

MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY



PROPOSAL FOR FACILITY REPLACEMENT

Project: Automotive/Diesel Technology Center

One of MSU-Northern's most successful academic programs is its Diesel Technology program. Offering two or four-year degree options, the program is currently educating 226 students (fall 2012), through a hands-on technology education. Demand for graduates continues to increase and *job placement is currently at 100 percent.*



The Automotive/Diesel Technology Center project would replace the current 23,000-square-foot Auto Tech building that was constructed in 1952 with a new 30,000-square-foot Auto and Diesel Technology facility.

Rationale

- **Space limitations:** The 23,000-square-foot facility cannot accommodate growth of the program and struggles to meet existing needs.
- **Safety and code violations:** The Auto Tech building is not in compliance with current numerous building and fire codes: fire alarms are not compliant or repairable, there is no sprinkler protection system in the facility, and restrooms are not ADA compliant.
- **Inefficient building systems:** The 60-year-old building is poorly insulated and has inadequate heating, ventilation, electrical and lighting systems.
- **Deferred maintenance:** The Auto Tech Center represents a significant portion of deferred maintenance on the Havre campus.

Benefits

- **Meeting industry needs:** Graduates of the Diesel Technology program fill critical needs in agriculture, oil, mining, transportation, heavy equipment sales and service and other industries.
- **Sought after graduates:** *Spring 2012 graduates reported 100 percent job placement* and 55 companies recruit graduates of the program. Most students report several job offers upon graduation.



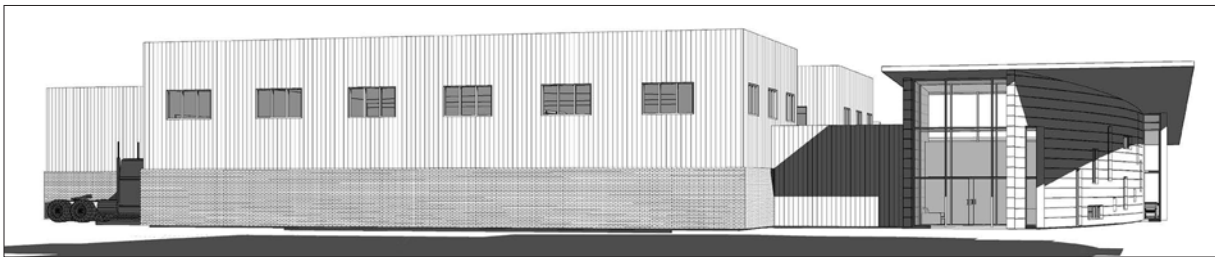
- **Construction jobs created by project:** A significant number of jobs would be supported to demolish the existing building and construct the new facility, representing a boost for the Havre economy.

Career Outlook

Growth is expected in the construction and extraction industries according to the “Montana Employment Projections 2011–2021” report from the Montana Department of Labor & Industry. The report projects there will be 729 positions created between 2011 and 2021 and the average annual salary in 2010 was \$41,492. Graduates of MSU-Northern’s Diesel Technology program would be well positioned to fill these roles.

Investment

The Board of Regents has endorsed the proposed Automotive/Diesel Technology Center. The cost to demolish and build a 30,000-square-foot facility would be \$7.96 million.



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