

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN  
REGENTS COMMUNICATION

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Underground Tunnel and Utility Replacement and Relocations

Action

Requested: Approval to Proceed with Project

Background:

The 80 year old steam tunnel located just south of the Central Heating Plant serves 60 percent of the Central Campus buildings. The tunnel is at full capacity and has been experiencing inefficiencies. Future load needs required by improvements and changes to the Central Campus buildings cannot be supported with the existing piping, and the size of the tunnel cannot accept new or larger piping. We recommend the tunnel be replaced.

A plan has been developed to replace and relocate the portion of this tunnel that is between the Central Power Plant and the Dental School. This larger tunnel will allow increased capacity to the Dental School and to the remainder of the existing tunnel line that serves other Central Campus buildings. This will adequately supply present needs and future growth and provide an efficient distribution system. The tunnel will be relocated to allow maximum future development of the property south of the Central Heating Plant. In addition, other utilities in the proximity of this tunnel will be improved including the water, sewer and gas piping and the electrical duct bank. More specifically, the project will replace approximately 870 linear feet (lf) of tunnel, 600 lf of storm water piping, 840 lf of electrical duct bank, 600 lf of sanitary line and 1400 lf of water piping.

The project will be designed by SmithGroup Incorporated with engineering from Cummins & Barnard Incorporated. Construction would begin in Spring 2000. The estimated cost for this project is \$11,000,000, with funding from the Utility Department Central Power Plant Maintenance and Equipment Reserves and from other central funds.

We recommend the Regents approve the project as described.

Respectfully submitted,



Robert Kasdin  
Executive Vice President

February 2000

APPROVED BY THE REGENTS ON

FEB 17 2000