UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON SYSTEM
BOARD OF REGENTS AGENDA

COMMITTEE: Academic and Student Success

ITEM: Approval is requested for a Declaration of Higher Educational Purpose related to the City of Sugar Land’s development and use of 52 acres, leased by UHS to the Sugar Land 4B Corporation, for a theater and festival complex.

DATE PREVIOUSLY SUBMITTED:

SUMMARY:

Approval is requested for a Declaration of Higher Educational Purpose pertaining to the City of Sugar Land’s development and use of 52 acres, leased by UHS to the Sugar Land 4B Corporation, for a theater and festival complex.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION: Proposed Academic Programs at City of Sugar Land Term Sheet with City of Sugar Land for Theater and Festival Complex

FISCAL NOTE: None.

RECOMMENDATION/ACTION REQUESTED: Administration recommends approval of this item.

PRESIDENT

SENIOR-VICE CHANCELLOR

CHANCELLOR

Renu Khator

DATE 7/20/12

DATE 7/20/12

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PROPOSED ACADEMIC PROGRAMS TO BE OFFERED AT THE CITY OF SUGAR LAND THEATER AND FESTIVAL SITE AT UH-SUGAR LAND CAMPUS

Project Overview

The University of Houston System is collaborating with the City of Sugar Land to develop a theater and festival site at the UH Sugar Land Campus that will enhance educational opportunities for students enrolled at the Campus. The new facilities will enhance existing academic programs and provide for the expansion of programs in visual/performing arts and arts management at UH Sugar Land. The development of infrastructure will promote the future development of the campus for use by faculty, staff and students.

Benefits to the Higher Education Partners

The development of the outdoor theater will be done in partnership with faculty and students from the UH School of Theater and Dance. Once completed, the venue will provide ongoing internship opportunities related to management and back-of-the-house operations. In addition, it will provide a facility to anchor UH’s master’s degree program in arts leadership. In addition, the City of Sugar Land proposes to develop joint-use parking infrastructure that will be used by faculty, staff and students as well as attendees at events held at the Festival and Theater site. The addition of new parking infrastructure will allow the current park and ride facility to be relocated from the UH Sugar Land Campus core, thus freeing up approximately 200 prime parking spaces near the academic buildings.

Academic Programs

• Visual/Performing Arts
  Completion of the outdoor theater will provide a venue for visual/performing arts events from the higher education partners (UH, UHV and WCJC) at UH Sugar Land. The complex will support performances in music, theater, dance and other forms of performance art. In addition, it will provide students with opportunities to engage in internship opportunities related to numerous back-of-the-house operations such as set design, production, choreography, costume design, and management.

• Master of Arts in Arts Leadership
  Once completed, the outdoor theater will provide a facility to support the MA, Arts Leadership, from the University of Houston. This program is designed to provide academic preparation in managing and operating performance arts venues. The outdoor theater complex will provide the academic laboratory to conduct the applied portion of the curriculum.
• **Sales and Events Management**
  The proposed Festival and Theater Site will enhance opportunities for students currently enrolled in the UH Sales and Events Management program. The festival site will serve as an auxiliary site for the Fort Bend Food and Wine Affair, managed by the UH Conrad Hilton College and staffed with student interns. Students in the program will also benefit from internship opportunities associated with the outdoor theater complex.
CITY OF SUGARLAND UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON THEATER AND FESTIVAL COMPLEX

Summary Term Sheet

Business Terms

Parties: City of Sugar Land ("City")
University of Houston System ("UHS").

Purpose/Objective: For City to develop 52 acres leased by UHS to City in 2005 for a theater and festival complex (the "Site") to be developed in phases through a series of separate facilities development agreements relating to, without limitation, infrastructure, parking, and outdoor theater complex (collectively, the "Facilities"):

- Phase I - Infrastructure; Fall 2012.
- Phase II - Parking (separate ground lease, not part of 52 acres); presenting to BOR Spring 2013.
- Phase III - Permanent facilities, including outdoor theater complex; presenting to BOR Fall 2015.

Lease Term: Remaining term of ground lease with City of Sugar Land (Phase I and III). Phase II will have term set prior to development.

Permitted Use: All uses and proposed uses must comply with the legislative grant and deed restrictions and must relate solely to higher educational purposes. Any and all UHSL students, faculty, employees and invitees, as well as UH educational partners (e.g. UHV, Wharton County Junior College, etc.) shall have same, if not preferential, rights and privileges as City residents have to use any of the Facilities located on the Site.

