

**BOARD OF GOVERNORS  
STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF FLORIDA  
September 25, 2008**

**SUBJECT:** State University System Response to Governor Crist's "Accelerate Florida: Extending Florida's Economic Horizons" Economic Stimulus Plan.

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**PROPOSED BOARD ACTION**

Discuss the State University System Response to Governor Crist's "Accelerate Florida: Extending Florida's Economic Horizons" Economic Stimulus Plan.

**AUTHORITY FOR BOARD OF GOVERNORS ACTION**

Section 7(d), Art. IX, Florida Constitution

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

On August 14, 2008, Governor Crist announced a plan to stimulate Florida's Economy by accelerating over \$28 billion of state capital construction, including almost \$2 billion of university facility construction. As part of this program, business leaders are to provide suggestions for ways that government can remove burdensome regulation and requirements that stifle entrepreneurial spirit and commerce. Accordingly, Board of Governors Chair Sheila McDevitt requested that staff coordinate an effort by the universities to identify opportunities to accelerate university construction projects, as well as determine which existing rules and regulations present the most significant barriers to more rapid completion of projects.

Board staff, working with the University Council for Administration and Financial Affairs, has developed specific policy change recommendations that can provide more rapid deployment of facility appropriations. Many of these ideas were included the 2006 Facilities Task Force Report. These recommendations balance project acceleration and expedition, with accountability and sustainability. They maintain the current commitment to quality facilities which meet the academic needs of students and faculty, and are designed to incorporate modern concepts of sustainability, including maximizing energy efficiency and lowering long-term operating and maintenance costs.

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**Supporting Documentation Included:** Draft Recommendations  
"Accelerate Florida" Press Release

**Facilitators/Presenters:** Mr. Chris Kinsley, Director, Finance and Facilities