Approval of Creativity and Innovation District Living Learning Community 9(c) Debt Financing

FINANCE AND RESOURCE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

July 2, 2020

The Creativity and Innovation District Living Learning Community (Capital Outlay Project Number 18457) has been authorized by the state to be financed pursuant to Article X, Section 9(c) of the Constitution of Virginia for up to $89,620,000 plus amounts needed to fund issuance costs, reserve funds and other financing expenses.

The project will construct an approximately 203,000 gross square foot living learning community between Kent Street and Otey Street on the former site of the University Club which was demolished as part of the project. The interconnected three building residential community will include 596 beds and an academic, social, research, and collaboration space to support the Creativity and Innovation District. Members of the living/learning residence hall will include students with an interest in interdisciplinary creation and entrepreneurship as well as 176 student athletes. The total $105,500,000 project will be funded by $89,620,000 of debt and $15,880,000 of auxiliary revenue. The resolution presented to the Board of Visitors will allow for the debt financing of the full $89,620,000 for the project through the state’s 9(c) pooled bond program. The university has used commercial paper as short-term financing to date and will reimburse itself from the 9(c) bond proceeds.

The proposed resolution requests the issuance of 9(c) bonds through the Treasury Board of the Commonwealth of Virginia on behalf of the university and pledges residential system fees to pay the debt service. The resolution identifies both (1) the Vice President for Finance and (2) the University Treasurer as being authorized to execute and deliver all certificates and instruments and to take all such further action as may be considered necessary or desirable in connection with the sale and issuance of the bonds.
RESOLUTION ON CREATIVITY AND INNOVATION DISTRICT LIVING LEARNING COMMUNITY 9(c) FINANCING

FINANCE AND RESOURCE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE


WHEREAS, pursuant to the Acts, the Treasury Board of the Commonwealth of Virginia (the “Treasury Board”) is authorized, by and with the consent of the Governor, to sell and issue bonds or bond anticipation notes of the Commonwealth of Virginia (the “Commonwealth”) for the purpose of providing funds, together with other available funds, for paying the cost of acquiring, constructing, renovating, enlarging, improving and equipping certain revenue-producing capital projects at certain institutions of higher learning of the Commonwealth and for paying issuance costs, reserve funds and other financing expenses (the “Financing Expenses”), all in accordance with the provisions of Section 9(c) of Article X of the Constitution of Virginia; and

WHEREAS, for Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (the “Institution”), such revenue-producing capital projects include the Creativity and Innovation District Living Learning Community Project (Capital Outlay Project Number 18457) (each individually, a “Project” and, collectively, the “Projects”); and

WHEREAS, the Treasury Board is proposing to sell and issue bonds or bond anticipation notes pursuant to the Acts for such revenue-producing capital projects, in one or more series.
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF VISITORS OF VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE AND STATE UNIVERSITY:

Section 1. The Board of Visitors of the Institution (the “Board”) requests the Treasury Board to sell and issue bonds (the “Bonds”) or bond anticipation notes (“BANs”) in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed $89,620,000 to finance all or a portion of the costs of each Project plus Financing Expenses (for each individual Project, the “Individual Project Bonds” or “Individual Project Notes” and, collectively, the “Individual Project Borrowing” and for all Projects, the “Project Bonds” or “Project Notes” and, collectively, the “Project Borrowings”). The Individual Project Borrowings will be identified by amount by the State Treasurer upon issuance of any Bonds or BANs.

Section 2. With respect to each Project, the Board (a) covenants to fix, revise, charge and collect residential system fees and other rates, fees and charges, for or in connection with the use, occupation and services of such Project and (b) pledges such rates, fees and charges remaining after payment of (i) the expenses of operating such Project and (ii) the expenses related to all other activities funded by the residential fees (“Individual Project Net Revenues”) to the payment of the principal of, premium, if any, and interest on the Individual Project Borrowing relating thereto. The Board further covenants that it will fix, revise, charge and collect such rates, fees and charges in such amounts so that Individual Project Net Revenues will at all times be sufficient to pay, when due, the principal of, premium, if any, and interest on the related Individual Project Borrowing and on any other obligations secured by such Individual Project Net Revenues (such payments collectively the “Required Payments”). Each Individual Project Borrowing shall be secured on a parity with other obligations secured by the Individual Project Net Revenues relating to such Individual Project Borrowing (other than any obligations secured by a prior right in Individual Project Net Revenues). Any Individual Project Net Revenues pledged herein in excess of the Required Payments for an Individual Project Borrowing may be used by the Institution for any other lawful purpose.

Section 3. It is hereby found, determined and declared that, based upon responsible engineering and economic estimates and advice of appropriate officials of the Institution, as shown on the Financial Feasibility Study provided to the Department of the Treasury, with respect to each Project, the anticipated Individual Project Net Revenues pledged herein will be sufficient to pay the Required Payments for such Project so long as the aggregate amount of net debt service on the Individual Project Borrowing for such Project actually payable in any bond year does not exceed the amounts assumed in the Financial Feasibility Study relating thereto.

