ACTION REQUEST

Subject: University of Michigan Hospitals and Health Centers (UMHHC) Taubman Health Center Computer Room Cooling Project

Action Requested: Approval to Proceed with Project

Background:

The central mainframe computer facility for UMHHC is located on the B1 level of the Taubman Health Center. The original computer equipment housed in the room consisted of large units that utilize chilled water to cool the machines. The rooms are cooled through floor-mounted units that supply air through a raised floor system, including perforated tiles. Over time in response to UMHHC computing demands, the mainframe equipment has been replaced with multiple air-cooled computer server units. This increase in servers has led to increased cabling under the floor surface, compromising the floor-mounted cooling units’ ability to distribute air as designed. The room is experiencing air temperature in excess of 72 degrees (Fahrenheit), the set point the equipment can tolerate without leading to equipment failure and potential loss of computer functions.

This project will include installation of new ceiling-mounted air conditioning units and ductwork that will be connected to the existing chilled water system and will distribute cold air throughout the computer room. The existing floor-mounted cooling units will be removed, permitting an increase in floor capacity for new computer equipment.

The total project is estimated to cost $1,000,000. Funding will be provided from the Hospitals and Health Centers capital fund. The project is expected to be complete in summer of 2002.

We recommend that the Regents approve the University of Michigan Hospitals and Health Centers Taubman Health Center Computer Room Cooling Project as described, and authorize issuing the project for bids and awarding construction contracts providing that 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

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