

STATE BOARD FOR COMMUNITY COLLEGES AND OCCUPATIONAL EDUCATION

September 8, 2021

TOPIC: Approval of Spending Authority for Improvements at Front Range Community College's Boulder County Campus

PRESENTED BY: Andrew R. Dorsey, President

RELATIONSHIP TO THE STRATEGIC PLAN: Goal 4: Refine our value proposition through accessibility, affordability, quality, accountability, resource development, and operational excellence.

EXPLANATION:

Front Range Community College seeks spending authority approval for \$1,200,000 to make several upgrades to our Boulder County Campus. The three main projects are: upgrade four bathrooms to install hands-free fixtures, better lighting and cleanable, modern surfaces; create an expanded office suite for our growing Online Learning department; and paint most classrooms (approximately 50) and hallways. In addition, we plan to paint and carpet and make minor modifications to the administration area and expand the welcome desk to allow for more distance between staff.

The College has entered into a design-build contract with DS Constructors (after following the proper state procurement process) for a renovation of three of the bathrooms and other minor renovations. After reviewing other priority space needs at the campus, we are now seeking to expand the contract scope to include the additional items noted above.

Upon SBCCOE approval the contract with DS Constructors will be amended to include the added scope. The estimate of the new contract amount is no more than \$1,100,000. The additional spending authority will cover furnishings and other contractors for small parts of the project.

FRCC intends to use Higher Education Emergency Relief Funding (HEERF) - otherwise known as federal stimulus funds – to pay for most of the bathroom renovations (anticipated to be approximately \$410,000) as the washable finishes and partitions, touchless faucets, and virus-killing UV/LED lighting will mitigate spread of the Coronavirus.

HEERF funding will also pay for the renovation of the Online Learning suite (anticipated to be approximately \$272,000) as it will support expanding online and remote learning opportunities for students and include easily cleanable solid surface workspaces for students, faculty and staff. The suite will include offices for online advisors and support staff and space for faculty to create videos and other course materials.

HEERF funding will also pay for some classroom and office furniture designed to be easily cleaned and promote social distancing (anticipated to be approximately \$81,160).

College reserves will pay for the balance of the renovation.

Location	Total	HEERF	Reserves
Restroom Renovations	\$523,000	\$410,000	\$113,000
Online Learning Suite	\$272,000	\$272,000	\$0
Classroom/Office Improvements	\$286,340	\$0	\$286,340
Furniture & Equipment	\$118,660	\$81,160	\$37,500
	\$1,200,000	\$763,160	\$436,840

As of August 2021, college reserves were \$48,026,165 or 40.3% of operating expenses. With this project and other upcoming expenditures, projected ending reserve will be \$46.8M or 35.3% of operating expenses. We do not have any planned additional expenditures from reserves at this time.

Unrestricted Net Asset Reserves	\$ Reserves	% Net Expense
FY21 Ending Balance	\$48,026,165	40.3%
Committed for other FRCC funded projects/expenses	-\$770,702	
BCC Facilities Improvements	-\$436,840	
Projected FY22 Balance	\$46,818,623	35.3%

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends the Board approve the spending authority of \$1,200,00 for the BCC projects and the design build contract with DS Constructors for Front Range Community College with a do not exceed amount of \$1,100,000 and delegate the signature authority of the board to the FRCC President on the condition that all State and Board required processes are met.