

**ILLINOIS STATE
UNIVERSITY**

**BOARD OF
TRUSTEES**

**Resolution No. 2024.10/59
Authorization of
Expenditures for College of
Engineering Project
Pre-Construction Services**

Resolution

Whereas, the University engaged the Education Advisory Board (EAB) in 2016 to investigate the feasibility of establishing new engineering degree programs at Illinois State University, and;

Whereas, in June 2018, the University established an Academic Steering Committee to investigate the establishment of Mechanical and Electrical Engineering programs at Illinois State University, and;

Whereas, the Academic Steering Committee examined the feasibility of establishing programs in Mechanical Engineering and Electrical Engineering to leverage the already existing faculty expertise in the departments of Physics and Technology and other departments and schools across the University, and;

Whereas, in the Fall of 2019, the University hired Cannon Design to complete an Engineering Master Plan for the implementation of a new Engineering Program at Illinois State University.

Whereas, the Board of Trustees approved in May of 2021 (2021.05/09) for the University to request Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE) approval for Illinois State University for three new Units of Instruction in Engineering (i.e., a College of Engineering, a Department of Electrical Engineering, and a Department of Mechanical Engineering); and;

Whereas, the Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE) approved Illinois State University for three new Units of Instruction - a College of Engineering, a Department of Electrical Engineering, and a Department of Mechanical Engineering in March 2022, and;

Therefore, be it resolved that the Board of Trustees authorizes expenditures not to exceed \$4.5 million for all necessary College of Engineering - Phase 1 - Pre-Construction Services for a project to plan, design and produce the required documents for the renovation of the property at 1709 GE Road, Bloomington, IL.

Board Action on:	_____	Postpone:	_____
Motion by:	_____	Amend:	_____
Second by:	_____	Disapprove:	_____
Vote:	Yeas: _____ Nays: _____	Approve:	_____

ATTEST: Board Action, October 11, 2024

Secretary / Chairperson

**Board of Trustees
Illinois State University
Authorization for Expenditures of College of Engineering Project Pre-Construction Services**

Background

The University engaged the Education Advisory Board (EAB) in 2016 to investigate the feasibility of establishing new engineering programs at Illinois State University through a combination of quantitative data analytics and secondary research. EAB sought to assess the need and viability of engineering programs at Illinois State University.

In 2018, the University established an Academic Steering Committee and undertook a study to investigate the feasibility of establishing engineering programs at Illinois State University. The committee examined the possibility of establishing programs in Mechanical Engineering and Electrical Engineering to leverage the already existing faculty expertise in the departments of Physics and Technology and other departments and schools across the University.

To further vet requirements, members of the Academic Steering Committee visited engineering programs at comparable schools and attended engineering focused academic conferences. Committee Members also met with executives from local companies to gather insights into industry desirable curriculum, and to understand the resources (e.g., faculty, staff, equipment, facilities, support structures) needed to establish high-quality programs in Mechanical Engineering and Electrical Engineering.

Based on information gathered through school visits and interactions with industry executives, the Academic Steering Committee recommended further efforts to secure the implementation of Mechanical Engineering and Electrical Engineering programs at Illinois State University.

University Program Intent

Illinois State University plans to expand its curriculum to address workforce needs in Illinois, the Midwest, and beyond to include bachelor's degree programs in electrical engineering, mechanical engineering, and general engineering. The three new majors will build upon a strong foundation of existing programs in engineering technology, construction management, information technology and physics.

College of Engineering Phase 1 Project Plan

To facilitate the engineering program development, Illinois State University conducted a public Quality Based Selection (QBS) process, in accordance with State of Illinois procurement requirements and hired Cannon Design in the Fall of 2019 to conduct proposed investigations, in partnership with ISU stakeholders, to develop a Program, Curriculum and a Master Plan for a proposed new College of Engineering at Illinois State University.

Current instructional and lab space limitations at the University require new construction to provide the lecture, lab, research, and collaborative learning spaces unique to engineering programs. Cannon Design and the University investigated the feasibility of building of a new engineering facility to house electrical, mechanical, and general engineering degree programs as well as companion programs in engineering technology (Engineering Technology, Technology and Engineering Education, Sustainable and Renewable Energy, and Computer Systems Technology) and Information Technology (Computer Science, Information Systems, Cybersecurity, and Network and Telecommunications Management).

The plan for the first phase is to accommodate up to 520 new engineering students. The recommended location for Phase 1 implementation is the property at 1709 GE Road located on the east side of Bloomington, Illinois.

Phase 2 of the College of Engineering is planned to include the costs of renovating additional space within the property at 1709 GE Road, that could accommodate up to 1,000 students.

College of Engineering - Phase 1 - Projected Total Budget

ISU worked to develop a preliminary budget to implement Phase 1 for all the necessary project components to implement the new College of Engineering functions at the property located at 1709 GE Road, Bloomington, IL.

The details of this projected total project budget are as follows.

• Projected costs to purchase the property at 1709 GE Road, Bloomington, IL	\$ 17.5M
• Total Projected Renovation Costs – 1709 GE Road, Bloomington, IL	\$ 33M
○ Preconstruction Costs of \$4.5 million are included in the total renovation costs.	
• Total Projected Classroom, lab, and audio/visual equipment	\$4.5M
Grand Total Project Budget	\$ 55.0M

This resolution requests the Board of Trustees to authorize expenditures, not to exceed \$4.5 million, for all necessary College of Engineering - Phase 1 - Pre-Construction Services for a project to plan, design and produce the required documents for the renovation of the property at 1709 GE Road and direct the University administration to establish a budget and appoint architects and engineers and other necessary project consultants.

Resource Requirements

Design & Commissioning & Pre-Construction Fees	\$3,100,000
Purchase Long Lead Items & Preliminary Investigations	\$1,000,000
Project Management Fees	\$150,000
Contingency	\$250,000

Total Phase 1 - Project Pre-Construction Costs – Not to Exceed **\$4,500,000**
(included in the Total Renovation Costs)

Source of Funding: General Revenue Reserves financed through tax exempt COPS debt