

Update on the FSILG Village

Presentation to AILG Plenary Meeting

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Why move to Cambridge?

- Continuing a 100-year-old trend
- West Campus Master Plan: a once-in-several-generations opportunity
- Pressure on Boston FSILGs from gentrification
- Regulatory environment in Boston
- 19th century structures, 21st century students
- Accessibility concerns
- ... and because several FSILGs are interested

Why an FSILG Village?

- Integrate FSILGs in campus residence culture
- Opportunity for an FSILG faculty house master
- Shared FSILG space for entertaining, chapter meetings, etc.
- Shared support services and facilities
- Housing opportunities for new sororities and returning chapters
- Reduce property management burden on alumni

What this is

- A longer range 3-8 year plan
- At an early stage of concept formulation
- Being driven by concerned alumni with support of MIT
- A voluntary option that will potentially be available

What this is not

- Relief to the short term issues of the FSILG community
- A forum to answer all questions, details are yet to be fully defined
- A mandated approach where one size fits all

FSILG Village Timeline

- Jim Champy ('63 , PSK), member of MIT Executive Committee, convenes group – March 2014
- Community meeting - before 2014 AILG Annual Meeting
- 3 Senior Administration meetings – Summer 2014
- FSILG Community Survey – Fall 2014
- FSILG Community Focus Groups – Winter 2014-15
- Chancellor requests a detailed proposal – May 2015
- FSILG Village Planning Committee formed – Summer 2015
- Committee engaged with West Campus Planning Committee – Ongoing
- Presentation of “straw man” proposal – September 2015

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FSILG Community Benefits

- Leadership roles and responsibilities that develop into successful life skills
- Communities within community for IM sports, community service, mentorship, and social interactions
- Pre-frosh who stay in FSILG housing have higher admit rate
- FSILG alumni feel better connected and donate more generously
- Variety of residential options allows students to affiliate with communities with similar goals and interests

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FSILG Village "Straw Man"

- Designate plans for ~12 (?) units on West Campus
- MIT may own land and enters into lease arrangements with individual housing corporations or may own both ("Green Hall" model)
- Construction costs financed with cash from existing house sales, alumni support, MIT loans, and MIT.
- Build units of varying size (30 - 50 beds); flexibility in size
- Chapters operate houses independently within institute guidelines
- Shared central plant for utilities, IT and security infrastructure
- Potential to share dining and meeting/entertainment spaces
- House master to connect FSILGs to faculty

Future Issues to Resolve

- What is the best operating design to achieve balance between independence and efficiency while ensuring appropriate connection to MIT?
- What is the financial plan for funding construction given different financial starting points of the various individual houses?
- How is it best to manage the transition to this new independent housing model?
- How do we keep all parties informed to ensure support through long planning and rollout phases?

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Next Steps

- Socialize straw man proposal among MIT institute leaders to ensure support and commitment for designation of land
- Present straw man proposal to FSILG community for review and input
- Continue to engage with West Campus Planning Committee to confirm potential sites
- Engage with Panhel on opportunities for new sorority housing
- Engage with interested FSILGs to participate in Phase 1 rollout.

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