

November 15-16, 2018

INFORMATION ITEM**Notification of American Indian Hall Project, Montana State University**

THAT

Montana State University is planning for the construction of a new academic facility to create additional classrooms and student support spaces to accommodate growth in student enrollment, specifically in the number of American Indian students.

EXPLANATION

1. The American Indian Hall project was originally conceptualized as the Native American Student Center, at an estimated cost of \$8,000,000, and received Legislative Authority Only approval in 2005.
 2. Since then, the number of Native American students enrolled at Montana State University has increased from 268 in Fall of 2005 to 776 in Fall of 2018, a 189-percentage growth.
 3. Recognizing the need for additional instructional and academic support space, the project has been reconceptualized as the American Indian Hall.
 4. This facility will provide critically-needed classrooms and academic support areas for American Indian and the general student body in an environment that celebrates American Indian heritage and provides opportunities for cultural exchange within the academic and local communities.
 5. The planning for the building project was approved by the Board of Regents during the May 2018 public meeting (Item 179-2003-R0518). The project was included in the Long-Range Building Program priorities at the May 2018 public meeting (Item 179-101-R0518 Attachment 1) for an expansion of the Legislative Authority Only from \$8,000,000 to \$12,000,000, due to inflationary increases in local market construction prices.
 6. The American Indian Hall is a fundraising goal of the Montana State University's Comprehensive Campaign. On October 8, 2018, Montana State University announced a gift of \$12,000,000 which, added to previous donations, totaled almost \$16,000,000 in private funds. The Alumni Foundation of Montana State University anticipates raising an additional \$2,000,000 before December 31, 2018.
 7. The Associated Students of Montana State University approved the use of \$2,000,000 in Student Building Fees for the American Indian Hall project on October 4, 2018.
 8. Montana State University intends to request BOR approval to expend \$2 million in Student Building Fee Reserves, consistent with BOR policy 940.9.2, and approval to expend a maximum of \$20 million to construct the American Indian Hall, consistent with BOR policy 1003.7, at the May 2019 public meeting.
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ATTACHMENTS

None