

September 14-15, 2016

ITEM 172-2004-R0916

Request for authorization to program and design the Romney Hall renovation

THAT

Consistent with provisions of MCA 20-25-302(6) and BOR Policy 1003.7, the Board of Regents authorizes Montana State University to proceed with programming and design services only for Romney Hall on the MSU Bozeman Campus. This authorization is for up to \$1,700,000.

EXPLANATION

1. Romney Hall is one of the most noteworthy structures on the MSU Campus. Constructed in 1922 as MSU's original health and physical education building, Romney is now obsolete and in need of a complete renovation in order to serve the University mission as an academic facility.
2. In order to adequately serve its student population, MSU seeks approval to complete the programming and design phases for the renovation of Romney Hall in advance of the legislative session. Doing so will provide the opportunity for construction to begin in summer 2017 if project funding is approved by the 2017 Legislature. Most importantly, if action is taken now, a renovated Romney Hall, with its additional classrooms, will be available for fall semester 2019, rather than one year later in fall 2020.
3. Romney Hall is the number one priority on the MUS Long Range Building Program request to the 2017 Legislature by the Montana Board of Regents. MSU is requesting a \$28 million appropriation from the 2017 Montana Legislature in the Long Range Building Plan in order to complete the project.
4. A well-conceived renovation will capitalize on the building's prime location in the historic campus core, improve spaces that are currently under-utilized or unusable, and transform an important campus structure into full academic use with additional classrooms in compliance with today's building codes and service standards.
5. This programming and design of the Romney Hall renovation will incorporate modern classrooms and other academic spaces of various sizes and configurations in support of collaborative and innovative teaching methodologies.
5. This design work will be funded with Current Unrestricted Funds and/or funds from the Regent's approved Designated Revolving Reserve Fund.

This authority request authorizes programming and design only – it does not authorize construction, financing or any operations & maintenance funding for this project. MSU intends to request construction authority (including State funding for O&M) for this academic facility from the 65th Montana Legislative 2017 session

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment #1 - BOR Policy: Physical Plant B Section 1003.7