

November 18-19, 2021

ITEM 197-1601-R1121

Request for Authorization to Renovate Block Hall; University of Montana Western

THAT

Consistent with the provisions of MCA 18-2-102, Board of Regents Policy 1003.7 and as authorized in HB14 and HB632 of the 2021, 67th Legislative session, the Board of Regents authorizes the University of Montana Western to proceed with design and renovation of Block Hall on the University of Montana Western campus. This authorization provides authority for a total of \$12,000,000.

EXPLANATION

In 2020 the Block Hall renovation was listed as one of the top Long Range Building Program priorities of the Montana University System.

Legislative funding was authorized by the 67th Legislative session under, HB14, and HB632, for the amount of \$12,000,000.00 for the renovation of Block Hall.

Block Hall was built in 1970 as a faculty/office and classroom building. The footprint of Block Hall is approximately 10,000 square feet, with 4 floors, resulting in 40,000 square feet under roof. It is the home of all the science and math programs and houses the only lab facilities on campus. Block Hall also houses half of the IT staff, the campus phone PBX, and the main communications and computer server equipment.

This project is intended to address the deficient and unsafe building infrastructure systems, and to renovate the building to accommodate the learning environments needed to meet the needs of our current and future student population.

The project deliverables include:

1. Removal and abatement of asbestos coated building materials.
 2. Complete new building HVAC system and new laboratory ventilation systems. Currently, the building and labs are on a common ventilation system and fugitive emissions from lab hoods can contaminate the building ventilation.
 3. Full replacement of the membrane roof.
 4. Upgraded lighting and other utilities throughout the building.
 5. Modernization of the 1970s vintage elevator that is currently inoperable due to obsolete parts.
 6. Update all classroom furniture, fixtures, and equipment.
 7. Provide better protection of IT equipment from possible damage that could occur in the event of a water or steam leak in the building.
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ATTACHMENTS

Attachment #1: Board of Regents Policy: Physical Plant B Section 1003.7