Members, Board of Trustees:

ESTABLISHMENT OF THE ARBORETUM OPERATING QUASI-ENDOWMENT

Recommendation: that the Board of Trustees approve the establishment of The Arboretum Operating Quasi-Endowment to provide support for the University of Kentucky-Lexington-Fayette County Arboretum (Arboretum).

Background: The Arboretum was created in 1991 as a joint effort between the University of Kentucky and the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government (LFUCG). The Arboretum consists of 100 acres of natural gardens and serves as a community center for environmental education and research.

In 1986, the University and LFUCG entered into an agreement to develop the Arboretum. An advisory board was established by resolution of the LFUCG and is comprised of representatives of the University of Kentucky, LFUCG, and other community representatives. The current agreement was executed in April 2014 and clarified boundaries, extended the agreement to 2086, and clarified the organizational and operational responsibilities. It is the University’s expressed desire to sustain the land as an arboretum for use by faculty, students, staff and the general public.

The Arboretum Special Gift Fund was created on December 16, 1993 to receive gifts designated as memorials, honoraria, honorees and one-time special gifts. The Advisory Board of The Arboretum and Molly Davis, Director of The Arboretum, have requested that $50,000 from The Arboretum Special Gift Fund be used to create The Arboretum Operating Quasi-Endowment to provide perpetual support for general operating expenses; upkeep and maintenance; equipment purchases; salaries; and supplies. This request is supported by Dean Nancy M. Cox of the College of Agriculture, Food and Environment.

Action taken: ☑ Approved  ☐ Disapproved  ☐ Other