

COSAF Report | Endorsement & Comments

Council on Student Affairs and Fees

Review: **Safety Fee Extension**

April 19, 2024

Action Item #2024-121

- At the 4/19/24 council meeting, VC Pablo Reguerín of Student Affairs presented on the campus Safety Fee.
- The Safety Fee was approved by the Regents in 1995, at a rate of \$66/year for Undergraduate and Graduate students.
- Student fee funded buildings that are seismically deficient are brought up to code or replaced through the seismic Safety Fee.
- The fee was established to seismically retrofit South Hall, North Hall and the Memorial Union and would sunset in 2029.
- The presentation included a proposal of extending the Safety Fee through 2059, at the same cost (\$66/year), to seismically correct Freeborn Hall.
- Following the council meeting, a Qualtrics survey was distributed to council members, requesting their vote to endorse, or not endorse, the extension of the Safety Fee. Following are the survey results.

Survey Question: Do you endorse the Safety Fee extension beyond 2029 as described in the 4/19/24 COSAF presentation?	Yes , I endorse the Safety Fee extension beyond 2029 to seismically correct Freeborn Hall and enhance student services.	No , I do not endorse the Safety Fee extension beyond 2029 to seismically correct Freeborn Hall and enhance student services
	13	0

RESULTS: By majority consensus, COSAF endorses the extension of the Safety Fee beyond 2029.

Supporting comments from the council:

The fee is being used for its intended purpose. Centrally located and highly visible real estate like the site of Freeborn Hall should be a top priority for repurposing. From a first-impression standpoint to the simple analysis of how to make prime locations the most useful and inspiring places on campus. I am 100% in favor of projects such as this, and I am happy to hear that this is the plan for these funds.

I support this fee because of the strong focus on improving student access to space and resources -- especially around re-invigorating the freeborn hall space. I have been on campus for nearly 10 years and this is exciting to see moving forward. I commend Student Affairs for envisioning modern usage for the building that are relevant to TODAY'S students needs for activities and support spaces.

Saves more money in the long term to support this now rather than dealing with this later.

I think that this Safety Fee extension is needed and I fully support the idea of seismically correcting Freeborn Hall. I think the fact that it will be repurposed for the students shows that this is an appropriate use of student fees.

Given that they are only extending the life of the fee and not increasing the fee amount, I think this is a good idea. Once it is deemed safe, more student organizations can use the space and we can give back to students given they paid for the improvements.

The Freeborn project is intended to re-utilize campus real estate to be able to better serve students and offer a sort of hub location for these services to be found. I think that endorsing the safety fee extension is necessary and critical to up hold this project in the long term.

I find it important to correct and enhance spaces on campus to enrich student life. There are many amazing student organizations on campus that can benefit from more spaces to host general meetings or have special events.

I think the building could be repurposed in a multitude of ways that will be beneficial for both students and faculty.

Freeborn hall would provide extra space and room for students which is a necessary as our campus continues to grow.

It seems necessary to address and correct buildings like Freeborn Hall. The yearly cost of \$66 seems quite small and reasonable considering the potential that these funds can provide. Additionally, I believe the student body will greatly benefit from another student services building!

I think that UC Davis should continue developing its facilities and services to serve the student population better. Freeborn Hall provides a unique opportunity and space on campus to provide something new to students. I would love the space to be oriented for student development, providing support on internships, resumes, and research.

I appreciate the Student Affairs and campus's continued commitment to including the student voice when considering fees. The Safety Fee seems to be necessary to restore buildings and spaces on campus that are underutilized because of safety concerns. I support to continuation of this fee and hope I will be able to see the positive impacts it will yield.

The Safety Fee extension is very crucial for student space. With capital projects such as Freeborn, we will be able to hold our student capacity in the best way possible. I am happy to endorse its extension.