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May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2016

Sunset Review Committee

Re: Testimony on the Land Use Advisory Committee to the President of Ohio University  
University Planner, Shawna Bolin

Chairman Jordan, members of the Sunset Review Committee, my name is Shawna Bolin. I am the University Planner at Ohio University. Thank you for allowing me to provide testimony on behalf of the Land Use Advisory Committee to the President of Ohio University. Ohio University is respectfully asking for re-authorization of the Land Use Advisory Committee.

The Ridges property, formerly the Athens Lunatic Asylum, was conveyed to Ohio University by the State in 1988. The 117<sup>th</sup> General Assembly in House Bill 576 outlined designating an advisory committee to advise the Board of Trustees on land uses to be made by Ohio University. This committee provided recommendations on the 1998 Ridges Land Use Study that Ohio University developed.

In March of 2013, Ohio University leadership reviewed the need to update the 1988 statutory make-up of the committee in keeping with current university practice. With the support of the legislature, we worked to revise the legislative language as it relates to the committee and its reporting structure. This revised statute was passed by the 130<sup>th</sup> Ohio General Assembly in House Bill 59.

The Land Use Advisory Committee provided valuable review and feedback to President McDavis and the university committee during a planning process that updated our Ridges property land use plan, *The Ridges Framework Plan*. The committee is comprised of members of the city and county government as well as members of the community who have special knowledge or experience in land use planning, preservation, and economic development. The committee met approximately 6 times during the year-long planning effort to update the land use plan and submitted a letter recommending the Framework Plan to be adopted as the current Ridges property land use plan.

Moving forward, this committee will provide valuable expertise as the University implements the recommendations within the Ridges Framework Plan.

Respectfully,

Shawna A. Bolin  
Director and University Planner  
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