

**MICHIGAN STATE**  
**UNIVERSITY**

November 30, 2011

**MEMORANDUM**

**To:** Trustee Finance Committee

**From:** Fred L. Poston 

**Subject:** **Authorization to Plan**  
Steam Distribution - Replace Steam Tunnel from Library to IM Circle

**RECOMMENDATION**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Trustee Finance Committee recommends that the Board of Trustees authorize the Administration to plan for the project entitled Steam Distribution - Replace Steam Tunnel from Library to IM Circle.

**BACKGROUND**

**Program Need:**

The north campus arch-style steam tunnels are 87 to 102 years old and have significantly deteriorated. The structural anchors, pipe supports, and steam equipment within these tunnels are severely deteriorated and require replacement or repair for safe and reliable operation of the steam distribution system. The water main in this area is also at the end of its useful life and should be increased in size for effective fire-fighting capability and reliability. Communication lines are in the same tunnels as steam and condensate return lines, which is not optimal. The existing electrical duct bank is currently full and requires additional ducts to be installed for future electrical improvements to this region of campus.

**General Description of the Project:**

This project is anticipated to be the second phase of a four-phase program to replace the deteriorating north campus arch steam tunnels, and is anticipated to include replacing the existing deteriorated arch steam tunnel from IM Circle to vault 92, north of the Library, along with repair and replacement of steam piping, supports, and equipment within some existing steam tunnels. The project is also anticipated to include replacing the deteriorated cast-iron water main with a larger pipe to increase fire-flow capacity and reliability. Additional communication and electrical duct will be installed. West Circle Drive will be reconstructed with two traffic lanes and a bike lane to be consistent with current MSU transportation standards, including pedestrian, bicycle, and vehicular traffic flow and safety. On street parking removal will be investigated.



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The proposed project is located along Beal Street and West Circle Drive, between the Library and IM Circle in the North Academic District. The location of this project is consistent with the Campus Master Plan and Planning Principles.

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 \$13,450,000. This estimate may change as planning progresses and the project scope is further defined.

This is a Just-In-Time project and the source of funds for the project is expected to be tax-exempt financing with debt repayment from the general fund.

cc: R. Flinn, M. Haas, J. Kacos, G. Klein, B. Kranz, B. Latta, K. Lindahl, M. McCabe  
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# Authorization to Plan Steam Distribution – Replace Steam Tunnel from Library to IM Circle

