

January 14, 2020

ITEM 186-2007-C0120

Request for Authorization to Plan, Program and Design for MSU Wellness Center at Montana State University - Bozeman

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 planning, programming and design services only for replacement of the Marga Hosaeus Fitness Center and the University Health Partners Facility. The authorization is for up to \$3,500,000.

EXPLANATION

1. On March 7, 2019 Montana State University (MSU) lost the North Gym, followed by the South Gym and Upper Gyms on March 9, 2019. Additionally, the Natatorium was deemed unusable in early summer 2019 due to structural integrity.
 2. On October 1, 2019 MSU opened two dome structures to replace the loss of the gym structures at the Marga Hosaeus Fitness Center (MHFC) knowing these would be temporary uses until a long-term solution could be planned, programmed and designed for the student body at MSU.
 3. MSU received preliminary approval from RMTD to engage an architect for initial planning. However, MSU seeks Regents approval to continue with planning, programming and designing the replacement options for fitness, wellness and University Health Partner services within MHFC. The Wellness Center concept will be developed with student input along with faculty and staff listening session.
 4. The Wellness Center concept will provide students a new, holistic approach to student wellbeing including mental, physical, social and spiritual health that encompasses more than traditional fitness opportunities.
 5. A well-conceived design will capitalize on the building's prime location along Grant Street across from Romney Hall; serve as a new hub for student use; help to recruit and retain students; create facilities for students to study, relax and congregate; develop spaces for University Health Partners including Counseling and Psychological Services; address the College of Education Health and Human Development's health-related programs that were originally designed to be attached to the gyms; and transform an important campus facility into a wellness center that addresses the ever changing aspect for student health and well-being.
 6. The proposed planning and design work will be financed with RMTD insurance funds and non-state funds including student fees.
 7. The 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 as a separate BOR request.
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ATTACHMENTS

Attachment #1: Physical Plant B 1003.7