

Educational Sessions for Strategic Property Planning

Session 2

Pros and Cons of Obtaining a Real Estate Appraisal Prior to Strategic Property Planning

A real estate appraisal is an opinion obtained from an appraisal professional on the value of a parcel of real estate, following standards set forth for the appraisal profession. The most common type of appraisal is an opinion as to the market value of a specifically defined parcel of real estate, expressed in a formal report accompanied by a certification signed by the appraiser.

| | OBTAINING PRIOR | Waiting |
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| Major Pros | ✓ Provides the religious institute with an independent estimate of the market value of a specific property or facility. ✓ Sets an initial expectation within the institute regarding the financial benefits to the institute that could result from a future sale of a real estate asset. ✓ Provides a frame of reference for any purchase offers a religious institute receives from interested third parties in a strategic property planning process. | ✓ An institute's specific appraisal needs may clarify during a strategic property planning process. ✓ The religious institute retains the flexibility to tailor an appraisal to its specific needs, such as the need to obtain the value of a newly subdivided parcel of property, or when the market value of only a particular structure is required. ✓ The religious institute can defer paying for a real estate appraisal to an indefinite future time. |
| Major Cons | ✓ The religious institute can expect an interested third party to obtain its own independent appraisal of a property or facility. ✓ The value established through a previous appraisal can change over time based on market conditions and other factors. ✓ Real estate appraisals can be costly. ✓ The religious institute may end up paying for multiple appraisals based on timing, canonical requirements or other emerging needs or circumstances. | ✓ Any assumptions the religious institute makes during its strategic property planning process about the value of a real estate asset will be less precise. ✓ To the extent members of the religious institute have unrealistic expectations about the value that can be expected from a future sale, these expectations will remain unchallenged. ✓ A decision by a religious institute based on an interested party's offer can be delayed while the institute obtains a real estate appraisal. |