Hampshire College Facilities and Grounds Capital Projects - summer / fall 2015

Roof Replacement - A number of roofs are in need of replacement which includes Dakin and Merrill Master Houses, Emily Dickinson Hall. This summer we will begin with these four and the project will include roof replacement, gutter and drain repair, and increased insulation to improve energy efficiency.

Merrill Residence Hall Renovations – The Merrill residence hall will have major building systems replaced and student spaces renovated over the summer. The building's electric heating units will be replaced with individual room heating, ventilation and air conditioning units; the bathrooms will be renovated to include new sinks, fixtures, tile, and heating units; and student room built-in furniture will be refinished. Together with the renovations of student lounges completed last summer, the improvements will make a positive impact on the quality of life of our students.

Cole Science – We have been able to put together funds from the campus renewal program, an energy efficiency program and donors to improve labs, classrooms and common spaces in parts of Cole Science Center.

This summer the first floor will receive new tile flooring, fresh paint and both the north and south entrance carpeting will be replaced. The second floor will receive new tile flooring, ceiling and LED lighting. Lab benches will be replaced along some fume hood improvements. In addition Room 202 will be upgraded to a new classroom with modern audio visual and I.T. equipment. New furniture will be provided for the classroom. On the third floor the current bone room will become a new collaborative modeling center. This new classroom with contain a new ceiling, lighting and the furniture will be updated. In the place of the lizard lounge a new multi-function collaborative work space will be built. This space will contain new soft furnishings and will be used for small working groups. On the health & safety front, the building will receive a new emergency generator and updated fire alarm system.

Emily Dickinson Hall – The large interior spaces by the main entrances to EDH and the hallways to the east and west are often used for student and faculty meetings, work spaces that spill out of the architecture classrooms and theater work spaces, display areas for the theater program, and as a reception area for performances. Improvements to these spaces will take place this summer to include new carpeting, lighting, furniture and a new wall display area. We hope to replace the exterior north entrance to provide a more functional safe and welcoming entry into the hall.

Enfield and Merrill Landscape Improvements – Working with students and Student Life, a number of landscape improvements in the Enfield housing and Merrill housing locations have been identified. The project will include the restoration of the Enfield quadrangle; the removal of the large wall separating the Merrill quadrangle from the master houses; replacement of the gazebos with more welcoming open style shelters; and the addition of play elements such as tether ball, bocce courts, swings and one residential type fire pit.

Electrical Upgrades – As part of the ongoing health & safety project to upgrade the College's forty-five year old electrical distribution system, we will be replacing three main bypass switches in Dakin House, Merrill House and Franklin Paterson Hall. The obsolete oil filled switches will be relocated from the basements of the buildings to exterior locations increasing safety and providing easier access for maintenance and emergency response.

We are currently in the planning phase of replacing the individual building emergency generators for Cole Science and Johnson Library. These building code required generators ensure the building fire safety system and emergency lighting remain functional during a power outage. We are looking to complete the work in the fall.

Air Conditioning Chiller Replacement – The air conditioning chillers supporting the central academic buildings on campus are original equipment with reoccurring maintenance issues. We will begin replacement of the chillers in Cole Science and Johnson Library where they are critically needed to ensure proper humidity levels are maintained to protect the equipment, books and spaces within these buildings. The Cole chiller replacement project is being planned for next fall with the library chiller replacement to follow soon after.

Infrastructure Improvements – The campus roads, parking lots and sidewalks were last resurfaced in 1996. They are now degrading to the point where many dollars are being spent on patchwork and sealants. We hope to initiate a multi-year resurfacing program starting with the main campus roads commencing this summer. The project is currently out to bid and a final determination of the project scope and time line is expected in the next few weeks. I will keep you posted of any circulation disruptions this might cause.

Red Barn Siding Repairs – The exterior siding of the Red Barn is in need of repair. As a main venue for College and outside revenue generating functions, it currently has multiple leaks and is a high consumer of energy. The repairs will include repair and replacement of siding as needed, increased insulation, and repair or replacement of windows as needed.

Because the Red Barn is used so frequently, the work will be done in phases to minimize disruption of activities and maintain the level of aesthetic appeal required for special events.