

Requested O&M Not Directly Related to Construction Projects

For certain projects, the University has requests additional funding beyond the level justified by space additions. The University is to designate this type of request as catch-up funds. Sometimes this catch-up situation occurs when, prior to renovation, a facility's O&M is not funded by the institution at a level sufficient to properly maintain the facility after renovation. This year, UNK was the only institution that identified additional O&M as catch-up funding.

As stated in the beginning of this section, the Commission is not required to approve these types of requests as capital construction requests, but is required to make a recommendation in its Operating Budget Recommendations to the Governor and Legislature.

The Commission has little information with which to determine the appropriate level of funding needed to bring the total O&M expenditures for a specific facility to a level sufficient to maintain it. Facility expenditures for O&M are provided to the Commission on an institutional basis, not building by building. Based on this limited data the Commission makes the following recommendations.

UNK Bruner Hall of Science

UNK requested additional O&M funding for the renovation of Bruner Hall and the Commission recommended funding. Because of Bruner Hall's condition prior to renovation, the building was not being used intensively and UNK had not been spending O&M funds as it would have had the building been upgraded. Now that the entire building has been renovated, UNK needs to spend sufficient dollars for O&M to keep the building at an appropriate level of maintenance. UNK is short of that goal by \$57,910 each year and is requesting those catch-up dollars from the state. **The Commission recommends some funding for the catch-up request.**

UNL Barkley Memorial Addition

UNL requested \$245,135 for O&M for this project. The Commission approved O&M of \$93,960. Although UNL did not identify the extra \$151,175 of O&M request as catch-up funding, the Commission presumes the additional requested amount is for dollars UNL was not spending on Barkley and now needs to spend to keep the renovated building at an appropriate level of maintenance. **The Commission recommends some funding the catch-up dollars.**

UNMC College of Dentistry

The College of Dentistry renovated its building to correct code deficiencies. UNMC stated in its program statement that any additional O&M would be minimum and not directly related to the correction of code deficiencies. The requested O&M is \$46,000 per year. The Commission is aware that the requested increase in O&M is for catch-up funds and has moved the request to the catch-up funds category. **The Commission recommends some funding the catch-up dollars.**

UNL Barkley Phase 2

The Commission has received little information regarding a Barkley Phase 2 project. However, the Commission is aware that the requested O&M dollars of \$75,000 are for catch-up funding and has moved the request to the appropriate category. **The Commission does not object to some additional funding to allow the institutions to maintain the building in an appropriate condition.**

Statutes require that the Commission review and approve or disapprove capital construction projects in which institutions are requesting an increase in state appropriations of \$85,000 or more per year.

The information listed under Commission Recommendations on the following chart signifies these points:

- (a) the institution has submitted a request in that amount for approval by the Coordinating Commission.

- (b) the Commission has reviewed the request and given approval for the institution to request state funding from the Governor and the Legislature up to that amount.