Section 4. The Board covenants that the Institution will furnish the Treasury Board its general purpose financial statements, within 30 days of their issuance and receipt, audited by a firm of certified public accountants or the Auditor of Public Accounts which shall include a schedule of revenues and expenditures for auxiliary enterprise systems. If Individual Project Net Revenues for any Project are insufficient to pay Required Payments for such Project during such period, the Institution shall provide evidence of a plan to
generate Individual Project Net Revenues for such Project sufficient to make such Required Payments in the future.

Section 5. The Board covenants that so long as any of the Project Notes are outstanding, the Institution will pay to the State Treasurer, not less than 30 days before each interest payment date, an amount estimated by the State Treasurer to be due and payable on such date as interest on the Project Notes. The Board covenants that so long as any of the Project Bonds are outstanding, the Institution will pay to the State Treasurer, not less than 30 days before each interest or principal payment date, the amount certified by the State Treasurer to be due and payable on such date as principal of, premium, if any, and interest on the Project Bonds.

Section 6. The Board covenants that the Institution will pay from time to time its proportionate share of all expenses incurred in connection with the sale and issuance of any series of Bonds that includes Project Bonds or Project Notes and all expenses thereafter incurred in connection with the Bonds, including without limitation the expense of calculating any rebate to the United States of the earnings derived from the investment of gross proceeds of the Bonds, all as certified by the State Treasurer to the Institution.

Section 7. The Board covenants that the Institution will not take or omit to take any action the taking or omission of which will cause the Bonds to be “arbitrage bonds” within the meaning of Section 148 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, including regulations issued pursuant thereto (the “Code”), or otherwise cause interest on the Bonds to be includable in the gross income of the owners thereof for federal income tax purposes under existing laws. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the Institution will pay from time to time its proportional share of any rebate to the United States of the earnings derived from the investment of the gross proceeds of the Bonds.

Section 8. The Board covenants that the Institution will proceed with due diligence to undertake and complete the Projects and that the Institution will spend all of the available proceeds derived from the sale of the Project Borrowings for costs associated with the Projects and appropriated for the Projects by the General Assembly.

Section 9. The Board covenants that the Institution will not permit the proceeds of each Individual Project Borrowing to be used in any manner that would result in (a) 5% or more of such proceeds being used in a trade or business carried on by any person other than a governmental unit, as provided in Section 141(b) of the Code, (b) 5% or more of such proceeds being used with respect to any output facility within the meaning of Section 141(b)(4) of the Code, or (c) 5% or more of such proceeds being used directly or indirectly to make or finance loans to any persons other than a governmental unit, as provided in Section 141(c) of the Code. The Institution need not comply with such covenants if the Institution obtains the written approval of the State Treasurer and an opinion of nationally recognized bond counsel acceptable to the Treasury Board that such covenants need not be complied with to prevent the interest on the Bonds from being includable in the gross income of the owners thereof for federal income tax purposes.
Section 10. The Board covenants that for so long as any of the Bonds are outstanding the Institution will not enter into any operating lease, management contract or similar agreement with any person or entity, other than a state or local governmental unit, for all or any portion of any of the Projects without first obtaining the written approval of the State Treasurer and an opinion of nationally recognized bond counsel acceptable to the Treasury Board that entering into such agreement will not cause the interest on the Bonds to be included in the gross income of the owners thereof for federal income tax purposes.

Section 11. The Board covenants that for so long as any of the Bonds are outstanding, the Institution will not sell or dispose of all or any part of any of the Projects without first obtaining the written approval of the State Treasurer and an opinion of nationally recognized bond counsel acceptable to the Treasury Board that such sale or disposition will not cause interest on the Bonds to be included in the gross income of the owners thereof for federal income tax purposes.

Section 12. The officers of the Institution, defined as the Vice President for Finance and the University Treasurer, are authorized and directed to execute and deliver all certificates and instruments and to take all such further action as may be considered necessary or desirable in connection with the sale and issuance of the Bonds.

Section 13. The Board acknowledges that the Treasury Board will rely on the representations and covenants set forth herein in issuing the Bonds, that such covenants are critical to the security for the Bonds and the exclusion of the interest on the Bonds from the gross income of the owners thereof for federal income tax purposes, that the Board will not repeal, revoke, rescind or amend any of such covenants without first obtaining the written approval of the Treasury Board, and that such covenants will be binding upon the Board so long as any of the Bonds are outstanding.

Section 14. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

RECOMMENDATION:
That the above resolution authorizing the issuance of 9(c) bonds for the Creativity and Innovation District Living Learning Community Capital Outlay Project Number 18457 be approved.

August 25, 2020