

March 22, 2017

MEMORANDUM

TO: State Board of Regents

FROM: David L. Buhler

SUBJECT: Weber State University – Stewart Stadium Addition (Non-State Funded)

Issue

Weber State University (WSU) requests authorization to proceed with a non-state funded project to construct a new football support facility at the north end of the Stewart Stadium on the Ogden campus.

Background

Regent policy R702, *Non-State Funded Projects* requires the Regents to review capital development or improvement projects requiring State Building Board or Legislative approval. State statute (63A-5-104) delegates authority to the State Building Board to approve capital projects without legislative approval if the requesting institution does not use state funding sources for the design, construction, operation, or maintenance of the facility. WSU proposes to use donations to construct a new facility on the north end of the Stewart Stadium with approximately 23,000 square feet.

Over the last several years WSU has updated and improved the Stewart Stadium on its Ogden campus. The proposed facility aligns with the University's master plan to develop the north end of the stadium to include a new gateway. The support facility would include a new ticket and concessions area, locker room, team meeting rooms, and training and weight rooms. The anticipated cost to construct this new facility is \$6,500,000 funded primarily with donations. State appropriated funds will not be used in design or construction and future operation and maintenance costs will be funded through revenues from the Athletic Department.

Additional information about the project is provided in the attached letter from the University including an artist rendering of the facility. Representatives from WSU will be present at the meeting to provide additional information and respond to questions from the Board.

Commissioner's Recommendation

The Commissioner recommends that the Board authorize Weber State University to present this proposal to the Utah State Building Board for final approval.

David L. Buhler
Commissioner of Higher Education

DLB/KLH/RPA
Attachment



WEBER STATE UNIVERSITY

February 14, 2017

Dr. Dave Buhler, Commissioner
Utah System of Higher Education
Board of Regents Building
60 South 400 West
Salt Lake City, UT 84101-1284

Dear Commissioner Buhler,

Weber State University seeks authorization to design and construct a football support facility that would act as a patron gateway at the north end of Stewart Stadium on WSU's Ogden campus.

As background, Weber State Athletics established a master plan for Stewart Stadium improvements several years ago. Elements of the master plan that have now been completed include; replacement of the turf football field with a new artificial surface, improvements to the track and field facilities located at the stadium, renovation and expansion of the restroom facilities, and remodeling of several floors of the Sky Suites facility. The two major elements of the master plan that remain to be completed are a replacement of the east-side bleachers, and construction of a north-end football support facility that will be known as Sarks Boys Gateway--a reference to the WSU teams of the late 1960's that were coached by Sark Arslanian.

WSU is ready to move forward with this north-end gateway project. A rendering of the proposed facility is included here. Plans call for a 23,000 square foot facility that will include a home team locker room, team meeting rooms, training and equipment facilities, weight room addition, and ticketing/concession areas.

The project is expected to cost \$6.5 million. Commitments of \$4.4 million have been secured and \$3 million has been collected. No O&M funding will be sought for this facility. O&M will be covered from Athletic Department revenues.

Pending fund-raising efforts, it is expected that construction of this project will begin following the 2017 season and be ready for use during the 2018 season.

Please place this item on the Regents action calendar for the March 31st meeting.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Norm Tarbox'.

Dr. Norm Tarbox
Vice President for Administrative Services

