



On behalf of the Fraternity, Sorority, and Independent Living Group (FSILG) Village Steering Committee, I am reaching out to you as a fellow alumnus to raise your awareness of this important initiative. As you know, undergraduate housing and its associated impact on MIT is facing a number of challenges. Facing these challenges in a proactive, fact-based manner with broad inclusion is the purpose of this effort.

The goal of the FSILG Village endeavor is to ensure a vibrant community for future generations of MIT students. Fraternities, sororities and independent living groups (FSILGs) are an integral and historic part of the MIT community: 43% of undergraduates belong to an FSILG. MIT's FSILGs all have a strong focus on academics and acceptance of others. They provide an additional layer of student support and the opportunity to be part of a distinct and caring community. Data from MIT Alumni Association surveys indicate that FSILG alumni are more satisfied with their MIT education, exhibit greater entrepreneurship and business leadership, and are more generous donors.

The concept of an FSILG Village began as part of the West Campus planning process, with the initial discussions spearheaded by FSILG alumni. The collaborative effort now includes students, alumni and MIT staff and has been reviewed by MIT senior administration.

The idea is to:

- Construct purposefully built student housing based on the model of the MIT FSILG communities
- Create a voluntary option for FSILGs that desire to move on campus
- Provide housing for new organizations, particularly the growing sorority community

This undertaking is currently in the concept stage and is overseen by the FSILG Village Steering Committee, supported by three Working Groups. Two Working Groups will analyze community sustainability and benchmarking. A student-led design group will focus on creating a space that is appealing to students and incorporates features that support sustainability and the best practices of the MIT FSILG communities. As you can see in the enclosed kick off document, it is an inclusive effort with strong participation of alumni, students, and MIT administration.

The purpose of this note is to solicit your participation in an effort to achieve broader faculty involvement. As an alumnus of this community and a faculty member you have a unique perspective you can add to this effort. We can tailor your participation to your preferences. Join the steering committee? Participate on a working group? Sit down and share your thoughts with one of the steering committee members?

Please let me know your interest in supporting this effort and any preferences for topics where you have the greatest inclination to support.

Sincerely,

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