

### SUNSET TERRACE UTILIZATION

1. **Division and Department:** Finance and Administration, Facilities Management
2. **Introduction:** Sunset Terrace (SST) is part of the original Meadow Brook Farms Estate that was donated by Alfred and Matilda Wilson to create Oakland University in 1957 (University). SST was used by the Wilson's as their retirement home and guest house until 1963.

SST was built in 1953 and contains 12,587 square feet of space. The University has used SST primarily as the President's residence, lodging University President's O'Dowd (1970-1974), Champagne (1981-1986), Packard (1992-1996) and Russi (1996-2013). It was also used as an entertainment venue and guest resident by President Varner (1963-1969), and as a conference center (1986-1992).

As the University transitioned to new Presidential leadership in 2014, discussions on the best use of SST were renewed. Three options for the use were presented at the May 9, 2015, Facilities and New Development Projects Committee (Committee):

- As proposed by the Vice President for Development Alumni and Community Engagement (DACE), SST would be used as an OU Alumni House and Event Center that would provide a welcome center to alumni, function as an event venue, and resolve some of the overcrowding of DACE staff in the John Dodge House.
- As proposed by the Executive Director of Meadow Brook Hall, SST would be used as a Dodge Museum complex, which would bring SST under the umbrella of historic Meadow Brook Farm Estate buildings adaptively reused and managed by Meadow Brook Hall.
- As presented by the Associate Vice President for Facilities Management, continue use of SST as the President's Residence.

For each option, costs for required base repairs and improvements needed to create appropriate infrastructure, security and technology conditions were outlined to the Committee.

After extensive discussion and consideration, the recommendation at this time is to continue to use SST as the University President's Residence. Minimal repairs, cleaning, and upgrades are estimated at less than \$100,000, exclusive of furniture needs which are still being evaluated but that will be within the spending authority of the Vice President for Finance and Administration.

Sunset Terrace Utilization  
Oakland University  
Board of Trustees  
Facilities and New Development Projects Committee  
September 28, 2015  
Page 2

3. **Previous Board Action:** None.
4. **Budget Implications:** Minimal repairs, cleaning, and upgrades are estimated at less than \$100,000, exclusive of furniture needs which are still being evaluated but that will be within the spending authority of the Vice President for Finance and Administration.
5. **Educational Implications:** None.
6. **Personnel Implications:** None.
7. **University Reviews/Approvals:** This recommendation was formulated by the Associate Vice President for Facilities Management, and reviewed by the Vice President for Finance and Administration, and President.
8. **Committee Action to be Requested:** Accept the recommendation that at this time SST continue to be used as the University President's Residence. Since the Committee would not be recommending any change to the present use of SST, but rather maintaining the status quo, no formal action of the full Board need be requested.
9. **Attachments:** None.

**Submitted by Vice President for Finance and Administration  
and Treasurer John W. Beaghan:**

  
(Please initial)

**Reviewed by Secretary Victor A. Zambardi:**

  
(Please initial)

**Reviewed by President George W. Hynd:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Please initial)