

September 12, 2018

MEMORANDUM

TO: State Board of Regents

FROM: David L. Buhler

SUBJECT: Southern Utah University – Institutional Residence Repurposing and Designation

Issue

Regent Policy R207, *Institutional Residences for Colleges and Universities in the Utah System of Higher Education* allows the Board of Regents to designate an official institutional residence for each college and university. Southern Utah University (SUU) requests Board approval to repurpose the current institutional residence into a Sorenson Legacy Foundation Child and Family Development Center and designate the recently acquired residence at 11 North 200 West in Cedar City as the institutional residence as allowed under R207.

Background

Southern Utah University built the current institutional residence for the president in 1996. Last year the University requested \$5 million of state funds to construct a Sorenson Legacy Foundation Child and Family Development Center to provide affordable childcare options for students and teaching laboratories for early childhood development and elementary education students. While the University did not receive state funding, it did raise \$1.2 million of private funds for the project. Instead of requesting state funds again this year, SUU requests authorization to repurpose the institutional residence for the child care and education facility. The institutional residence has sufficient space to accommodate the Center and the \$1.2 million of private donations will fund necessary remodeling to comply with state and federal child care requirements.

Southern Utah University concurrently requests the Board designate the recently acquired property at 11 North 200 West in Cedar City as the new institutional residence for the president. The Board approved the purchase of this property with institutional funds in the July 2018 meeting. The property is located across the street from the Beverly Taylor Sorenson Center for the Arts. Institutional funds will be used to remodel the residence and expand off-street parking for visitors.

The SUU Board of Trustees approved the proposal in the July 2018 meeting. Additional information about this request may be found in the attached letter from the University and an accompanying map. Representatives from Southern Utah University will be in attendance at the meeting to provide additional information and respond to questions from the Board.

Commissioner's Recommendation

The Commissioner recommends that the Board authorize Southern Utah University to repurpose the current Institutional Residence into a Sorenson Legacy Foundation Child and Family Development Center and to designate the property at 11 North 200 West in Cedar City, UT as the institutional residence for the president.

---

David L. Buhler  
Commissioner of Higher Education

DLB/KLH/RPA  
Attachments

August 29, 2018

Dr. David Buhler, Commissioner  
Utah System of Higher Education  
Board of Regents Building, The Gateway  
60 South 400 West  
Salt Lake City, UT 84101-1284

Dear Commissioner Buhler,

Southern Utah University (SUU) requests Board of Regent approval to repurpose its current institutional residence located at 302 S 1100 W; and to designate a new institutional residence at 11 N 200 W, in Cedar City, in accordance with Regent Policy R207, *Institutional Residences for Colleges and Universities in the Utah System of Higher Education*.

The current institutional residence was constructed in 1996 and consists of 11,314 square feet. With the endorsement of President Scott Wyatt and his wife Kathy, we are requesting approval to repurpose the residence to fulfill our immediate need to create the Sorenson Legacy Foundation Child and Family Development Center (Center). This Center was SUU's capital development request for FY 2019. The Center is intended to replace the child development lab SUU leased at North Elementary school in Cedar City, which was demolished in 2017. The School District did not include new lab space for SUU when constructing a replacement school building.

The new Center will provide much needed affordable drop-off daycare for students. SUU is one of only two Utah institutions not currently providing daycare on campus. Early childhood development and elementary education students within the College of Education will be provided practicum opportunities within the Center. The Center will also provide service learning opportunities and rural community support through tutoring, and community education classes including parenting, marital preparation, and personal and family finance.

The \$1.2 million previously raised for construction of a new Center will be redirected to cover the remodeling costs associated with bringing the residence into compliance with State Code relative to daycare centers and other modifications as necessary.

We further request the Board of Regents designate the "Warthen home," recently purchased by the University at 11 N 200 W, as the new institutional residence for the President. This home, constructed in 1979, includes 6,028 square feet of space, a two car garage, sitting on a .31 acre lot contiguous to campus and located directly north of the new Beverley Center for the Performing Arts. The purchase of this home was consistent with the University's effort to expand its footprint and secure all properties on the "Renaissance block."

This home will require some modifications to enhance open spaces for the President to host events and dignitaries. Since the home is largely in the same condition as it was following construction, these modifications will include updating the kitchen, restrooms, flooring, and repainting. We also anticipate expanding the footprint of the yard to include space already owned by the University north and west of current property lines. This expansion would allow for construction of off-street parking for visitors to the residence.

The SUU Board of Trustees approved the concepts outlined within this proposal, along with the purchase of the Warthen home, during their July 19, 2018 meeting. Funding for the remodeling efforts will come from existing fund balances designated for remodel projects.

We appreciate your consideration of this proposal and look forward to answering any question you may have at the September Board of Regents meeting.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Dodge', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Marvin L. Dodge

cc: President Scott Wyatt  
Tiger Funk, Asst. VP Facilities

Proposed Residence



Current Residence