## FCR 7

Office of the President April 1, 2014

Members, Board of Trustees:

## APPROVAL OF AMENDED AGREEMENT

<u>Recommendation</u>: that the Board of Trustees authorize the Executive Vice President for Finance and Administration to negotiate and execute an amended agreement between the University of Kentucky and the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government regarding the partnership in developing and operating the University of Kentucky-Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government Arboretum.

<u>Background</u>: The Arboretum was created in 1986 as a joint effort between the University of Kentucky and the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government (LFUCG). The Arboretum was designated as the Official State Botanical Garden of Kentucky in March 2000. The Arboretum consists of 100 acres of natural gardens that provide year-round activities and serves as a community center for environmental education, horticulture and urban forest renewal; provides cultural opportunities for the community; and emphasizes research on the environment and attention to conservation issues.

The University and the LFUCG are in discussions regarding the long-term future of the Arboretum. Among the issues under discussion are:

- Establishment of Arboretum boundaries that realistically reflect the growth and progress that has been made over the last two decades;
- Extension of the duration of the agreement to assure the Arboretum's future for many decades to come; and
- Clarification of the organizational and operational responsibilities of the University and LFUCG for the future.

The University's goal is to reach an Amended Agreement which fully supports a sustainable future of the Arboretum as it is a critical asset both for the community and for the University's educational mission.

