



Connecticut State University System

Developing a State of Minds

BR#05-32



RESOLUTION

concerning

THE USE OF PLANT FUNDS  
BY  
CENTRAL CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY  
TO CONSTRUCT  
LANDSCAPE IMPROVEMENTS

May 6, 2005

WHEREAS, A new Energy Center and underground tunnel system have recently been completed at Central Connecticut State University, and

WHEREAS, At the request of the university, a new campus landscape plaza was constructed between Memorial Hall and the Student Center as part of the project, and

WHEREAS, The new central plaza includes seating, plantings, sculpture and a pond, and

WHEREAS, The university agreed that if the Energy Center and tunnel system project budget presented a shortfall, the university would fund the landscape plaza development from agency resources, and

WHEREAS, The budget for the Energy Center/Tunnels project has been exhausted, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That Central Connecticut State University is authorized to use up to \$411,000 in plant funds to reimburse the Department of Public Works to pay for the already constructed landscape plaza at the juncture of the Student Center and Memorial Hall.

A Certified True Copy:

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William J. Cibes, Jr.  
Chancellor

**ITEM**

The use of plant funds by Central Connecticut State University to pay for the already constructed landscape improvements.

**BACKGROUND**

In 1998, the University initiated the development of a new Energy Center and underground tunnel project through the Department of Public Works. The project called for the development of a new Energy Center with centralized cooling and heating and the upgrade of electrical service for the main campus. The project included the installation of a new underground tunnel system along the Wells Street corridor that bisected the university campus from east to west. The project was put out for public bidding in spring 2001, construction commenced in the late fall of 2001 and substantial completion occurred in late September 2004.

**ANALYSIS**

The original project scope for the landscape portion of the project included new pathways and lighting to remove the remnants of the former Wells Street corridor. Given the importance of the site and its proximity to the Student Center and Memorial Hall, the university directed the contractor to develop a central plaza with seating, plantings, sculpture and a water feature while the project was under construction.

The Department of Public Works (DPW) agreed to include the landscape plaza as part of the project, with the understanding that if a shortfall occurred in project funding, Central would reimburse DPW for costs associated with the plaza. We have been notified by DPW of a shortfall in project funding and therefore, Central is requesting that plant funds designated for the signage improvements on campus be diverted to reimburse the Energy Center project.

**CHANCELLOR'S RECOMMENDATION**

Approve the utilization of up to \$411,000 of plant funds by Central Connecticut State University to reimburse the Department of Public Works to pay for the already constructed landscape plaza between Memorial Hall and the Student Center.