Stimulus dollars still at work on RCC deferred maintenance projects

Work on nearly $5.25 million in stimulus-funded projects continues at Rogue Community College.

Projects are under way on the Redwood Campus near Grants Pass, at the Illinois Valley Learning Center in Kerby, and at the Riverside and Table Rock campuses in Jackson County. It’s all part of about 130 deferred maintenance jobs funded by state stimulus dollars. All told, there were 11 major projects and about 70 smaller projects targeted for the deferred maintenance funding. Nearly 97 percent of the contractors hired are from Josephine or Jackson counties.

The Redwood Campus, which was originally constructed in the early 1960s as a Job Corps facility, is getting the lion’s share of upgrades including new windows, carpeting, heating/air conditioner units, paving, decking, sidewalks, roofs, and lighting. The Rogue Building, a 180-seat theater/lecture hall on the Redwood Campus, received a major facelift and new seating.

Contractors are gearing up to upgrade the communication network wiring, while repairs to plumbing, electrical, windows and other upgrades are under way at the Illinois Valley Learning Center. While students are on spring break, RCC plans to install carpet in several learning sites, including computer labs in Coates Hall on the Redwood Campus. An engineering contract has been awarded for grading and paving gravel parking areas on the east side of Redwood Campus, and several landscape projects also are planned during spring break.

At RCC’s Historic City Hall in downtown Grants Pass, a permanent canopy will be installed on the Esther Bristol Education Center, the building wing that houses art classes. The canopy will replace two temporary covers that shelter the ceramics kiln area. Replacement windows for the center’s south entry will be installed by the end of spring term.

At the Illinois Valley Learning Center, materials are arriving for construction of a new façade, with completion targeted during spring break. Construction will include a covered entry, new siding, insulation and thermal windows. Other projects for the building are in the planning and design phase.

In Jackson County, new carpeting was installed in several buildings on the Riverside Campus in downtown Medford, and more will be replaced by spring term in classrooms, offices and computer labs in A, B and G buildings. Roofs and heating/air units also were replaced on A and B buildings, which had former lives as retail stores before being remodeled as college facilities.

At the Table Rock Campus in White City, the college plans to replace carpeting and vinyl on the second floor by the end of spring term, and several sections of the former electronics plant’s roof have been repaired or replaced.

###