

STUDENT SENATE BILL 2021-1031

TITLE: Allocation of Reserves for Projects within the Reitz Union

AUTHOR: Student Body President Cooper Brown

SPONSORS: Budget and Appropriations Chairwoman Elizabeth Hartzog and Budget and Appropriations Committee

AMOUNT: \$1,250,000.00

Reitz Union project descriptions listed below:

Union Landing: \$540,000.00

Background:

The initial concept of utilizing this space by adding flexible seating, lighting, and outdoor games, was supported and funded by the Provost's Office and Student Government. The space has already seen increased usage as a lounge area. The activities and games were very popular during the campus recharge days.

Short Term Goals:

- Continue café lighting for the entire green space west to the edge of the Reitz Union/Career Connection Center
- Add chairs, benches, swings, and picnic tables.
- Add additional games and outdoor activities.

Long Term Goals:

- Level the ground, add necessary retaining walls and electrical infrastructure.
- Install a custom UF branded firepit on the concrete slab north of the Reitz Union Breezeway.

Intent:

The Union Landing has the potential to be a destination for students to engage with each other in both a passive and active setting. It will serve as an outdoor lounge space as well as activity and programming space. It can accommodate events like open mic nights, recreation tournaments, or

evening socials. Funding includes: grading, infrastructure, power, retaining walls, furniture, lighting, games, etc.

Reitz Union Branding Enhancements: \$250,000.00

Background:

The branding enhancements for the Reitz Union were approved at \$600,000.00 in CITF funding in 2020-2021. Additional funding would provide an opportunity to improve wayfinding in the Reitz Union, support any graphic image or language updates, etc. for all divisional units housed within the Union.

Intent:

Breathe life into the Reitz Union showing Gator pride and enhancing the student experience within the space while also elevating the presence of divisional partners and helping everyone find their way around the building.

Reitz Union Escape: \$150,000.00

Background:

J. Wayne Reitz Union is continuing to strengthen the student experience by enhancing existing experiences and launching new, innovative community building opportunities. More than 69 programs were launched in Spring 2021 through the Game Room and Arts & Crafts Center. This proposal is intended to elevate the sense of energy in a building that is intended for students.

Intent:

Requesting \$150,000.00 to purchase equipment/supplies for pop-up & scheduled experiences for students within the Reitz Union to build a sense of community. Here are examples of experiences that could be offered:

Yoga Program

Yoga Equipment: \$1,500.00 (30 blocks and mats)

Weekly Instruction: \$1,950.00 (30 weeks)

Total: \$3,450.00

Trivia/Bingo Programs

Equipment: \$2,500.20 (popcorn machine and supplies)

Software: \$600.00 (trivia G2)

Incentives: \$3,000.00 (\$100 per week/30 weeks)

Total: \$6,100.20

Outdoor Pottery

Equipment: \$3,000.00 (5 tabletop/portable wheels)

Supplies: \$500.00 (clay, tools)
Total: \$3,500.00

Outdoor Painting

Equipment: \$3,250.00 (25 standing easels and 25 table-top easels)
Supplies: \$2,600.00 (paint, brushes, canvases)
Instruction: \$1,040.00 (8, 2hr programs)
Total: \$6,890.00

Esports

Equipment: \$5,000.00 (upgraded systems, games, controllers, etc.)
Furniture: \$2,800.00 (3 television mounts, 10 gaming chairs)
Software: \$280.00 (waitlist, checkout software)
Total: \$8,080.00

Atrium Screen:

Install a multi-screen system on the glass elevator structure in the Reitz Atrium to broadcast news, events, Gator Athletics, debates, World Cups, etc. Eventually incorporate AI video/projection to make the project interactive – like the Florida Museum of Natural History display.

Equipment & installation: \$70,000.00

Reitz Union Dance Studio Upgrades: \$40,000.00

Background:

Individual students and members of registered student organizations are the sole users of the Dance Studio spaces. These spaces are traditionally reserved over 3,200 times per year for individual and group dance rehearsals. Dance styles include hip hop, ballroom, swing, jazz, tap, ballet, multicultural, step, etc.

Intent:

Resurface or replace existing floor with a more durable product that can withstand multiple dance styles using various footwear. Add ballet barre to support ballet style dance and stretching for all dancers. Add more vibrancy to the studios with paint and wall decals or artwork.

Reitz Union Elevator Suspension Rope Replacement: \$25,000.00

Background:

Remove and replace 24 hoist suspension ropes (steel cables) each 350' long. Refurbishment of sheaves (grooved pulleys) that are worn by age/use. Conditions were not evident prior to the elevator modernization project. This is our highest priority as it is required by the state elevator inspector. This is a new request for a new task related to a project that was previously funded by CITF.

Intent:

Original proposal was approved by CITF at \$150,000.00. Due to escalation, the Union is asking for an additional \$25,000.

Reitz Union Security Cameras and People Counters: \$45,000.00

Background:

The Reitz Union is one of the most used facilities on campus. The Union currently only has a few dated cameras, and they are not on the campus network. Security cameras help keep people and personal property safe by deterring crime activity, theft, and vandalism. Surveillance footage is always a crucial piece of evidence during police investigations. Data from a people-counting system would help us generate headcounts, plan operations more efficiently, and optimize resources. Facility use is a useful benchmarking element.

Intent:

Installation of approximately 30 high resolution security cameras and related equipment and network wiring for a comprehensive surveillance system. At the same time this system is installed we also propose installation of components for a people-counting system at all main entrances. Doing both projects simultaneously would result in significant labor savings. Original request was for \$105,000.00 which was approved. Latest quote, due to increased costs for equipment and shortage of installers, is now \$150,000.00

Reitz Union Roof Repairs: \$200,000.00

Background:

There is a section of the Reitz Union roof called the “eyebrows” that was constructed with stucco. The stucco is failing which is allowing water intrusion. The stucco is not under warranty. It has continued to be patched but it is not a long-term solution. Replacing the stucco with a more superior roofing product is required. After most heavy rain leaks will occur within certain offices on the third floor interrupting Student Government, student organizations, and Division of Student Life business. The leaks cause significant damage to carpet, furniture, and ceiling tiles.

Intent:

Stop water intrusion and create a long-lasting solution to prevent continued water damage and impact to the facility and those located in these spaces.

Proviso: This allocation is a one-time reserve transfer that will exhaust at the end of the fiscal year on June 30, 2022. The projects are scheduled to reach completion prior to May 1, 2022.