


June 3, 2011

**MEMORANDUM**

**To:** Trustee Finance Committee

**From:** Fred L. Poston 

**Subject:** **Authorization to Plan**  
MSU Union - Renovations to First Floor Lobby

**RECOMMENDATION**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Trustee Finance Committee recommends that the Board of Trustees authorize the Administration to plan for the project entitled MSU Union - Renovations to First Floor Lobby.

**BACKGROUND**

**Program Need:**

The MSU Union, a campus landmark, is prominently located along Grand River Avenue, adjacent to a main entrance of Michigan State University. The Union was built in 1925 as a memorial to honor alumni who served in World War I. Additions to the building were completed in 1936, 1949, 1980, and 1997, resulting in a current total area of 186,000 square feet. While there have been numerous programmatic changes over the years, the core "college union" philosophy of providing a hub for student activity, has been maintained. Residential and Hospitality Services' Strategic Plan envisions continued vitality for the Union, but the building does not currently meet the needs of the primary audience of students and visitors.

**General Description of the Project:**

The planning of this project is anticipated to focus on first floor lobby and public spaces that currently entertain the highest user traffic. It is anticipated to include renovation of the first floor concourse, main lounge, Union Central Store, post office, and One Union Square Food Court.

The building is located on Abbot Road and West Circle Drive in the North Academic District. The location of this project is consistent with the Campus Master Plan and Planning Principles.



OFFICE OF THE  
VICE PRESIDENT FOR  
FINANCE AND  
OPERATIONS

Fred L. Poston  
Vice President and  
Treasurer

Michigan State University  
412 Administration Building  
East Lansing, Michigan  
48824-1046

Phone 517.355.5014  
Fax 517.353.6772  
www.vpfo.msu.edu

Based on an assessment of the factors stated in the Project Planning and Approval process concerning Project Labor Agreements (PLA), the Vice President for Finance and Operations and Treasurer has determined that a PLA would not be required for this project.

**Communication Plan:**

During the planning phase, the campus community will be given opportunities to provide feedback on the project as it is being designed. Input from the project planning team will be solicited during the design phase.

**Preliminary Project Cost Information:**

Based on cost experience for similar projects and current pricing information, the preliminary project cost estimate is \$2,250,000. This estimate may change as planning progresses and the project scope is further defined.

The source of funds for the project is expected to be a combination of current funds and tax-exempt financing with debt repayment from the Auxiliary Fund - Residential and Hospitality Services.

cc: D. Brower, R. Flinn, M. Haas, J. Kacos, G. Klein, B. Kranz, K. Lindahl,  
M. McCabe, J. Mumma, R. Nestle, D. Quinney, J. Bonk, J. Emery, V. Gore,  
L. Adams

Authorization to Plan  
MSU Union – Renovations to First Floor Lobby

