

May 26-27, 2021

**ITEM 194-1012-R0521**

**Request for Authorization to Remodel Knowles Hall, University of Montana - Missoula**

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**THAT**

Consistent with MCA 18-2-102(2)(b) 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 \$12,000,000 for the remodel of Knowles Hall.

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**EXPLANATION**

Constructed in 1963, Knowles Hall was named for Eloise Knowles, one of the first two graduates of the University of Montana. Knowles Hall, located directly north of the Lommasson Center, is a four-story residence hall housing 266 students. It was originally a women's only residence but has since become a mixed gender residence. Knowles Hall has also housed the longest-standing living-learning community of campus and includes the Honors College students.

The programs, services and amenities provided to students by UM's housing enterprises contribute positively to student success and retention. While Knowles Hall has served UM students well for many years, it now falls noticeably short in offering the contemporary, aesthetically pleasing living environment demanded by today's student population. There are also numerous deferred maintenance issues to be resolved in a structure of this age, i.e. replacing the roof, mechanical, electrical, plumbing and elevator systems that have all gone well past their expected years of service and are now close to failing.

The 2019 Student Life Master Plan identified the remodel of Knowles Hall as having an immediate impact in attracting new students and their parents.

The renovation of Knowles Hall will completely modernize all the room finishes, furniture, mechanical, electrical, IT, plumbing and elevator services. A revitalized student lounge will include a new kitchen and classroom for student success where faculty and tutors can engage with students in an open, daylight, flexible and attractive space. There is also an area coordinator as well as faculty-in-residence apartment designed to meet the needs of students.

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**ATTACHMENTS**

Attachment #1: BOR Policy Physical Plant B Section 1003.7

Attachment #2: Proposed Knowles Hall Floor Plans