

PR 5

Office of the President
October 21, 2016

Members, Board of Trustees:

CONSTRUCT BASEBALL FACILITY CAPITAL PROJECT

Recommendation: that the Board of Trustees approve the initiation of the Construct Baseball Facility Capital Project.

Background: Pursuant to Administrative Regulation 8:2, any capital project with an estimated cost of \$1,000,000 or more must be approved by the Board prior to initiation. The design phase of this project was approved by the Board at its June 2015 meeting. This project will initiate the construction phase of the new baseball stadium on a new site along Alumni Drive.

With the growth in the overall student population (from 28,094 to 30,887 since 2011) and student residents in central and south campus, there has been an increase in student recreation and transportation needs that need to be addressed as soon as possible. This project is a critical step in the University's South Campus Master Plan implementation, which will ultimately allow for the development of additional student recreation spaces and a substantial expansion of parking spaces in this area of campus.

Since its construction in 1969, the current baseball facility has been renovated twice with the last renovation over 13 years ago. The program has grown significantly and the current facility is inadequate to meet the existing and future needs of the team. The facility also does not meet required specifications to host National Collegiate Athletic Association baseball tournaments. The new facility will enhance the experience of student-athletes by providing updated team areas and locker rooms while improving the experience of the community attending intercollegiate baseball games with modern concessions, a video/scoreboard, and a parking area.

The total project scope is \$49,000,000 which includes the \$4,000,000 design phase. The recommended financing plan includes \$42,000,000 of private and agency funds from the Department of Intercollegiate Athletics, with the remaining \$7,000,000 to be funded from an internal loan. The internal loan will be repaid by the Department over a period not to exceed 10 years, and will include interest charges pursuant to the University's Debt Policy.

Pursuant to the University of Kentucky Debt Policy, the Debt Management Committee has reviewed the financing plan and supports the proposed internal loan. The 2016 Session of the Kentucky General Assembly authorized the project using agency funds. Pending Board approval, a change in fund source will be reported to the Capital Projects and Bond Oversight Committee.

Action taken: Approved Disapproved Other _____

