Subject: University of Michigan Hospitals and Health Centers (UMHHC)  
East Medical Center Drive Road-Widening Project

Action Requested: Approval to Proceed with Project

Background:

East Medical Center Drive is congested at peak times due to high traffic volumes that hamper access to the Hospitals and Health Centers. The current three-lane roadway configuration does not allow for sufficient turn lanes and the close driveway spacing further impacts traffic flow. As a result, access to parking structures is restricted, creating inconvenience for patients and staff and impeding emergency vehicles.

In addition, the bridge on East Medical Center Drive near Fuller Road is particularly congested at peak rush hour times in the morning and in the afternoon. This causes delays in multiple directions and further impedes traffic on this primary access route to the Medical Center.

Two improvements are proposed to ease traffic flow and provide better access to the patient care facilities. One lane will be added to widen East Medical Center Drive to four lanes from the railroad bridge south to the intersection at East Hospital Drive. In addition, one lane will be added to widen the railroad bridge to 5 lanes. This proposal is consistent with recommendations as outlined in the University of Michigan Medical Center Campus Transportation and Traffic Study—Addendum, dated March 2000.

The total project cost is estimated at $3,200,000. Design and construction is anticipated to be completed by Fall of 2003. Funding will be provided from the Hospitals and Health Centers’ capital fund.

We recommend that the Regents approve the University of Michigan Hospitals and Health Centers’ East Medical Center Drive Road-Widening Project as described and authorize issuing the project for bids and awarding a construction contract providing that the bids are within the approved budget.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Kasdin  
Executive Vice President  
and Chief Financial Officer

Gilbert S. Omenn  
Executive Vice President  
for Medical Affairs

December 2001
Attachment

APPROVED BY THE REGENTS ON DEC 13 2001