

MICHIGAN STATE
UNIVERSITY

August 31, 2011

MEMORANDUM

To: Trustee Finance Committee
From: Fred L. Poston 
Subject: **Authorization to Plan**
McDonel Hall - River Trail Neighborhood Engagement Center

RECOMMENDATION

BE IT RESOLVED that the Trustee Finance Committee recommends that the Board of Trustees authorize the Administration to plan for the project entitled McDonel Hall – River Trail Neighborhood Engagement Center.

BACKGROUND

Program Need:

Residential and Hospitality Services is leading the process to transform clusters of residence halls into neighborhoods, where students in those halls discover and create their own communities in a setting that provides innovative and integrated support services located right where they live and learn. Engagement centers are a key component to this concept. This engagement center will provide an environment in which the Four Pillars of the neighborhood come together to enhance the living learning experience. The Four Pillars of a neighborhood include Residential Support, Health and Wellness, Academic Success, and Intercultural Engagement. There is a need for an engagement center on north campus to service the River Trail neighborhood.

General Description of the Project:

The planning of this project is anticipated to include renovation of the first floor and possibly the garden level in McDonel Hall. This work will include various semi-private and private group meeting/study spaces, neighborhood support offices, and program space.

McDonel Hall is located on Shaw Lane across from the IM East in the residential 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 \$2,000,000. This estimate may change as planning progresses and the project scope is further defined.

The source of funds for this project is expected to be a combination of the Auxiliary Fund - Residential and Hospitality Services and the General Fund.

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

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Authorization to Plan McDonel Hall – River Trail Neighborhood Engagement Center

McDonel Hall

