

# West Campus Village Initiative

## An Update for the AILG Plenary



APRIL 12, 2017

[HTTP://AILG.MIT.EDU/WEST-VILLAGE](http://ailg.mit.edu/west-village)



# Today's Purpose

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- ▶ Outline Phase I Task Force recommendations
- ▶ Share planning effort with key stakeholders
  - ▶ MIT administration
  - ▶ FSILG community
  - ▶ Local Alumni
  - ▶ Remote FSILG Alumni
- ▶ Continue to recruit interested FSILGs

# Phase I Plan - Executive Summary (1 of 3)

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## General:

- ▶ MIT should designate an area of the west campus development to construct a purposefully built student village with space for FSILG housing units.
- ▶ Moving to the west campus village shall be a voluntary option available to all FSILGs on a space available basis.
- ▶ At this time, MIT should designate a space sufficient for 12 units, this number should be further refined as the program is syndicated across the community, it is expected there will be approximately 6 FSILGs who elect to become early adopters. Additional units can be built as demand arises or may also serve as housing for graduate students or postdocs.
- ▶ MIT should target the first units being occupied by the Fall of 2021.



# Phase I Plan - Executive Summary (2 of 3)

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## Architectural Program:

- ▶ The village should be built as a destination for the MIT community. Study spaces, meeting spaces, dining spaces, retail, and athletic facilities can be made available in an adjacent structure. The village is aligned with the “one campus” vision.
- ▶ Each unit should have separate distinct entrances and house between 35 and 50 students in 5-6 story structures with living and dining areas on lower floors, roof decks, and an assortment of single, double, and triple bedrooms on the upper floors.
- ▶ Where possible, houses should share infrastructure such as utilities, IT, security, and underground parking for cars and bicycles with access to zip cars, etc.
- ▶ Within the village in an adjacent structure, there should be living space for faculty presence in the shared spaces.
- ▶ There will be graduate resident advisor (GRA) rooms in each of the individual houses.
- ▶ Meeting and possibly storage space should be made available for unhoused groups and for the larger sorority chapter meetings.



# Phase I Plan - Executive Summary (3 of 3)

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## Operations:

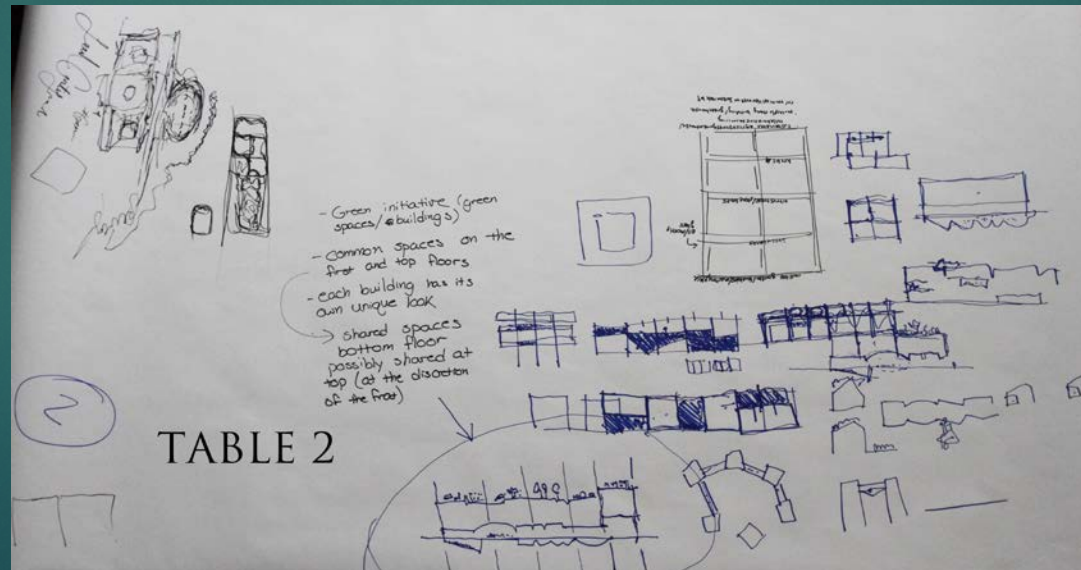
- ▶ An emphasis should be placed on “Independent” living where student leaders are provided as much autonomy as possible in governing the village and making decisions on services (e.g. maintenance, dining).
- ▶ A financing plan should be developed that allows participating FSILGs chapters that today own their property to purchase their units and enter into a long-term land lease with MIT. Another arrangement should be available for chapters that rent today and wish to continue to do so in the village.
- ▶ MIT should consolidate all student housing financial management into a designated group that over time shifts to a few standard lease arrangements and standard, transparent renewals for both ILGs to provide simplification, increase trust, and fairness across the system.
- ▶ Governance should mirror today’s existing model with alumni involvement working with undergraduates to budget, manage, and lead their individual chapters.



# Discussion of Student Design Workshops

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- ▶ Robert Binkowski & Ayomide Fatunde leaders
- ▶ Two workshops held - 11/6/16 and 1/21/17
- ▶ 42 students attended, 108 more by survey
- ▶ Facilitated by FSILG alumni (trained architects)



# Share Planning Effort – FSILG Community

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- ▶ April 12 AILG meeting
- ▶ April 13 Panhel leadership
- ▶ April 20 IFC Presidents
- ▶ April 26 AILG Community Meeting
- ▶ Offer 1-1 sessions with each Chapter
- ▶ Possible session prior to May 31 AILG Dinner



# Next Steps:

- ▶ Gain approval of this plan among the broader MIT administration. Embed the findings and recommendations in the West Campus planning activities.
- ▶ Discuss with individual FSILGs on the recommendations, seek commitment from FSILG groups who are likely to participate in the first wave of construction.
- ▶ Develop a communication plan for alumni, both local and the broader FSILG alumni community. Solicit their input and stimulate an active discussion on the role the FSILG community plays at MIT, MIT's commitment to the community and MIT administration support for this plan.
- ▶ Organize working groups in collaboration with the Office of the Executive Vice President & Treasurer to build plans to address financing issues, use of existing house proceeds in a tax efficient manner, developing a standard lease template for a land lease and a rented facility, etc. Included should be supporting chapters that require alumni fundraising to implement their plan.
- ▶ Continue conceptual design exercises to refine the planning begun here and include alumni/students from the first wave in the design of their individual houses