November 19-20, 2026

ITEM 227-1004-R1126

Request for Authorization to Construct the Forestry and Conservation Building (Clapp Building Replacement) – University of Montana-Missoula

THAT

Consistent with BOR Policy 1003.7, the Board of Regents of the Montana University System authorizes the University of Montana-Missoula to expend up to $68,000,000 to construct the Forestry and Conservation Building (Clapp Building Replacement) and demolish the Charles H. Clapp Building.

EXPLANATION

1. The Forestry and Conservation Building will provide innovative instruction and research facilities for the W.A. Franke College of Forestry and Conservation, and other UM science programs and community partners. The building will serve as a hub for teaching, research, collaboration, and innovation in the natural resource and conservation sciences. In addition to construction of a replacement facility, this project will demolish the existing Clapp Building.

2. The 69th legislature appropriated $52M of LRBP capital development funds and $20M of authority only, for a total project budget of $72M. Design authority for $4M was previously authorized by the Board of Regents (ITEM 211-1006-R0324) resulting in this net authority request of $68M.

3. Design has been completed for the Forestry and Conservation Building project to the 95% construction documents phase, resulting in a 73,000 GSF building. With Board of Regents construction authorization, project bids are anticipated to be received in January 2027. Construction is anticipated to commence March 2027 with projected Fall 2029 occupancy.

4. Subsequent demolition and reclamation of the current Clapp Building site will begin in summer 2029 and be complete by the end of 2029.

5. This project will be funded by a combination of Long-Range Building funds appropriated in the 69th Legislative Session and private funds raised by UM.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment #1: Project Overview BOR 1003.7