

March 9-10, 2017

ITEM 174-2008-R0317

Request for authorization to replace and finance artificial turf at Montana State University's Bobcat Stadium

THAT

In accordance with Board of Regents Policy 1003.7, Montana State University seeks authorization by the Board of Regents of the Montana University System to replace the field turf and surrounding warning track at Bobcat Stadium at a cost of up to \$625,000, and to finance the costs over a period of three years.

EXPLANATION

1. The current artificial turf at Bobcat Stadium was installed in July 2008. After 9 football seasons the turf is at the end of its life expectancy and out of warranty. The turf material is wearing thin, causing safety concerns for users.
2. Winter season, snow removal and ultraviolet rays (sun) are the main causes of damage to the field and warning track. Snow and ice removal is carefully performed by tractor loader, but the frequency of removal activities over a 9 year period have caused portions of the warning track to be damaged.
3. Public health concerns of artificial surfaces and crumb rubber infill are being studied worldwide. The attached report from January 2017 performed by the Washington State Department of Health concludes that currently available research on the health effects of artificial turf does not suggest that artificial turf presents a public health risk.

<http://www.doh.wa.gov/Portals/1/Documents/Pubs/210-091.pdf>

4. Bobcat Intercollegiate Athletics will fund this project with self-generated revenues, and proposes entering into a financing agreement to pay the vendor over a period of three years. Available revenues include but are not limited to sky suite rentals and football ticket sales available after current debt service commitments are met. No tuition, student fees or taxpayer dollars will be used to fund this project.
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ATTACHMENTS

Attachment #1: Board of Regents Policy 1003.7

Attachment #2: State of Montana Participating Addendum with FieldTurf