

## **PURCHASE COLLEGE SENIOR LEARNING COMMUNITY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**

### **What is a Senior Learning Community?**

Purchase College has collaborated with the nation's leading senior living community developers, Life Care Services and Senior Care Development LLC, to build an innovative senior living community on its campus. The community will include villas and apartments in addition to classrooms, performance spaces, dining venues, social gathering areas, and health and wellness facilities, many of which will be available to students and faculty as well as the residents of the learning community. Residents will also be able to enjoy the events, exhibitions, performances, and amenities that are available at Purchase College.

### **Why is Purchase College pursuing this development project?**

Purchase College is committed to being a community where learning happens at any age. By adding a Senior Learning Community, Purchase is fulfilling its vision of education as a life-long continuum. The project will also be a source of revenue for the school. As per legislation passed in 2011, 75% of proceeds will fund student scholarships, and the remaining 25% will fund faculty hiring and support.

### **What kind of interaction will senior residents have with the campus?**

The seniors will be able to take classes, engage in events and performances at the Performing Arts Center, support the Neuberger Museum of Art, and interact with students, formally and informally both on campus and within the learning community. The senior residents will provide a built-in audience for student performances and exhibitions. The community also will create opportunities for student mentoring, working, learning and teaching. The college plans to develop new programs in various boards of study.

### **Are there senior living communities on other college campuses?**

Dozens of retirement communities across the country have affiliation with colleges. Some examples include Lasell, Oberlin, Stanford, Cornell, and Dartmouth. Lawmakers, educators, and retirees across the country agree that adding seniors to a college or university campus can lead to a creative synergy between youth and experience—an alliance of energy and wisdom that benefits everyone.

### **Where will the community be located?**

The community will be located on 40 acres of vacant land within the 500-acre campus, not far from the campus and the Performing Arts Center. As part of the project, 80 acres have been set aside as "forever wild."

### **What will the community look like?**

By legislation, Purchase has approval to build 385 units. Phase one will include 220 villas and apartments and 36 beds each for memory care and assisted living. Twenty percent of the units have been reserved as affordable housing and will be available to seniors whose income levels are 80% of the median income of Westchester County.

### **Who will pay for it?**

The project will be funded with tax exempt bonds issued on behalf of a separate non-profit corporation at no cost or obligation to the college.

### **Why now?**

There is a real need here for communities like this one. Today, 15%\* of Westchester's population is over the age of 65, and that percentage will continue to grow rapidly as the Baby Boomers age.

### **What happens next? How will we get to provide input on this process?**

Later this year, a Draft Environmental Impact Statement, or DEIS, will be completed. It will review the effects of this project. The scoping process, a process by which the issues in the DEIS are identified will include input from the public. There will be a public scoping session—the date for which will be made public through local media channels.

### **What if I am interested in finding out more about the development?**

This website will be updated regularly with information on the project's progress.