FCR 7

Office of the President September 10, 2021

Members, Board of Trustees:

UPGRADE/RENOVATE/EXPAND RESEARCH LABS (BIOSAFETY LAB RENOVATION – HEALTH SCIENCES RESEARCH BUILDING)

<u>Recommendation</u>: that the Board of Trustees approve the initiation of the Upgrade/Renovate/Expand Research Labs (Biosafety Lab Renovation – Health Sciences Research Building) capital project.

<u>Background</u>: Pursuant to Administrative Regulation 8:2, any capital project with an estimated scope of \$1,000,000 or more must be approved by the Board prior to initiation.

The University of Kentucky is home to leaders in the fields of immunology, microbiology, and infectious diseases. As the flagship university of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, the university is often called upon to respond to health emergencies. In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the university has embarked on an ambitious project to expand its research portfolio on emerging and re-emerging pathogens. In support of these research activities, this project will renovate and upgrade the Health Sciences Research Building which was constructed in 1992. This project will retrofit aproximately 4,200 square feet and will include reconfiguration of the existing space to accommodate a large shared laboratory.

This \$2,500,000 project, authorized by the 2020 Kentucky General Assembly, is well within the total legislative authorization of \$50,000,000 and will be funded with agency funds.