



MEMORANDUM

November 9, 2022

Utah State University (USU) – Trustee Property Action

Board Policy R702, *Non-State Funded Projects*, delegates the authority to approve non-state funded projects to institutional Boards of Trustees in the following limited circumstances: 4.1.1 *Projects Funded from Private or Institutional Sources*: The total cost of the project, including design and construction does not exceed \$5,000,000. 4.3 of the policy requires institutions to notify the Board regarding any approved Trustee transactions in the next regularly scheduled Finance and Facilities Committee meeting.

During the October 14, 2022, meeting, the Utah State University Board of Trustees approved the construction of a 2,000 sq. ft. addition to the USU Research Greenhouse complex to facilitate cutting-edge agricultural research. The greenhouse will have eight rooms that will allow researchers to control the photoperiod and intensity of light through state-of-the-art LED plant-growth lighting. Funding to construct the addition, estimated to be \$1.9M; funding for operations and maintenance (O&M); and funding for capital improvements will be provided by the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences. USU will not seek O&M or capital improvement funding in the future.

Commissioner's Recommendation

This is an information item: no action is required.

Attachment



October 17, 2022

Commissioner Dave Woolstenhulme
Utah State Board of Regents
Board of Regents Building The Gateway
60 South 400 West
Salt Lake City, Utah 84101-1284

Subject: Non-State Funded Project

Dear Commissioner Woolstenhulme:

Following Utah System of Higher Education policy R702, Non-State Funded Projects, Utah State University (USU) desires to report the approval by the USU Board of Trustees to construct a research greenhouse addition on the Logan Campus.

The project is a 2,000 square foot addition to the USU Research Greenhouse complex (shown in Exhibit A) to facilitate cutting-edge agricultural research. The greenhouse will have eight rooms that will allow researchers to control the photoperiod and intensity of light through state-of-the-art LED plant-growth lighting. The efficiency of LED technology has doubled over the past 8 years and now has achieved over 80% electrical efficiency. USU scientists, with funding from NASA, are anxious to expand their crop production research in this facility. Funding to construct the addition, estimated to be \$1.9 million; funding for operations and maintenance (O&M); and funding for capital improvements will be provided by the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences. USU will not seek O&M or capital improvement funding in the future. No student fees, revenue bonds, or contractual debt will be used to fund the construction of the project.

The Utah State University Board of Trustees approved the research greenhouse addition, a non-state funded project, in the October 14, 2022, meeting.

We appreciate your support and request that this item be reported to the Finance and Facilities Committee during the November meeting.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David T. Cowley'.

David T. Cowley
Vice President for Finance & Administrative Services

cc: Juliette Tennert, Chief Financial Officer
Malin Francis, Director of Facilities & Planning
Noelle E. Cockett, President

