VIRGINIA TECH

Vice President for Campus Planning, Infrastructure, and Facilities
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STUDENT ORGANIZATION SUSTAINABILITY INITIATIVE PROPOSAL FORM

Part I- General Information:

Name of Student Organization	Life Sciences I community
Contact/Responsible Person	**Alfred Agbekudzi**
Contact Office Held/Title	**Graduate Student**
Contact Email Address	aagbekudzi@vt.edu
Contact Telephone Number	231-0772

Part II- Project Cost Information

Estimated Cost of this Proposal	$8000	See III.C. below
Estimated Savings -	Intangible/indirect	See III.D. below
Net Cost of this Proposal =	$8000	

Part III- Supporting Information

A. Please describe your sustainability initiative and attach supporting documentation.

This proposal describes plans for a covered bicycle parking structure near the Life Sciences I Facility (LSI). This structure would expand and enhance bicycle parking in a key area of campus, incentivizing the use of this alternative mode of transportation in the developing Life Sciences District.

There is a substantial and growing need for bicycle parking capacity in this area of campus, also due to recent reconfiguration of Steger Hall as part of the Fralin Life Sciences Institute, resulting in increased numbers of full-time occupants as well as students traveling to and from the LSI classroom (49-person capacity) and Steger Hall auditorium (176-person occupancy), the latter evidenced by the attached photos from Oct. 2019 (Appendix A).

The results of a recent **survey** illustrate these pressures, as well as the strong support of the LSI/Steger Hall communities for enhanced bike parking in this area (Appendix B). Of note is that **10.5 current occupants of LSI** and **18.5 occupants of Steger Hall** report riding to/on campus multiple days each week, right at the capacity of the current racks (soon-to-be 16 at LSI and 20 at Steger), and before accounting for students who travel to and from these buildings for classes and undergraduate research activities during a typical semester. The closest covered bike racks are currently at Litton Reaves and Fralin Halls, both of which are a substantial walking distance from LSI/Steger, in addition to already being at overflow capacity during normal semesters. The proposed structure will therefore not only serve the residents of LSI by adding capacity, but by providing much-needed proximal sheltered parking for the substantial number of graduate student, staff, and faculty residents of this facility who use bicycles as a primary means of transportation, and thereby also incentivizing others to follow suit.

Members of the LSI and Steger Hall communities have been working with **Michael Dunn** of the Office of University Planning, **Nick Quint** of the Alternative Transportation Office, and **Melissa Philen** of Campus Planning and Capital Financing, to develop a plan for two new covered bicycle shelters in the Life Science District; **a site plan** developed by Michael Dunn is attached (Appendix C). The shelter proposed in this Green RFP would serve LSI, as well as the Horticulture Garden and the Food Science and Technology Building. A second shelter, proposed in a separate Green RFP, would serve primarily Steger Hall and possibly ICTASII. We expect these structures to be heavily used. The type of shelter being proposed is illustrated in the attached photograph (Appendix D). A **detailed budget** (based in part on a quotation from Duo-Gard Industries) are also attached (Appendices E, F).

B. How does this initiative help to achieve the goals of the Virginia Tech Climate Action Commitment Resolution and Sustainability Plan?

This project directly supports item 11 of the VT Climate Action Commitment to, "**continue to implement programs that encourage the use of alternative transportation methods**." By expanding the capacity of bicycle parking in a dynamic and evolving area of campus AND sending the message that bicycle commuters are valued by providing high quality facilities for storage of bicycles out of the elements, and particularly in increasingly high-visibility areas of campus (see the site plan, Appendix C). To quote one of the survey respondents, "Covered bike parking is important since bikes are not allowed in Steger Hall. Commuters need well-functioning bikes, but having them sit in the rain causes major issues with the bike."

C. What is the cost of your proposal? Please describe in adequate detail the basis for your cost estimate.

The total cost of this project is $34,360; we are requesting $8000 from the Green RFP program, with the balance to be secured from other sources, as outlined in section F.

D. Will your proposal produce cost savings for the University? If so, how much? Please describe in adequate detail the basis for your savings estimate.

The cost savings resulting from this project are indirect, but would include those associated with reduced car traffic on campus and enhanced health and well-being of the Virginia Tech community.

E. Is this funding request for a One-Time need or an Ongoing need (**please check one**)?

x **One-time** ☐ **Ongoing**

F. Is funding available for this request from another source? If yes, describe the funding (source, amount, etc.)

Alternative transportation will provide $2000 towards this project (per **Nick Quint**). Fralin Life Sciences Institute (FLSI) Director, **Matt Hulver**, has committed funds to defray a substantial additional portion of the final cost from the FLSI FY21 budget (note that these funds must be spent before the current fiscal year end; **Kirk Felton** is the FLSI contact).

Attachment # 2

STUDENT ORGANIZATION SUSTAINABILITY INITIATIVE PROPOSAL FORM (Continued)

Part IV- Requestors/Reviewers

Alfred Agbekudzi
Prepared By (Name of Contact for Student Organization) Date 11/20/20

11/30/20
Nick Quint
Reviewed By (Name of Appropriate University Official) Date

Denny Cochrane 11/30/20
Reviewed By (Name of Office of Sustainability Representative) Date

tachment # 3

STUDENT ORGANIZATION SUSTAINABILITY INITIATIVE FUNDING PROPOSAL CONTACT LIST

In the preparation of your Green RFP form, student organizations are encouraged to seek input and guidance from the following list of university employees. These individuals are familiar with the form and the process. They can address the feasibility of your proposal, provide a technical review, and evaluate the cost & potential savings.

Area of Expertise	Name	Title	Email Address
Engineering & Operations, Energy Management	Kim Briele	Director Engineering & Assessment	sbriele@vt.edu
Facilities: Housing & Residence Life	Todd Pignataro	Associate Director of Facilities	ptodd@vt.edu
Facilities: Buildings & Grounds (Small Renovations)	Jim McDaniel	Project Coordinator	jmcdani@vt.edu
Exterior Lighting	Rob Glenn	Director VT Electric Services	RobGlenn@vt.edu
Student Engagement & Campus Life	Spencer Stidd	Associate Director for Events Services	sstidd@vt.edu
Dining Services & Housing (Student Affairs)	Blake Bensman	Sustainability Mgr.	bensman@vt.edu
Alternative Transport (Bus, Bike & Walk/Electric Vehicles)	Nick Quint	Transportation Network Mgr.	nquint@vt.edu
Landscape Architecture	Melissa Philen	Site Planner	mnphilen@vt.edu
Hahn Horticulture Garden	Scott Douglas	Director/Instructor	dsd1@vt.edu
Recycling and Waste Management	Denny Cochrane	Director Office of Sustainability	denniscc@vt.edu
Other Sustainability Topics	Nathan King	Sustainability Mgr. Office of Sustainability	naking@vt.edu