



MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Executive Action Summary

Budget & Finance-Attachment 1

Committee Name: Budget & Finance

Date: August 15, 2025

Agenda Item: MATERIAL CHANGE TO THE LANDSCAPE – February 13th Permanent
Memorial

APPROVED
AUGUST 15, 2025
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

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Information

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Review

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Action

Resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of Michigan State University hereby authorizes the Administration to approve the material change to the landscape for the project titled “February 13th Permanent Memorial.”

Recommendation:

The Trustee Committee on Budget & Finance recommends that the Board of Trustees authorize the Administration to approve the material change to the landscape for the construction of a permanent memorial to commemorate those we lost, those who were injured, and all those impacted by the tragedy that occurred on the East Lansing campus on February 13, 2023.

Prior Action by BOT: Not applicable.

Responsible Officers:

Daniel Bollman, Vice President for Strategic Infrastructure Planning and
Facilities

Judith Stoddart, Vice Provost for University Arts and Collections

Summary: This project will construct a memorial fountain, benches, and surrounding plantings replacing the existing fountain at Old Horticulture Gardens. This memorial will honor those affected and will stand as a lasting tribute to the loss and resilience of the Spartan community.

Background Information:

On February 13, 2023, the MSU community endured a tragic act of violence at two campus locations: Berkey Hall and the MSU Union. Three students lost their lives, and five more were critically injured. In October 2023, MSU convened a permanent memorial committee to guide the creation of a lasting on-campus memorial through a transparent and inclusive process. The committee's efforts included:

- A public survey and focus groups held from February-April 2024 to define the memorial's purpose, design, and location.
- A public request for proposals (RFP) for memorial designs was issued in July 2024.
- Selection of finalists by the memorial committee and members of the Public Art on Campus Committee in September 2024.
- Collection of community feedback on the three finalist designs from February-March 2025.
- Final selection of a winning memorial design in June 2025.

The chosen design will incorporate elements such as water, white marble, split-faced black granite, and seasonal plantings to honor the loss experienced by the Spartan Community.

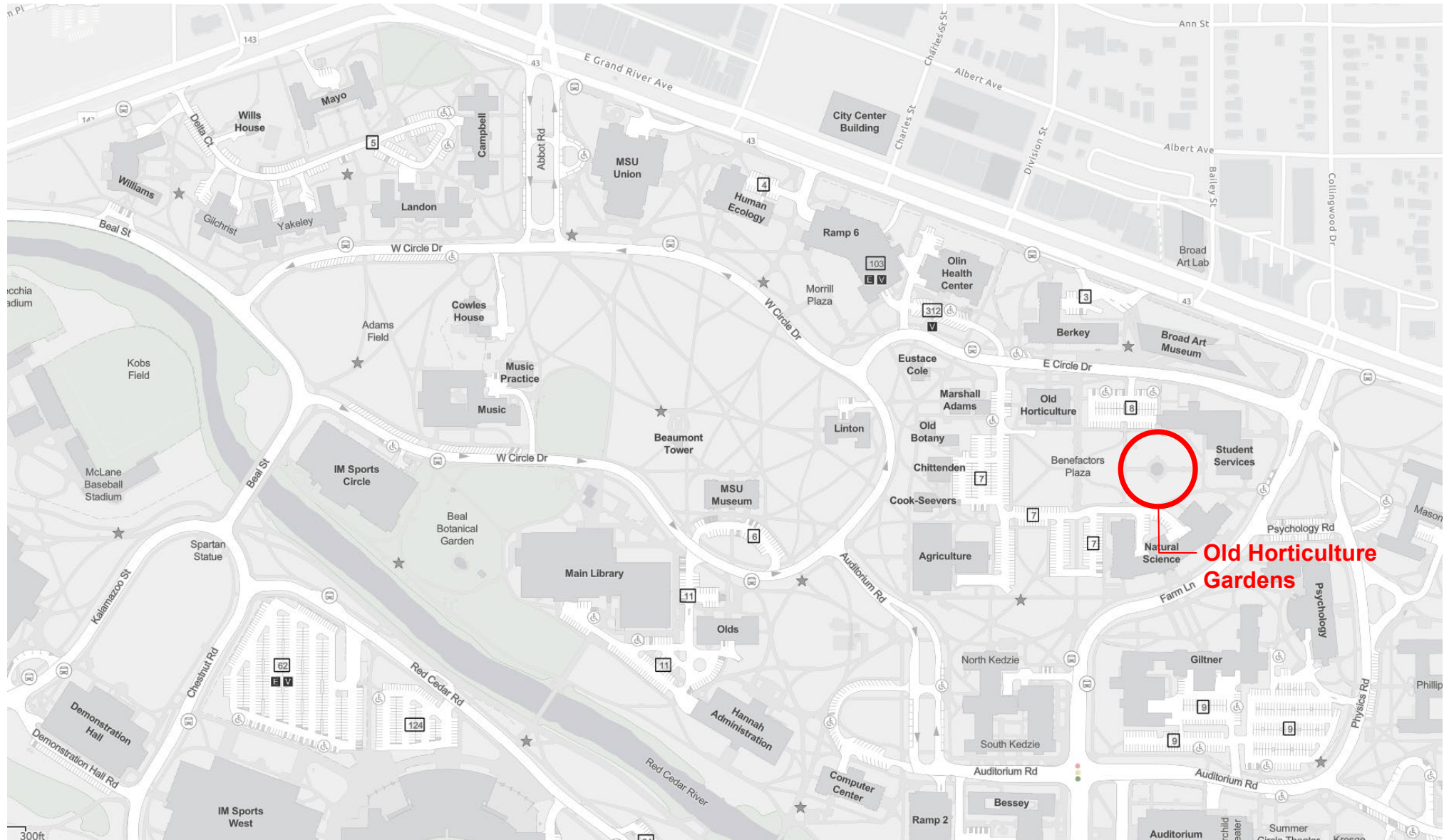
Source of Funds:

