

September 18, 2025

ITEM 220-2005-R0925**Request for Authorization to Construct an Elevator and Associated ADA Improvements at Lewis Hall; Montana State University**

THAT

Consistent with MCA 18-2-102 and BOR Policy 1003.7, the Board of Regents authorizes Montana State University to increase its spending authority by \$4,600,000 to construct an elevator and associated ADA improvements in Lewis Hall.

EXPLANATION

1. MSU received appropriation of \$2,400,000 in House Bill 5 from the 68th Legislature and the same amount in BOR ITEM 206-106-R0523 to complete the initial planning, design and construction work for the elevator.
2. Upon design completion and initial bidding, MSU received pricing back from contractors estimating the project was more than the original budget due to building code regulations tied to ADA and structural improvements needed for the elevator and entry doors.
3. MSU requested and received an additional \$4,600,000 of appropriation in House Bill 5 from the 69th Legislature to account for increased costs to install the elevator and ADA improvements in Lewis Hall.
4. The total project budget with Legislative authority and appropriation is \$7,000,000.
5. MSU is requesting increased construction authorization from the Board of \$4,600,000 to complete the project.
6. The project will allow students, faculty and staff with mobility limitations to access all classrooms, instructional labs and offices throughout the entire building. New ADA restrooms will also be installed as part of the increased funding.
7. Since 2016, 39 courses have been relocated from Lewis Hall due to inaccessible classrooms and instructional laboratories. Adding an elevator will improve the utilization of Lewis Hall and relieve classroom scheduling conflicts in other academic buildings across campus.
8. The work will be paid for by Legislative LRBP appropriations.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1 - Project Details (BOR Policy 1003.7)