

May 17-18, 2023

ITEM 206-1001-R0523

Request for Additional Authorization for Campus Exterior Lighting; University of Montana-Missoula

THAT

The Board of Regents authorizes the University of Montana to increase spending authority by an additional \$1,500,000 to upgrade and construct the Campus Exterior Lighting.

This item is consistent with the Board's authority to manage the Montana University System in accordance with Board of Regents Policy 1003.7, and consistent with MCA 18-2-102.

EXPLANATION

1. ITEM 198-1003-R0122 was approved in January 2022 authorizing the expenditure of up to \$2.5 million for the upgrade and construction of the Campus Exterior Lighting.
 2. An additional authority of \$1.5 million is requested due to market cost escalation and associated cost-estimating exercises.
 3. The additional spending authority request is from the 67th Legislature General Spending Authority for the MUS.
 4. Students at the University of Montana have expressed the need for increased lighting across campus to make walking at night safer. The ASUM senate passed a resolution, SB24-21/22 on October 13, 2021, unanimously supporting the increase of exterior lights across campus to make the walkways brighter and safer. This project would change the existing light fixtures from older technology sodium and metal halide fixtures to LED technology, which saves energy and provides more light than older fixtures.
 5. The project would take over ownership of existing Northwest Energy fixtures to UM ownership, thus saving about \$85,000/year in ownership costs. The number of fixtures across campus would increase by roughly 65%, thereby improving lighting levels on sidewalks and safety.
 6. This project will be performed in several stages across campus to keep the impact on students as minimal as possible while still providing continuous lighting in parking lots and on sidewalks.
 7. The UM is utilizing bond proceeds for the project with debt service paid by Student Facility Fees and energy savings.
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ATTACHMENTS

Attachment #1: Physical Plant B Section 1003.7