

January 6, 2022

**ITEM 198-1003-R0122**

**Request for Authorization to Install Campus Exterior Lighting; University of Montana-Missoula**

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**THAT**

Consistent with MCA 18-2-102 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 \$2,500,000 to upgrade and construct the Campus Exterior Lighting.

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**EXPLANATION**

Students at the University of Montana have, on numerous occasions, expressed the need for increased lighting across campus to make walking at night safer. The ASUM senate passed a resolution, SB24-21/22 on October 13, 2021 unanimously supporting the increase of exterior lights across campus to make the walkways brighter and safer.

This project would change the existing light fixtures from older technology sodium and metal halide fixtures to LED technology, which saves energy and provide more light than older fixtures.

The project would take over ownership of existing Northwest Energy fixtures to UM ownership, thus saving about \$85,000/year in ownership costs. The number of fixtures across campus would increase by roughly 65%, thereby improving lighting levels on sidewalks and safety.

Increased costs and delivery delays of light fixtures is a concern and will be evaluated as the project progresses.

Energy savings alone will support a \$1.6M bridge loan for the project. The project will be funded with UM funds. GSA from the 67<sup>th</sup> Legislature will be required to cover the legislative authority for this project.

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**ATTACHMENTS**

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