



Jardine Complex Under Review for Renovation

May 3, 2002

By James Hurla

Officials are considering replacing the Jardine Terrace Apartments to offer students more alternatives for on-campus housing, officials said.

Chuck Werring, director of the Department of Housing and Dining Services, said the project is in its very early stages, but there are many possibilities of what could be done with the area.

Werring said the project ideally would serve three populations: married students/single families, single graduate students and single undergraduates.

"Ideally," he said, "they would be interchangeable and not exclusive just for one population."

The first step in the process, Werring said, was to hire a consulting company.

Brailsford & Dunlavey was chosen as the project's consulting company. The company has worked with more than 200 universities, although this is its first project for K-State, said Kimberly Martin, the Brailsford & Dunlavey consultant working on the K-State project.

The company sent housing surveys to all K-State students as part of the feasibility study, Werring said.

Martin said more than 4,500 surveys were completed.

She said the company is looking at the overall housing situation for K-State students, taking into account both on- and off-campus options available to students.

"We take into account the location, amenities and price of housing," Martin said. "Of course the surveys are very important. We're pleased that so many surveys were returned."

Brailsford & Dunlavey also has conducted focus groups and interviews to get student input on what types of housing would fit their needs, Martin said.

She said the survey results would not be available until later this summer. When the results are tallied, she said, the company's consultants will come and present the findings to K-State housing officials.

Skyler Harper, assistant director of Housing and Dining Services, said there were a number of reasons for considering the project.

Harper said the buildings at Jardine are more than 40 years old, and the older buildings do not adequately meet the needs of today's students who have computers and other electronic equipment.

Werring said the project would add more variety to on-campus housing. He said three-bedroom apartments and townhouses have been mentioned as possibilities for the project.

However, Werring said, the important thing now is to wait on the results of the survey and go one step at a time.

Once the university gets the survey results, Werring said more detailed planning can begin.

"We want it to be something that's unique," Werring said. "Something with it's own ambience, it's own character. We want it to be K-State."