

Contact: John Nash

UNIVERSITY OF IOWA PROPOSED PROPERTY TRANSFER

Action Requested: Recommend the Board approve the proposed transfer of 0.2 acres of land from the City of Iowa City to the University of Iowa.

1. **SUI Land Transfer:** The City of Iowa City (City) would transfer this land to the University of Iowa at no cost in trade for the university's relocation of a historic home to that parcel of land and the university's renovation of it for SUI's Nonfiction Writing Program.
 - *Iowa Code* §262.9(8) authorizes the Regents to acquire real estate for the proper uses of the institutions and dispose of real estate, when not necessary for their purposes.
 - *Board's Policy Manual* §2.3, section 2Cii states that the acquisition of land includes the procurement of real property by gift, grant, purchase or any other method.

Executive Summary: The University of Iowa owns a historic home, currently vacant, known as the Sanxay-Gilmore House (below) located at 109 E. Market Street in Iowa City. It was built in the mid-1800s. It sits on a track of land the university intends to develop later.



Sanxay-Gilmore House, built in the mid-1800's
109 East Market Street, Iowa City

To avoid razing, the City, Friends of Historic Preservation and the University of Iowa have worked closely together to find an appropriate site, a City-owned metered parking lot across the street.

This general area of campus along Clinton Street is home to two other renovated houses used as part of the University of Iowa's renowned writing programs, the Dey House, home of SUI's Iowa Writers' Workshop, and the Shambaugh House, home of SUI's International Writing Program (see below). Once the house is moved, the Sanxay-Gilmore House would become the new home of SUI's Nonfiction Writing Program, currently located in the English Philosophy Building. The Nonfiction Writing Program has received a substantial gift that would cover the university's costs of moving and renovating the Sanxay-Gilmore home.

If approved by the Board, the City and the university would enter into an agreement, where the City would transfer the parking lot to the university at no cost in trade for the university's relocation and renovation of the home at the university's expense. The Iowa City Historic Preservation Commission and the City Council have approved this proposed transfer.