Construction costs are estimated at \$3,200,000, with \$300,000 provided by the Spartan Strong fund and the remaining provided from capital reserves.

Resource Impact:

The memorial area will need to be maintained at Landscape Services' highest level of service, also known as the elite level, like the Sparty statue. Doing so will require additional Landscape Services maintenance costs. IPF's annual operating and utility costs will total \$22,500 for maintenance of the fountain and surrounding landscape. Costs include fountain water testing and sanitation per code requirements, heated pavement, mechanical maintenance, and overall landscaping and hardscape maintenance. The permanent memorial will serve as a lasting place of reflection to memorialize, honor and remember those we lost and those affected by the February 13, 2023, tragedy.

February 13th Permanent Memorial



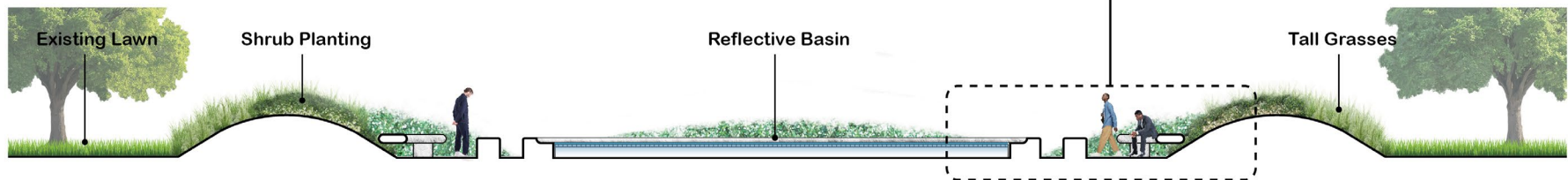
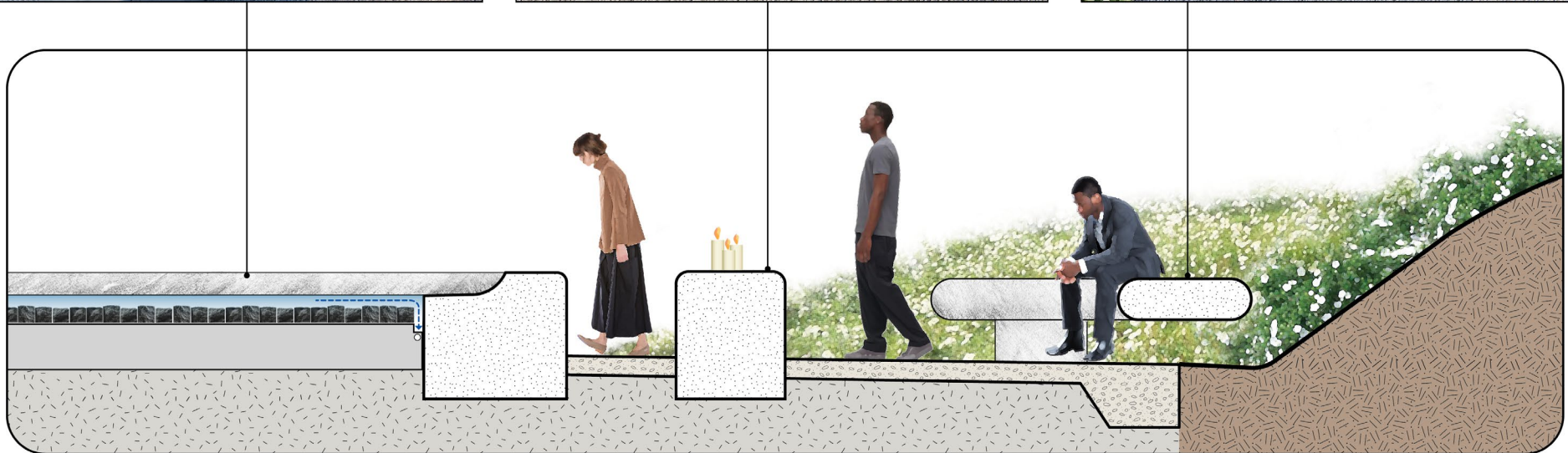
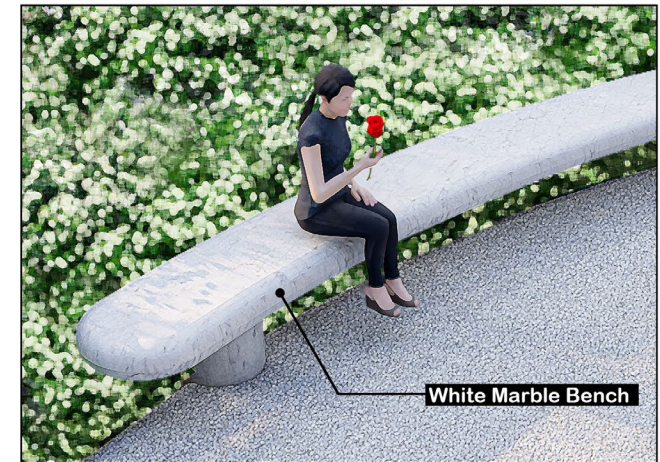
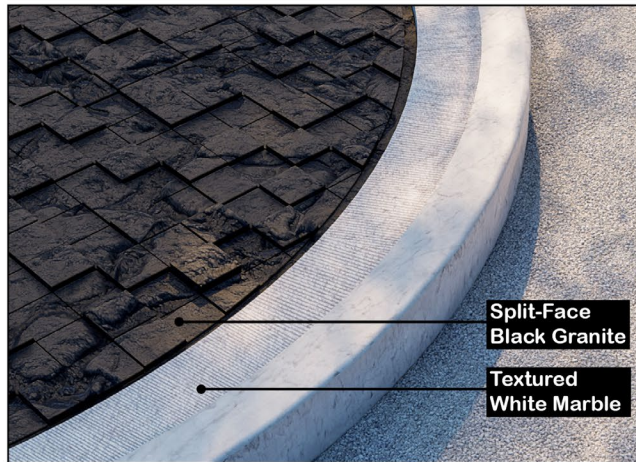
Existing Conditions











Planting Palette

SPRING

SUMMER

