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**BOND:**  
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Participants the opportunity to use all of the station's pivots and equipment on site at the extension center.

"We won't have to pay for equipment costs," she said. "We are only paying construction costs, which is about \$3.2 million. That is a pretty big deal."

HAREC Director Phil Hamm said he couldn't

be more excited about the possibilities that the facility would entail if the bond is passed by voters. He said the opportunity would provide HAREC staff with student help on projects at no cost to them, while they are able to aid in the training and preparation of the next generation of precision irrigated agriculture specialists.

"It will train students to be able to move out into one of these irrigated

farms in our region, not only just in Hermiston, but in the Columbia Basin, to be trained in things that growers need done," he said.

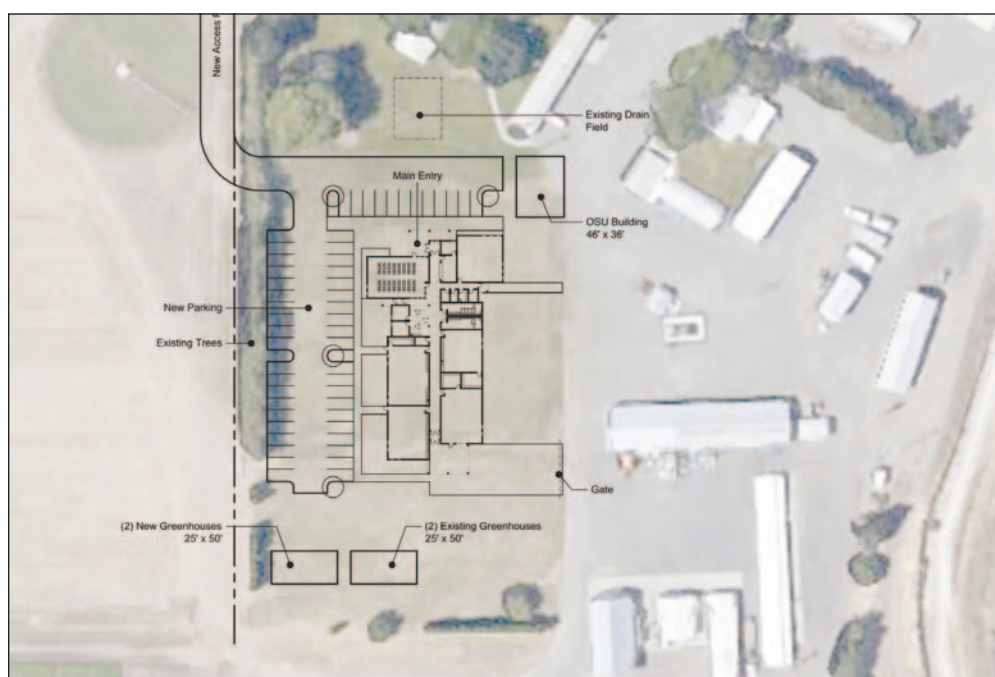
Hamm said he is also excited about the fact the facility will not only welcome local students to the center, but also interested individuals from all over the world.

"Precision irrigated systems are being developed in other places, as well, but there is no place for students to be trained," he said. "There isn't anything negative to this whole project. It is saving taxpayers' dollars and providing kids the opportunity to learn first hand about precision irrigated agriculture and farming."

Hamm said students will have access to an array of equipment at HAREC, ranging from center pivots that are controlled wirelessly, to GPS equipment that can pinpoint a location to within a few inches.

Hamm said the extension center will also reap benefits from the facility. He said, with a large conference room included in the design, staff will be able to utilize the space, which will accommodate more than 60 people. The current extension center conference room, he said, holds about 30 people. He said they will also benefit from having the students do small tasks around the station they otherwise would need to pay staff to complete.

"(Students) can work through the details. They can help us with some of the maintenance and installation of some of the GPS equipment that we don't have, some of the equipment that we do have," he said. "It saves taxpayers dollars from what BMCC would spend for equipment, while also allowing us to get



These are two-dimensional drawings of what the precision irrigation ag center could look like.

**SPECIFICS OF BOND PROJECTS**

**Hermiston Precision Irrigated Agriculture**

Cost of whole project: \$3,229,470

**Pendleton agriculture center**

A renovation of the agriculture center on the Pendleton campus would allow for an expansion of BMCC's agriculture program, allowing for a veteran assistance program and additional opportunities in soil, horticulture and animal sciences. Cost of renovation: \$2,250,000  
Cost of whole project: 4,782,360

**Boardman workforce training and early learning center**

A partnership with the Port of Morrow would place a workforce development and early learning center behind the SAGE Center if the bond is approved. The facility would house programs in advanced manufacturing — much needed training for local jobs at the Port of Morrow and in surrounding communities, and early learning in partnership with InterMountain ESD and Head Start. The program would also provide students in BMCC's early childhood programs a chance to learn and gain experience in the field. Cost of construction: \$3,582,360  
Cost of whole project: \$4,782,360

**Other projects**

Also included in the bond is money that would protect the community's investment in BMCC facilities, which are 53 years old. A front entry renovation in Milton-Freewater would improve safety at the facility, while updated technology infrastructure and classroom technology at the Pendleton Campus and Milton-Freewater, Hermiston and Boardman centers would improve students' learning environments and potential for distance learning opportunities. Improved security and surveillance, including lighting, ADA access and surveillance cameras, would also take place at all BMCC locations in Umatilla and Morrow counties. The Pendleton campus would also receive a secondary access road to the facility for use in emergency situations. The HVAC and electrical systems would also be upgraded if the bond was to be approved.

more done because we have more hands working with precision irrigation equipment."

Hamm said he doesn't see any negative aspects to passing the bond.

"This approval of having this facility on this experiment station comes clear from the top — the president of the university, Ed Ray, to Becky Warner, who is vice provost, to Cam (Preus), president of BMCC."

Hamm said once the bond passes, he and Preus

will determine exactly how the program will operate, from the structure of the classes to the types of labs and class sizes.

"I was really pleased when the idea came up that Cam jumped on it," he said. "She saw the instructional opportunities and how it could benefit students at BMCC and growers in this area and how it is a concept that could actually save (money)."

The two other main projects that the bond will fund is the renovation of

an agriculture center in Pendleton and a workforce training and early learning center in Boardman. Like the Hermiston facility, no land will need to be purchased. The Port of Morrow has agreed to donate up to four acres of land for the Boardman project.

For more information about the proposed BMCC bond, visit [www.bluecc.edu/about-bmcc/bond-measure](http://www.bluecc.edu/about-bmcc/bond-measure). Questions and concerns may also be emailed to [bondinfo@bluecc.edu](mailto:bondinfo@bluecc.edu).

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