructure to accommodate a new residence hall, an assessment of utility infrastructure needed for a future Greek housing development can be completed. These infrastructure improvements, estimated at \$1.3 million, would be paid from available local funds. Cost savings and efficiencies should be recognized by assessing these infrastructure improvements along with the new residence hall construction.

Greek Village Master Plan Proposed Process

November 2011

- Identify a firm to assist with Greek Housing master planning process

December 2011

- Meet with a select committee of Greek Alumni, University staff (Residence Life & Campus Life), and Greek students concerning possible new Greek housing
- Make contact with headquarters of all IFC, NPHC, and PC concerning possible expansion

Spring 2012

- Work with alumni and students to develop possible housing concepts, including the level of financial commitment chapters/headquarters are willing to contribute
- Confirm financial commitment possible from the University

Summer/Fall 2012

- Complete Greek Housing master plan, including possible housing options and financial modeling
- Review Greek Housing master plan with University administration and Greek organizations
- Based upon results of Greek Housing master plan, recommend to either move forward or close discussion on new Greek housing
- Prepare and present information concerning Greek Housing master plan for the Board of Regents
- Communicate final Board approval to Greek chapters, alumni, and University community