

FCR 16

Office of the President
December 2, 2025

Members, Board of Trustees:

CONSTRUCT/IMPROVE INNOVATION COMPLEX (ARTS AND INNOVATION COMPLEX – DESIGN PHASE) CAPITAL PROJECT

Recommendation: that the Board of Trustees approve the initiation of the Construct/Improve Innovation Complex (Arts and Innovation Complex – Design Phase) capital project.

Background: Pursuant to Governing Regulation II.G.3, the Finance Committee reviews and recommends to the Board of Trustees any capital project with an estimated cost of \$1,000,000 or more.

This project will initiate the design phase of an approximately 170,000 square foot Arts and Innovation Complex which will be central to the creation of a new Arts and Innovation District serving and enriching the University, the community and the Commonwealth. The facility will house spaces for the College of Fine Arts and serve as a vibrant interdisciplinary hub uniting creativity, technology, innovation and collaboration, just west of the main central campus, adjacent to the new Gray Design Building and the School of Arts and Visual Studies.

The complex will bring together programs in music, theatre and dance under one roof for the first time. This complex will also feature state-of-the-art performance venues, including a proscenium theatre, recital halls and a black box theatre. This new Arts and Innovation District will create a synergism with other arts activities, the College of Design and a burgeoning city arts and entertainment district and promises to elevate what UK can do for its students and the Commonwealth.

This \$25,000,000 project, authorized by the 2024 Kentucky General Assembly, is well within the total legislative authorization of \$250,000,000 and will be funded with a combination of agency funds and private funds.

Action taken: ☒ Approved ☐ Disapproved ☐ Other _____

