During its Oct. 21 meeting, the Clackamas Community College Board of Education approved the conceptual plan for the second phase of the college's Harmony Campus, located just east of Milwaukie city limits.

With the purchase of 61-year-old former Oregon Institute of Technology building in June, board members decided that the Phase II building would be best located within the old OIT building’s footprint. Demolition of the building is slated for spring/summer 2016 with construction starting summer 2016.

CCC board members believe that placing the new building at the old building's location will increase pedestrian accessibility, improve vehicle access, add parking and have potential for a TriMet stop. Studies have shown that the building is in poor condition, and the costs of retrofitting to meet building codes and program needs are higher than the costs of replacement.

Harmony Phase II building plan features include:

* Three floors, totaling 42,464 square feet
* Eight classrooms
* One large classroom with ability to partition to two classrooms
* Chemistry lab and biology lab with lab preparation space
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- Two computer labs
- A multipurpose space/community event space
- Lobby, informal learning spaces
- Support spaces: restrooms, furniture storage, conference room, faculty workroom, etc.
- Bookstore

Oregon Tech purchased the site in 1992, but consolidated its Metro-area facilities in Wilsonville three years ago. CCC has leased a portion of the facility from Oregon Tech for many years.

After the boards of Oregon Tech and CCC agreed on a purchase price of $4.2 million, the 3.8-acre property officially transferred ownership on July 30.

Total cost of CCC's Harmony Phase II project is estimated at $16 million. Projected occupancy of the new building is projected for fall 2017.

Harmony Phase I was completed in 2008, providing a home for the college's growing Health Sciences programs, general classroom space and a full array of student services.

In November 2014, the voters of the CCC district approved a $90 million capital improvement bond. Within that package was the design and development of the Harmony Phase II building.

In addition to bond proceeds, Clackamas received $8 million in matching capital construction funds from the Oregon Legislature to construct a facility at Harmony to support allied health programs, and work-force and small business development in the district.

CCC and Oregon Tech have dual enrollment and articulation agreements that benefit students and streamline degree attainment. Recently developed reverse transfer agreements also enable students to complete their associate's degree from CCC while simultaneously earning a bachelor's degree at Oregon Tech.

For more information about the bond projects, visit clackamas.edu/bondinformation.
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