



DATE: May 24, 2023

TO: Members of the Wisconsin State Legislature

RE: University of Wisconsin–Madison College of Engineering Building Project

Members of the Wisconsin State Legislature:

The University of Wisconsin–Madison College of Engineering has a significant impact on the state and its workforce. UW–Madison engineering graduates are vital to the state’s economic development needs, but we need more of them to meet the increasing demand of Wisconsin employers. We also need to increase innovative engineering research to drive innovation in many of the state’s leading industries including manufacturing, agriculture, biotech, construction and many more.

A new, state-of-the-art building will provide the college the space to educate more engineering students and grow its undergraduate population by 1,000. This expansion will allow us to serve more Wisconsin students and employers. The project will also assist in the recruitment and retention of top-tier faculty members, sustaining its excellence in research and education.

As organizations who represent Wisconsin employers, contractors, and economic development entities, we are asking the state to include this critical project in the 2023-25 capital budget. Of the \$347 million total project cost, UW–Madison has committed to raising \$150 million from private gifts and fundraising. They have already secured \$35 million in gifts from donors, contingent on state support of the project.

Please help us make sure that the state’s top engineering program remains competitive for years to come by including their expansion plans in the state budget passed by the Wisconsin State Legislature.

Thank you for your consideration of this critical project. For more information on the proposed project, please visit <https://engineeringthefuture.wisc.edu>. Any questions on the building project can be directed to UW–Madison Director of State Relations Crystal Potts (crystal.potts@wisc.edu; 608-265-4105).