

**SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS**

**Budget & Finance**

**AGENDA ITEM: 7 – S**

**DATE: December 6-8, 2016**

\*\*\*\*\*

**SUBJECT: Dakota State University Athletic Event Center – Preliminary Facility Statement**

Dakota State University requests approval of its Preliminary Facility Statement to begin planning for future construction of an Athletic Event Center. In an effort to move this project forward, DSU will engage a firm to assist in development of an Athletic Master Plan for its campus. That plan would also review other sports areas such as the football Complex, Indoor Track and Outdoor Track, Baseball and Softball Facilities and Fields, Fieldhouse current and future use, and the potential for added sports and other required facility needs.

The DSU Fieldhouse currently provides a practice and competition space for volleyball and men’s and women’s basketball. This facility was constructed in 1958 when the majority of sports were for men’s athletic programs. Athletic Department office space is insufficient and meeting room space is limited to one classroom and hallways. The Zimmerman Hall basement now serves as the athletic weight room, which is three blocks from the Fieldhouse. In addition, when outdoor practices are moved indoors during the winter months due to weather, facility scheduling becomes a problem.

A new Athletic Event Center would provide enhanced recruiting capabilities for DSU and allow it to add programs to both men’s and women’s athletics. Exercise Science and Physical Education programs would be greatly enhanced as well. A modern facility would provide a greater fan and student-athlete experience and would allow DSU to host special events and tournaments.

Funding for this project would come from private fundraising. Approval of this Preliminary Facility Statement would allow DSU to present the proposal to potential donors. Private funds will be used to develop the facility program plan. Additional details of this proposed project can be found in DSU’s attached Preliminary Facility Statement.

\*\*\*\*\*

**DRAFT MOTION 20161206\_7-S:** I move to approve DSU’s Preliminary Facility Statement to begin planning for the construction of an Athletic Event Center. This would allow DSU to move forward with the development of a Facility Program Plan including cost estimates and site location. If approved, the Board President should appoint a Building Committee representative to this project.

**PRELIMINARY FACILITY STATEMENT  
ATHLETIC EVENT CENTER  
DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY**

---

DSU requests approval of this Preliminary Facility Statement to begin planning for an Athletic Event Center.

**A. GENERAL PROGRAMMATIC NEEDS TO BE ADDRESSED:**

The Dakota State University Fieldhouse currently provides a practice and competition facility for volleyball and men's and women's basketball. It also provides limited practice space for men's and women's indoor track. Office space for the athletic department also resides in the Fieldhouse but is insufficient. Meeting room space is limited to one classroom and hallways. The athletic weight room is inconveniently located in the basement of Zimmermann Hall, three blocks from the Fieldhouse, due to lack of space within the facility. Indoor practice for baseball and softball is also held in the Fieldhouse during winter months or when weather does not permit play outside. This creates additional scheduling conflicts. Intramural sports on campus also utilize the Fieldhouse on various occasions. Participation in intramurals has grown over time and is expected to continue to grow along with the growth of the total student population. Locker room facilities are inadequate for the 253 student-athletes currently competing for DSU. Locker rooms are shared when seasons allow, however some sports cannot be provided space at any time. The Fieldhouse is also jointly shared with the South Dakota Army National Guard. Monthly drill time creates additional scheduling conflicts for use of the gym facility. The Guard also uses several of the offices within the building. Community activities are also held at the Fieldhouse when scheduling permits.

**B. ANALYSIS OF THE STUDENT BODY OR CONSTITUENTS TO BE SERVED:**

The existing Fieldhouse was constructed in 1958, a time when men's athletic programs comprised the majority of sports and athletes on campus. At that time, the total student enrollment was 407, with 70 student-athletes participating in sports. The fall 2016 enrollment was 3,190 (1,315 which are on-campus students) and for the same academic year DSU has a total of 253 student-athletes participating in 12 sports – football, volleyball, men's and women's cross country, men's and women's basketball, men's and women's indoor track, men's and women's outdoor track, baseball and softball.

**C. ADDITIONAL SERVICES TO BE OFFERED:**

A new Athletic Event Center would provide the following additional services:

Events Center

- Enhanced recruiting capabilities and capacity to allow DSU to add Junior Varsity

programs to the men's and women's basketball programs and the volleyball team – thereby enhancing student enrollment.

- Increased academic facilities that will enhance the Exercise Science and Physical Education programs and promote the recruitment of students into the fields of nursing, physical and occupational therapy, personal fitness and strength and conditioning.
- Addition of academic labs for hands-on experience with all age groups including the rapidly growing field of exercise for the aging adult.
- An event center that will allow DSU to host events including, but not limited to, youth tournaments, district and regional volleyball, high school basketball tournaments and other events that bring perspective students and student-athletes to DSU, enhancing the university's recruiting ability.
- A modern facility to enhance the student-athlete and fan experience at all events
- An event center capable of hosting larger events that will enhance fundraising with increased ticket sales. The facility would also allow a larger audience for graduation, fundraising events or community needs.
- A facility that will provide locker room accommodations for all sports.
- A facility with adequate weight room, athletic training and rehab facilities for all DSU student-athletes.
- A facility that will provide adequate office space for coaching staff of the current and future sports at DSU.
- A facility with adequate equipment storage. Currently, the majority of sports store uniforms and equipment in a metal structure that leaks and has cracks in the cement.

To support the need for an Athletic Event Center, DSU will be engaging a firm to assist in developing an Athletic Master Plan. This Athletic Master Plan will include initial planning for the much needed Athletic Event Center. That plan would also review many other areas, including but not be limited to:

- Football Complex
- Indoor Track and Outdoor Track
- Baseball and Softball Facilities and Fields
- Fieldhouse current and future use
- Potential for added sports and other required facility needs

#### **D. COMPLIANCE WITH CAMPUS MASTER PLAN:**

The development of an Athletic Master Plan and planning for an Athletic Event Center would provide additional detail to support the Campus Master Plan. The Athletic Master Plan and Athletic Event Center plans would be developed in compliance with the Campus Master Plan.

#### **E. ANALYSIS OF NEEDS ASSESSMENT BASED ON THE FACILITIES UTILIZATION REPORT:**

Not Applicable.

**F. LOCATION:**

The location of this new complex would be determined through the planning process. Potential locations would include the area near the existing Fieldhouse and adjacent to Trojan Field. The Athletic Master Plan would identify locations for future development as the university looks to meet the needs of the student-athletes and programs in DSU Athletics.

**G. REALLOCATION OF OLD SPACE, IF ANY:**

The construction of a new Athletic Event Center would allow DSU to utilize the existing Fieldhouse in new ways. As part of the Athletic Master Plan, DSU would determine potential reconfiguration or renovation of that facility to maximize the benefit to DSU students and student-athletes. Likewise, the existing weight room located in Zimmermann Hall – if relocated to the new Event Center – would be repurposed. This area is in the basement of Zimmermann Hall, thus having limited potential, but would provide additional opportunities for use by both Residence and Student Life.

**H. PROPOSED FUNDING SOURCE/SOURCES:**

The funding for this facility will come from private fundraising. Approval of the Preliminary Facility Statement is requested so that design concepts, schematics and location assessment can be done to present to potential donors.

**I. BUDGET FOR DEVELOPMENT OF A FACILITY PROGRAM PLAN:**

Private funds will be used to develop the facility program plan.