FACILITIES OPERATIONS CONTINUES RESTRUCTURING

-- Facilities Operation and Development will implement its next phase of its restructuring plan on Wednesday (2/1) as it continues the process of merging the former Department of Physical Facilities and Facilities Planning and Development (the University Architect's Office). Services will be consolidated into four branches:
- Planning and Real Estate - real estate, planning, and management; property management; master and infrastructure planning.
- Operations and EHS - maintenance; custodial; utilities; roads and grounds; emergency preparedness; occupational and environmental health and safety, radiation; bio safety.
- Project Services - all project, renovation, and construction management; university architect; university engineer and landscaping services.
- Business Management - accounting; purchasing; employee and labor relations; IT and data services; the Learning Center; human resources.

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-- > SEE:
Ohio State to spend nearly $19 million updating Wi-Fi across campus, including Ohio Stadium

By Jennifer Smola
The Columbus Dispatch
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Ohio State University is moving forward with several major projects, including an $18.6 million campus Wi-Fi update and a $95 million project to renovate Postle Hall, which houses the College of Dentistry.

The finance committee of Ohio State’s board of trustees on Thursday approved the spending for these and other projects, which will come before the full board for final approval Friday.

The Wi-Fi update will expand outdoor wireless internet throughout the campus and also within Ohio Stadium and the Jerome Schottenstein Center, Lynn Readey, associate vice president for facilities operations and development, told the committee Thursday.

The project consists of installing indoor and outdoor wireless access points across Ohio State’s main campus to create a “more seamless, efficient and modern-end user experience,” according to board meeting materials.

Work is expected to begin next month, with campus Wi-Fi improvements implemented between June and late 2020, according to board documents. Wi-Fi enhancements to Ohio Stadium are anticipated to be completed by July 2019, with enhancements at the Schottenstein Center expected by October 2019.

“It’s a very important project and everybody’s very excited about launching that, although it’s going to take some time to get everything in place,” Readey said.

The finance committee also approved $79.7 million for construction costs for Postle Hall renovations. The project will renovate classrooms and replace a portion of the building to better serve the teaching and outreach needs of the College of Dentistry, according to board materials. The work will include a building addition with four levels of upgraded clinical spaces, simulation teaching classrooms, study spaces, and improved access and circulation for patient services.
The total cost of the project, including $15 million already approved by the board, is about $95 million. That total includes $26 million in state funding, as well as a fundraising goal of about $25 million, Readey said.

Improvements to the 1950s-era building are much needed, said graduate student trustee Lydia Lancaster, who is a resident in Ohio State’s orthodontics residency program.

“The dental community is very, very excited about this project,” Lancaster said. “This isn’t just an investment in improving our health sciences at the university, but it is also an investment in improving the already high quality ... dental care that Ohioans are receiving.”

The finance committee also approved $200,000 for design services for a new airport hangar at Ohio State’s Don Scott Field on the Northwest Side.

While Ohio State has already spent $5 million to add new hangar space to double its plane storage capacity, this project would cover design costs for a commercial hangar, Readey said.

The hope is that a corporate client would bear the cost of construction for the hangar through a long-term lease agreement, said Michael Papadakis, interim senior vice president and chief financial officer at Ohio State.

Details of any such agreement are still being determined, Papadakis said.

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MOST POPULAR STORIES
Conselyea Named AVP for Facilities Operations and Development

December 4, 2018
Mark Conselyea has been named associate vice president for Facilities Operations and Development (FOD) at The Ohio State University.

Conselyea will take over for Lynn Readey, upon her retirement, effective January 1.

“Mark’s experience and knowledge of both the university and Wexner Medical Center positions him well to continue the strong leadership provided by Lynn for many years,” said Jay Kasey, Ohio State’s senior vice president for the Office of Administration and Planning.

Conselyea has been with Ohio State for 22 years most recently serving as the associate vice president of Wexner Medical Center Space and Facilities Planning since 2013. In this role, he was responsible for the strategic leadership and decision making for all College of Medicine and Wexner Medical Center owned and leased space including space assignment, planning, design, development and renovation. Conselyea is a member of the Clinical Enterprise Leadership Team, the University’s Integrated Capital Planning Committee and the President and Provost’s Council on Sustainability.

He has served numerous administrative roles for the James Cancer Hospital and Solove Research Institute, including as its associate executive director from 2008 through mid-2013. Conselyea played a critical role in the 1.1 million square foot replacement cancer hospital.

While Conselyea will take over for FOD January 1, 2019, he will continue to support the medical center for space planning on an interim basis to ensure a smooth transition.

A search for his replacement will begin immediately.