Financial Terms: UHS will not be responsible for any costs and expenses: (i) to design, develop, construct, equip, fixture, furnish, and landscape the Site, including without limitation any of the Facilities; and (ii) for the use, operations, maintenance, repair, and renovations of any aspect of Facilities on the Site.

City and UHS will share equally any revenues received from the operations of the Site and Facilities in accordance with the 2005 Ground Lease. UHS shall not be financially responsible to the City.

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for any financial loss incurred from the management, use, or operation of the Site or any of the Facilities, or any change in use or management of the Site or any of the Facilities required by law.

Facilities Development Agreement shall specify standards to be placed in agreement between City and its contractors for design, construction, etc.

UHS must approve any Substantial Change to the design and construction work and the jointly approved design and construction plans, i.e. any change which will (i) materially alter the preliminary approved scope or the preliminary conceptual plans or (ii) cause any of the Facilities not to comply in all material respects with the applicable laws, deed restriction, and/or agreed-upon construction standard.

City shall bear all responsibility for claims, liability, and clean up arising from any environmental hazards on or near the Site.

Development Phases

Phase I - Infrastructure

City will construct, develop and maintain initial infrastructure to accommodate festival events and activities on 25-35 acres of the site, to include:

- Access to the Festival Site from Hwy 59 frontage road, minimum necessary roads (including a loop road/multi use trail around the festival site);
- Temporary parking and staging areas for construction and festival support;
- Grading/Irrigation/Turf - for approximately 25-35 acres to provide safe, suitable surfaces for festival activity
- Power/Water Utilities
- Landscape improvements (to the extent funding allows in Phase 1)

Phase II - Parking

Park and ride will be relocated from its existing location on the campus core to new paved surface parking, constructed by City, with consent from Fort Bend County and TxDOT.

City will develop and construct, at its own cost, the shared parking infrastructure on a separate parcel, not to exceed 28 acres, owned

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by UHS, conveyed through a separate ground lease with the City of Sugar Land.

City will provide, and maintain, at its cost and expense, the ongoing security, lighting, and maintenance of parking infrastructure.

Any revenue generated from parking, by the City of Sugar Land or third parties, will be shared equally with UHS.

City will construct pathways to provide pedestrian access from the parking area to the UH Campus. Within five years, City will construct a roadway to link parking to the UH Campus.

UHS faculty, staff and students, and those of its educational partners, shall have the same access to parking as residents, employees, licensees and invitees of the City.

Phase III - Outdoor Theater Complex

City will initiate design and planning process for theater within 3 years. If theater is not completed by City within 7 years, UHS shall have the right to terminate the Ground Lease.

UHS will have input in design of theater. UHS will be responsible for the cost of its own productions at the theater.

A minimum of 45 guaranteed dates will be provided to higher education partners to hold events at the facility. UH will receive priority for scheduling and booking purposes. Dates not used may be booked by the City of Sugar Land. Any dates not used by City of Sugar Land will be offered to UHSL.

Site and theater will provide venue for visual/performing arts events offered by UH Sugar Land higher education partners (UH, UHV, and WCJC) and City of Sugar Land.

City will provide meaningful internships to students related to back-of-the-house operations (i.e. set design, production, costumes, management, etc.) and to students enrolled in the UH Sales and Events Management program offered at UHSL.

Facilities Development Agreements will contain provisions relating to vendors at the Site.

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Safety and Security  The City shall provide for sufficient security at all times as well as traffic and crowd control for events at the Site.

**Terms Regarding Educational Use**

**Performances** – Site and Facilities, including but not limited to the outdoor theater, will provide venue for visual/performing arts events from higher education partners (UH, UHV, and WCJC) and for student performances associated with applicable academic programs (e.g. music, dance, theater).

**Internships**
- City will offer and provide meaningful internships to students related to back-of-the-house operations (i.e. set design, production, costumes, management, etc.).
- City will offer and provide meaningful internships to students enrolled in the UH Sales and Events Management program offered at UHSL.

**Faculty and Student Involvement**
- **UH School of Theater and Dance** - Faculty and students from the UH School of Theater will be involved in the design and ongoing operation of the outdoor theater through internships.
- **UH College of Architecture** - Faculty and students from the UH College of Architecture will be involved in the design of the theater.
- **UH – MA in Arts Leadership Program** - The Site will support the UH MA in Arts Leadership program by providing opportunities for students to develop, design and operate productions at the theater. The Masters Program has been recently submitted to THECB for approval; UH proposed to deliver the program within 3 years to correspond to the commencement of the design and planning process of the outdoor theater.
- **UH Hilton College** – Site can serve as an auxiliary site for the Fort Bend Food and Wine Affair managed by the UH Hilton College and staffed by student interns in the College.