

September 11-12, 2019

**INFORMATION ITEM**

**Notification of exploration of the feasibility of a hospitality project, Montana State University**

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**THAT**

Montana State University is planning to investigate the feasibility of developing a hospitality project to complement its existing Hospitality Management and Culinary Arts programs and provide visitor services to campus.

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**EXPLANATION**

1. The Hospitality Management and Culinary Arts (HMCA) programs are existing academic programs at Montana State University (MSU).
  2. MSU desires to explore the feasibility of developing a hospitality project on campus to provide educational opportunities for HMCA students. Hands-on experience in the operation and management aspects of the hospitality industry will be foundational to the development of students' career paths and prepare them for advanced internships in hospitality enterprises throughout the state, nation, and world.
  3. MSU will investigate the feasibility of leasing land to a private developer to design, construct, operate, and maintain a hospitality facility which will also serve as a teaching laboratory for students. In accordance with State law and Board of Regents policy, the project would be specifically developed to never be owned by the State of Montana, nor would Operation/Maintenance liability ever be transferred to MSU.
  4. MSU HMCA students would be integral members of the hospitality operations as part of their academic curriculum.
  5. MSU intends to begin this exploratory work during the Fall of 2019 and report back to the Board in the future with findings. No state funds will be used.
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**ATTACHMENTS**

None