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Subject: West Campus Apartments Expansion Project Set to Move Forward

Included below is a press release regarding an action item from a recent Ferris State University Board of Trustees meeting. Approval was given on Oct. 8 to construct additional buildings in the Finch Court neighborhood of the West Campus Apartments. This will add approximately 60 beds to the university's housing stock, and the facilities will be available for students as the Fall 2016 semester begins.

No residence halls have been built on the Ferris campus since the late 1960s, but a Housing Vision project is nearing completion. Those recommendations will be reviewed by the board, in a continuing effort to support the university's student recruitment and retention efforts.

PHOTO CAPTION: Ferris State University will construction additional buildings in the Finch Court neighborhood of the West Campus Apartments. The Board of Trustees recently approved the expansion, which will add approximately 60 beds to the university's housing stock.

Any media requests regarding this release can be directed to John Smith, News Services Communications Specialist.

Read an online version of the story, here...

<http://www.ferris.edu/HTMLS/news/archive/2015/october/apartments.htm>

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Oct. 15, 2015

West Campus Apartments Expansion Project Set to Move Forward

BIG RAPIDS, Mich.--An existing housing complex on Ferris State University's Big Rapids campus will be expanded prior to the Fall 2016 Semester, after a vote on the project by the university's Board of Trustees.

The board met on Thursday, Oct. 8 in the Woodbridge N. Ferris Building in Grand Rapids, and approved the completion of two buildings in the Finch Court neighborhood of the [West Campus Apartments](#). Associate Vice President for Physical Plant Michael Hughes said that would add about 60 new beds to the university's housing stock.

“The plan is to have four-bedroom units, townhouse style, with no basements,” Hughes said. “At least half of them are going to be air-conditioned. They’ll be very similar in style and design with the existing architecture of buildings in the neighborhood.”

The new buildings will be developed on an open space in that neighborhood currently used for sand volleyball pits, with construction design intended to accommodate single students. Hughes said that the new construction

in the Finch Court neighborhood will occupy a slightly larger footprint than the neighboring buildings, so as to provide adequate dwelling space for four-bedroom townhouses built above grade.

The university's master plan proposes major investment in housing upgrades over the next several years, as the last traditional residence halls were built on the Ferris campus in the late 1960s. A cross-divisional team has been working on a Housing Vision project, with a goal to develop facilities that support the university's student recruitment and retention efforts. The team's recommendations, once finalized, will be presented to the board of trustees.

(Embed link)

<http://www.ferris.edu/housing/Halls/apartments/Apartments.htm>

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