

Capital Planning Project for the Virginia Tech Rescue Squad Facility

JOINT FINANCE AND RESOURCE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE AND BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE

October 17, 2024

The Virginia Tech Rescue Squad (VTRS) Facility is on the 2024-2030 Six-Year Capital Plan and is a strategic priority for the university. The project holds demonstrable value for both the university and Blacksburg communities. The Rescue Squad currently resides within the basement of the Military Building, in space that is too outdated and undersized to accommodate the current VTRS program. A new facility will further solidify the Rescue Squad's presence on campus while also providing a home base for the program.

The project is envisioned as an approximate 12,500 gross square foot building located on Oak Lane, as recommended by the recently completed feasibility study in August 2024. The new facility will serve as the headquarters for the VTRS, a campus organization composed of fully trained and certified students designated to act as a first-responder EMS team for on-campus emergencies. The VTRS has been in operation since its founding in 1969 and embodies the spirit of Ut Prosim, providing an opportunity for students to both grow and serve their community.

The building will serve as an operational and training facility; will include space to house apparatus, and accommodate scheduling flexibility based on its central location on the Blacksburg campus.

The estimated total project cost, inclusive of design, construction, equipment and furnishings, is \$16 million. The funding plan for the project calls for entirely nongeneral fund support and includes \$4.6 million of auxiliary cash reserves earmarked for the project and \$11.4 million of debt serviced by the rescue squad component of the Student Health fee. Any additional cash designated for the project and accumulated prior to the issuance of permanent debt would be used directly for project costs and to lower the estimated total debt issuance.

The university is requesting a \$2 million planning authorization to complete design through working drawings. There is sufficient auxiliary cash available to fund the planning phase of the project.

Under the 2006 Management Agreement between the Commonwealth of Virginia and the university, the Board of Visitors has the authority to approve the budget, size, scope, and funding of non-general fund capital outlay projects. This request is for a \$2 million planning authorization to complete working drawings for the Virginia Tech Rescue Squad Facility project. A subsequent request for full funding may be submitted after designs are underway and a firm scope, cost, funding, and schedule for the entire project are determined.

RESOLUTION OF A CAPITAL PLANNING PROJECT FOR THE VIRGINIA TECH RESCUE SQUAD FACILITY

WHEREAS, the Rescue Squad facility currently resides in the Military Building on campus, in space too outdated and undersized to accommodate the current Virginia Tech Rescue Squad (VTRS) program; and,

WHEREAS, a new facility would provide a new home base for the program on campus while also providing an opportunity for students to be trained and certified as a first-responder EMS team for on-campus emergencies; and,

WHEREAS, the project is envisioned as an approximately 12,500 gross square foot new building located on Oak Lane; and,

WHEREAS, the building will serve as an operational and training facility, will include space to house apparatus, and accommodate scheduling flexibility based on its central location on the Blacksburg campus; and,

WHEREAS, the university is requesting a \$2 million planning authorization to complete working drawings and to fund the planning project with an entirely nongeneral fund resource plan sufficient to support the entire project; and,

WHEREAS, the university may submit a subsequent request for full project funding after designs are underway and a firm scope, cost, funding plan, and schedule for the entire project are determined; and,

WHEREAS, under the 2006 Management Agreement between the Commonwealth of Virginia and the university, the Board of Visitors has authority to approve the budget, size, scope, and funding of non-general funded major capital outlay projects;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the university be authorized to move forward with a \$2 million planning authorization to complete designs through working drawings for the Virginia Tech Rescue Squad Facility.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the resolution authorizing Virginia Tech to plan the Rescue Squad Facility be approved.

November 19, 2024