

July 11, 2023

**ITEM 207-1003-R0723**

**Request for Authorization to Plan an Addition to the Bio-Research Building; University of Montana-Missoula**

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**THAT**

Consistent with MCA 20-25-302(6) and in accordance with Board of Regents policy 1003.7, the Board of Regents of the Montana University System authorizes the University of Montana – Missoula to expend up to \$600,000 to plan and design an addition to the Bio-Research Building on the UM Missoula campus.

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**EXPLANATION**

The Bio-Research Building is approximately 10,000 sf consisting of a basement plus a ground floor built in 2004. The building was designed to accommodate the addition of two more floors above the first floor. This planning authority would seek to engage an architect/engineer team to design the upper two floors including the mechanical and electrical systems.

The University of Montana Skaggs School of Pharmacy and the L.S Skaggs Institute for Health Innovation (SIHI) have secured a grant award from the ALSAM Foundation to improve health education, research, innovation, and public outreach so rural and tribal communities in the state of Montana are better served for their health care needs.

SIHI builds upon the success of existing programs in the Skaggs School of Pharmacy, including Improving Health Among Rural Montanans (IPHARM), IPHARM Medication Therapy Management (MTM) Center, and the Precision Medicine Project (PMP). With a focus on integrating direct patient care, experiential learning opportunities for students, and access to cutting-edge research, SIHI is poised to be a leader in developing partnerships to promote access to care and broader health initiatives in resource-limited areas.

Upon completion, SIHI would occupy the new second floor while the third floor would be shelled for future tenant completion at a later date.

This request is for planning, design, and pre-construction only and will be used to define the project scope and develop plans for the improved facility.

UM will request additional construction authority at a later date.

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**ATTACHMENTS**

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