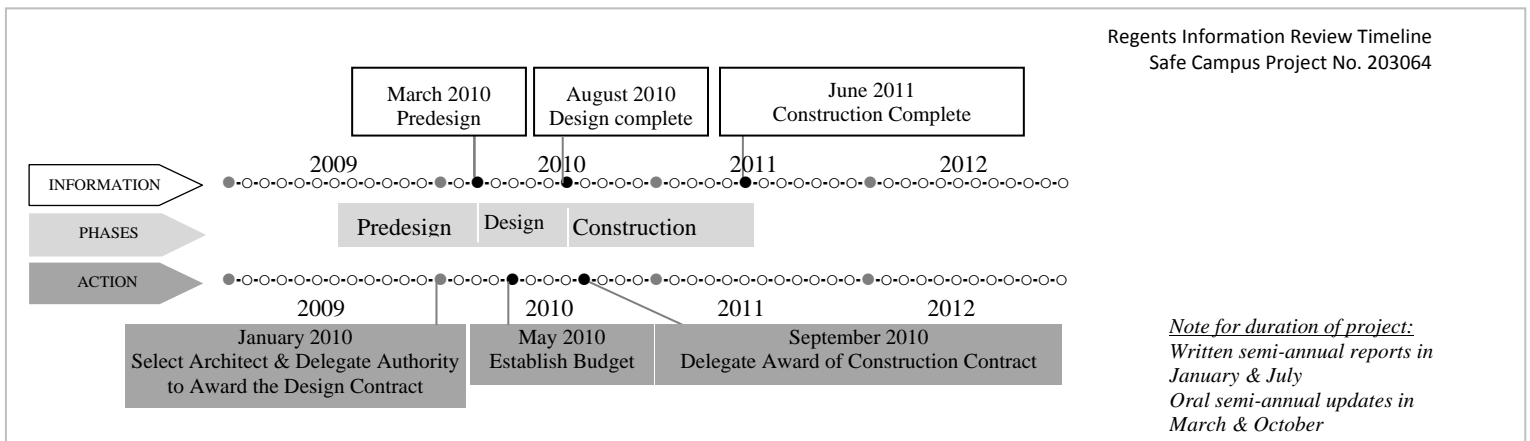


VII. STANDING COMMITTEES

B. Finance, Audit and Facilities Committee

Safe Campus Project – Select Architect and Delegate Authority to Award a Design Contract



RECOMMENDED ACTION:

It is the recommendation of the Administration and the Finance, Audit and Facilities Committee that the President be delegated authority to award a design contract for the Safe Campus Project with the firm of EHS Design, Inc, subject to successful negotiation of an architectural agreement. This project involves modification of existing fire alarm panels in more than 143 buildings on the Seattle campus. It will provide “state of the art” central monitoring of alarms and broadcast mass notification to the campus community in the event of natural disaster, civil unrest, terrorism, or other public safety threats. In the event of an unsuccessful negotiation with the selected firm, it is requested that authority be delegated to open negotiations with S. M. Stemper Architects, PLLC; the firm recommended as first alternate.

BACKGROUND:

In November 2009, the Capital Projects Office advertised for firms interested in providing consulting services. Seven firms responded to the Request for Qualifications for this project, and EHS Design, Inc. and S. M. Stemper Architects were interviewed by the selection panel on December 10, 2009. It is the selection panel’s recommendation that EHS Design, Inc. be appointed the design architect for this project. The selection panel was charged with identifying the most qualified firm as well as one or more alternate qualified firms, if any, ensuring that negotiations can continue in a timely manner. The alternate firm recommended by the selection panel is S. M. Stemper Architects.

VII. STANDING COMMITTEES

B. Finance, Audit and Facilities Committee

Safe Campus Project – Select Architect and Delegate Authority to Award a Design Contract (continued p. 2)

EHS Design, Inc. is an architectural and interior design firm established in Seattle in 1977. The firm has extensive experience in facilities infrastructure planning, and implementation by proto-typical design solutions for interior renovation projects. The firm has experience working with the UW since 2008. EHS Design is currently working on communications infrastructure improvement projects for Gowen Hall and the Mechanical Engineering Building.

The existing Seattle campus, Central Fire Alarm Receiving System (McCulloh Loop) was installed in the 1960's. The system's mechanical components are beyond their useful life and no longer cost effective to maintain.

The Safe Campus project will replace the central fire alarm monitoring system to:

- Provide digital communications hardware and software for data logging, fire alarm status; data collection, reporting and analysis; and interactive graphic displays for rapid emergency response.
- Enhance broadcast communication systems and provide "Mass Voice Notification" to 94 buildings.
- Initiate a building wide "Ventilation Shutdown" in select facilities.

Design is expected to be completed by August 2010 with construction beginning in September, and lasting through June of 2011.

A request for board action to establish the project budget is anticipated in April 2010, pending completion of preliminary system planning and design analysis. The budget for the current phase of planning is \$120,000. Funding for this project is \$8 million as allocated by the legislature for the '09-'11 biennium from the UW building account.