



MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Executive Action Summary

Budget and Finance - Attachment 2

APPROVED
SEPTEMBER 11, 2026
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

Committee Name Budget & Finance

Date September 11, 2026

Agenda Item: PROCEED: Packaging Building – Phase 2.0

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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 proceed with the project titled Packaging Building - Phase 2.0 with a project budget of \$42,500,000.

Recommendation:

The Trustee Committee on Budget & Finance recommends that the Board of Trustees authorize the Administration to proceed with a building addition and renovations to selected areas of the Packaging building.

Prior Action by BOT:

The Board of Trustees authorized planning for this project, formerly known as Packaging Addition 3, on February 2, 2024.

Responsible Officers:

Kenneth J. McFarlane, Associate Vice President for Strategic Infrastructure Planning and Facilities

Barbara Kranz, Assistant Provost and Executive Director, Institutional Space Planning and Management

Summary:

The Packaging building is located at 448 Wilson Road in the south academic district. The new addition and renovations will allow the School of Packaging to increase capacity and quality of space for research, appropriate for the top-ranked program and supportive of developments in technologies and pedagogies in research, teaching and learning. The project will include lab space critical for meeting the demand for industry collaboration, growing grant-funded research and capturing previously unattainable competitive grants in medical, food and fiber-based packaging. The addition will provide offices for faculty and

graduate students, flexible use-spaces, specialized laboratories, and flexible technology enabled-learning spaces. Approximately sixteen thousand square feet of the facility will be constructed as white-box space to accommodate future research and research support functions. This flexible space positions the building to support the long-term growth and evolving needs of the School of Packaging. The white-box areas are intended to be fit out in phases as future needs are identified and philanthropic funding becomes available. The fit-out of white-box spaces may be incorporated into the current project through budget adjustment during construction or may be undertaken as a separate future project, depending on the timing of programmatic and faculty needs and availability of funds.

Background Information:

The Packaging building, home to MSU's top-ranked School of Packaging, was originally constructed in 1964, with additions in 1987 and 2023. MSU's School of Packaging is the first and the largest of its kind in the nation, offering the most comprehensive packaging curricula in higher education, with an emphasis on sustainability research. The program produces approximately 40 percent of the packaging engineers entering the workforce and offers the only packaging PhD program in the United States. MSU is also the only U.S. packaging program making significant, sustained investments in faculty and facilities in response to strong donor interest and needs of the trillion-dollar global packaging industry.

Source of Funds:

The project budget is \$42,500,000, including \$17,000,000 in pledged donor gifts and \$25,500,000 funded through long-term debt via MSU's Century Bond. Debt service will be paid by the School of Packaging and College of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

Resource Impact:

Additional space provided by the addition and renovation will enable the School of Packaging to grow faculty and graduate student populations, grow grant funded research and build new research teams to advance sustainability industry-wide, and expanding corporate partner engagement.

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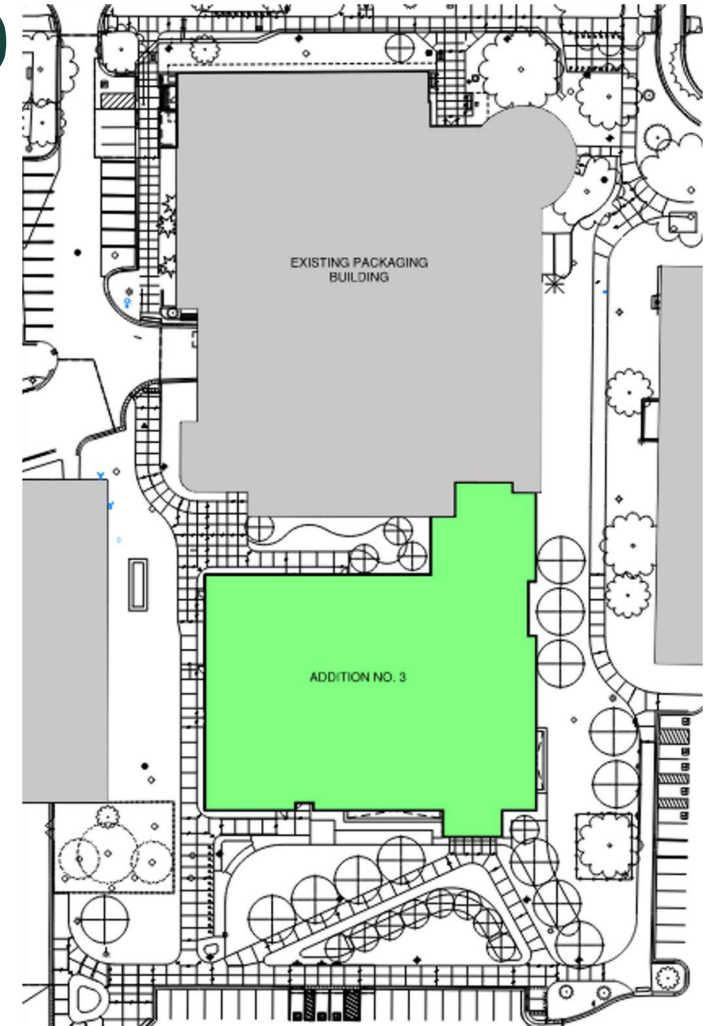
Packaging Building Phase 2.0



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Packaging Building Phase 2.0



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