TO: Members of the Board of Trustees

FROM: President Sabah Randhawa by Vice President Lopes

DATE: October 13, 2023

SUBJECT: Delegation of Authority to Award a Consultant Contract for the Environmental Studies Renovation Predesign, PW808

PURPOSE: Action Item

Purpose of Submittal:
To delegate the authority to award a consultant contract for the Environmental Studies Renovation Predesign, PW808. Services to start in mid-November 2023, upon execution of contract.

Proposed Motion:
MOVED that the Board of Trustees of Western Washington University, upon the recommendation of the President, delegate the authority to the President, in consultation with the Chair of the Board of Trustees, to award a consultant contract for the Environmental Studies Renovation Predesign, PW808.

Supporting Information:
This project is to complete a predesign for the renovation and modernization of the Environmental Studies Center (ESC). Completed in 1973, the building (approximately 111,000 GSF) is home to WWU's nationally recognized College of the Environment, the Department of Environmental Sciences, the Department of Geology, general use classrooms, and other programs that support interdisciplinary learning and collaboration.

The predesign will involve a deep assessment of the existing programmatic and functional uses of the facility and the building infrastructure systems currently in place supporting those needs. Additionally, the consultant will perform an assessment of the need for renewal, modernization, and code required upgrades, as well as analyze the existing structural system to gain an understanding of the suitability and adaptability to 21st century models of science instruction, research, and dynamic and interdisciplinary collaboration.

General needs of the University will be considered, such as, the general use classrooms, the scientific technical support departments currently housed in the building (Advanced Materials Science and Engineering Center – AMSEC, and Scientific Technical Services - SciTech) that support multiple research and instruction programs across campus, opportunities for student collaboration, amenity spaces, and food services.
Institutional principles of health, wellness, and ADEI principles will be explored and incorporated into the project goals. And, perhaps most importantly, the predesign will need to establish a viable swing space strategy. The team will consider options and strategies for developing temporary swing spaces or permanent relocation of the programs, functions, and occupants that will need to vacate the building ahead of and during the extensive construction period, including scheduling and sharing of existing compatible facilities across campus.

The total budget for the Predesign project is $500,000. The budget for this consultant contract is approximately $440,000. The consultant selection process began with advertisement of the RFQ in early August 2023. The committee made a recommendation of the most qualified firm after in-person interviews on September 29 and October 3. Predesigns are a requirement of OFM for projects that will request design and construction funding in the State capital request and are due to OFM no later than July 1, 2024.

Environmental Studies Renovation Predesign Consultant Selection Committee:

- Rick Benner, Chair / University Architect and Sr. Director, Facilities Development and Operations – Planning and Development
- Forest Payne, Project Manager, Facilities Development and Operations
- Jack Herring, Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs
- Teena Gabrielson, Dean, College of the Environment
- David Patrick, Vice Provost for Research and Dean of the Graduate School
- Steve Hollenhorst, Associate Vice President for Facilities Development and Operations
- Alexis Blue, Assistant Director, Capital Planning and Development, Facilities Development and Operations
- Ellen Kuhlmann, Space Manager, Capital Planning and Development, Facilities Development and Operations

Source of Funding:

State Appropriations – Bonds