
Docket Item:

Office of Community Colleges and Workforce Development: Update on Community College capital projects

Summary:

During the week of November 9, 2015, and in anticipation of the 2016 Legislative Session, HECC-CCWD reached out to the presidents of the 17 community colleges and invited them to identify any unique funding needs that they are facing. It was explained that these needs could include both technical adjustments to previously-approved projects not requiring new funding and emergency capital needs that have arisen. Below are projects requiring the attention of the Commission

Docket Material:

Projects

Changes in the scope of community college projects:

1. Linn-Benton Community College – SB 5507, 2013 session, Section 6 (9) - College Nursing and Allied Health Facilities.
 - a. Narrative: In consultation with Samaritan Health Services, leadership of Linn-Benton Community College (LBCC) determined that students would enjoy improved educational opportunities by locating the proposed facility on the Lebanon campus instead of their Albany campus location. This change would necessitate the purchase of land for the building site. LBCC requests that property acquisition be included as an appropriate use of the Article XI-G bond funds.
 - b. Analysis: The change is consistent with the application originally envisioned for the facility. It is significant that the proposed change in location places the healthcare education facility in close proximity to relevant services and healthcare industry partners.
 - c. Staff Recommendation: Staff recommends that the Commission support the proposed project scope adjustment.
2. Southwestern Oregon Community College – SB 5507, 2013 session, Section 6 (13) – College Health and Sciences Building.
 - a. Narrative: Southwestern Oregon Community College (SOCC) proposes a change in the implementation of the building plan for the Health and Sciences Technology Building. changing the scope of the project from constructing a new building to remodeling/adding onto the existing Health building on the main campus.
 - b. Analysis: Per a letter from SOCC, it has been determined that goals will be best achieved by combining new construction and renovation of an existing structure. Benefits cited include the ability to increase the overall size of the facility, better utilization of an existing facility (Umpqua Hall) to support programming, and reduced overall costs that will enable SOCC to fit within the overall budget. The proposed change is consistent with the spirit of the original project.

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- c. Staff Recommendation: Staff recommends that the Commission support the proposed project scope adjustment.

Changes in legislation:

1. Technical correction--HB2408 (2015) in RE: Clackamas Community College:
 - a. Narrative: A technical correction is needed to HB 2408 passed in 2015 session. In order to allow for the carryover of unexpended capital construction moneys for originally approved in Chapter 904, section 7 (3), Oregon Law 2009, it is necessary to amend HB 2408, section 102 (3). This project was excluded in the original bill.
 - b. Analysis: The lack of a reference to the Harmony Campus Phase II project in the original bill prevents the HECC from authorizing the expenditure of these funds. The approval of this technical change will allow Clackamas Community College to access funds to complete the project.
 - c. Staff Recommendation: Staff recommends that the Commission support the technical correction to include language calling out the Clackamas Community College – Harmony Campus Phase II project within HB 2408, section 102.
2. Technical correction—change to Chapter 79, section 11 (1), OL 2012
 - a. Narrative: Blue Mountain Community College (BMCC) received a grant of lottery bond funds to build a classroom for their Veterinary Assistant Certificate Program. A balance of \$465,037 remains unspent. BMCC wishes to use the unspent balance as match funds for the college’s general obligation bond project approved in SB 5507, 2013 session, Section 6 (1), for the construction of an Animal Science Education Center. The lottery bond classroom project would be part of the new building construction. Dr. Cam Preus, president of BMCC, has provided a justification letter for using the lottery bonds as match funds.
 - b. Analysis: Per Dr. Preus’ letter, the application of lottery bond funds will support efficiencies in financing and constructing the spaces necessary to support the Veterinary Assistant program. She also points out significant savings as consolidation of the programs into a single facility will eliminate unnecessary duplication of construction and the greater costs associated with building and maintaining multiple facilities.
 - c. Staff Recommendation: Staff recommends that the Commission support the technical correction to enable BMCC to use unspent lottery bond funding as a match for the Article XI-G bonds.