

October 1, 2019

Senator Rick Girdler  
Representative Walker Thomas  
Capital Projects and Bond Oversight Committee  
Legislative Research Commission  
Capital Annex Room 34  
Frankfort, KY 40601

RE: Combine Miller and Threlkeld Hall Projects: Demolish and Rebuild  
New Project Name: New Belknap Campus Residence Halls

Dear Senator Girdler and Representative Thomas:

The university is reporting the consolidation of two housing projects that were approved in HB200: Demolish and Replace Miller Hall (\$70,600,000) and Renovate and Expand Threlkeld Resident Hall (\$33,275,000). Combining the two projects will reduce the overall cost from \$103,875,000 to \$90,000,000, which will serve to keep student-housing fees as low as possible while providing modern housing amenities.

Miller Hall project had the number of beds reduced, which is reducing the cost by \$25,600,000. Threlkeld Hall's project now includes demolishing and construction of a new housing facility, which is increasing the cost by \$11,725,000. One RFP was issued to demolish and construct two 450-bed housing facilities for freshman and sophomore students, since the two existing housing facilities are located in close proximity to each other. The buildings will have similar designs and complement the surrounding space near the Student Activities Center. Included in one of the housing facilities is the build-out of the student services space into a Cultural Center, which will provide a convenient and accessible space for all students. This will allow the university to continue to meet the need for student on-campus living learning environments to support the university vision of student success through increased retention and graduation rates.

The scope expansion of this project will not jeopardize any existing program and will not require the use of any current general funds or any funds appropriated for another purpose.

Please contact Kim Noltemeyer at 502-852-5699, if you have any questions regarding the projects.

Sincerely,



Mark Watkins  
Senior Associate Vice President of Operations

cc: President Neeli Bendapudi  
Dan Durbin, CFO  
Mike Mardis, VP  
Shaun McKiernan  
Carla Wright (OSBD)