

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
REGENTS COMMUNICATION

ACTION REQUEST

Approved by the Regents
January 17, 2008

Subject: Central Campus Area 2008 Utility Tunnel Replacements

Action

Requested: Approval to Proceed with Project


Background:

Many Central Campus buildings utilize the Central Power Plant and a network of tunnels for the distribution of utilities. Over time, these tunnels and piping systems deteriorate, especially the brick tunnels that are more than 70 years old. In 2006, a four-year master plan was developed that prioritizes sections of brick tunnels that need to be replaced before 2010. In 2006 and 2007, we initiated four projects for our highest priority needs. Future projects in the plan will be brought forward for approval based on priority and in coordination with other Central Campus projects to minimize disruption. This project will replace approximately 320 feet of tunnels in two sections near the Diag. The project includes maintaining operation of the steam, condensate, and water lines until the new tunnel sections are constructed and associated piping is in place, and replacing any sidewalks and landscaping that will be disturbed by the project. Although there will be a temporary loss of some adjacent parking spaces during construction, there will be no permanent impact on parking from this project.

The estimated cost of the project is \$6,100,000. Funding will be provided from Utility resources. The construction cash flow may be provided, all or in part, by increasing the commercial paper issuance under the commercial paper program, secured by a pledge of General Revenues, and authorized by the Regents. The engineering firm of Fishbeck, Thomson, Carr and Huber, Inc. will design the project. Construction is scheduled to be completed in Winter 2009.

We recommend that the Regents approve the Central Campus Area 2008 Utility Tunnel Replacements project as described, and authorize issuing the project for bids and awarding construction contracts providing that bids are within the approved budget.

Respectfully submitted,



Timothy P. Slotow
Executive Vice President and
Chief Financial Officer

January 2008