

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: The University of Michigan
Walgreen Drama Center

Action
Requested: Approval of Project and Site

Background:

The University of Michigan has received a generous gift worth \$5 million from alumnus Charles Walgreen. This gift, combined with a previous \$5 million gift received from Mr. Walgreen, will support construction of a proposed new drama center. The new center will house the 600 seat Arthur Miller Theatre, several smaller student repertory theaters similar to those currently housed in Frieze, as well as some support and instructional space. The Center will create a venue for theater performances for mid-sized audiences, and will enhance the performing arts corridor that includes Hill Auditorium, Rackham Auditorium, the Mendelssohn Theatre, and the Power Center.

Mr. Walgreen and his family are long-time supporters of the University of Michigan. Generous contributions by the family have included three professorships in the College of Pharmacy; College of Literature, Arts and Sciences; and the School of Education. Additional gifts have supported endowed scholarships, facilities and programs in Pharmacy and Music.

Mr. Walgreen has three degrees from the University of Michigan. He received a degree from the College of Pharmacy in 1938, an honorary masters of science in 1951, and an honorary doctorate of humane letters in 1992.

Although we are very early in the development of a program for the Center, we believe the cost will be approximately \$18 million. We are in the process of selecting an architect to recommend for approval at a future meeting. The project will be accomplished in approximately three years following the appointment of an architect and the creation of a formal program. The proposed location for the Drama Center is adjacent to the Power Center, and is shown on the attached site map. Other gifts are being sought to pay for the remaining cost of the facility.

We recommend the Regents approve the Walgreen Drama Center Project and its site as described above. Once the program and budget are more fully developed, we anticipate returning to the Board with an Action Request to name the building for Mr. Walgreen.

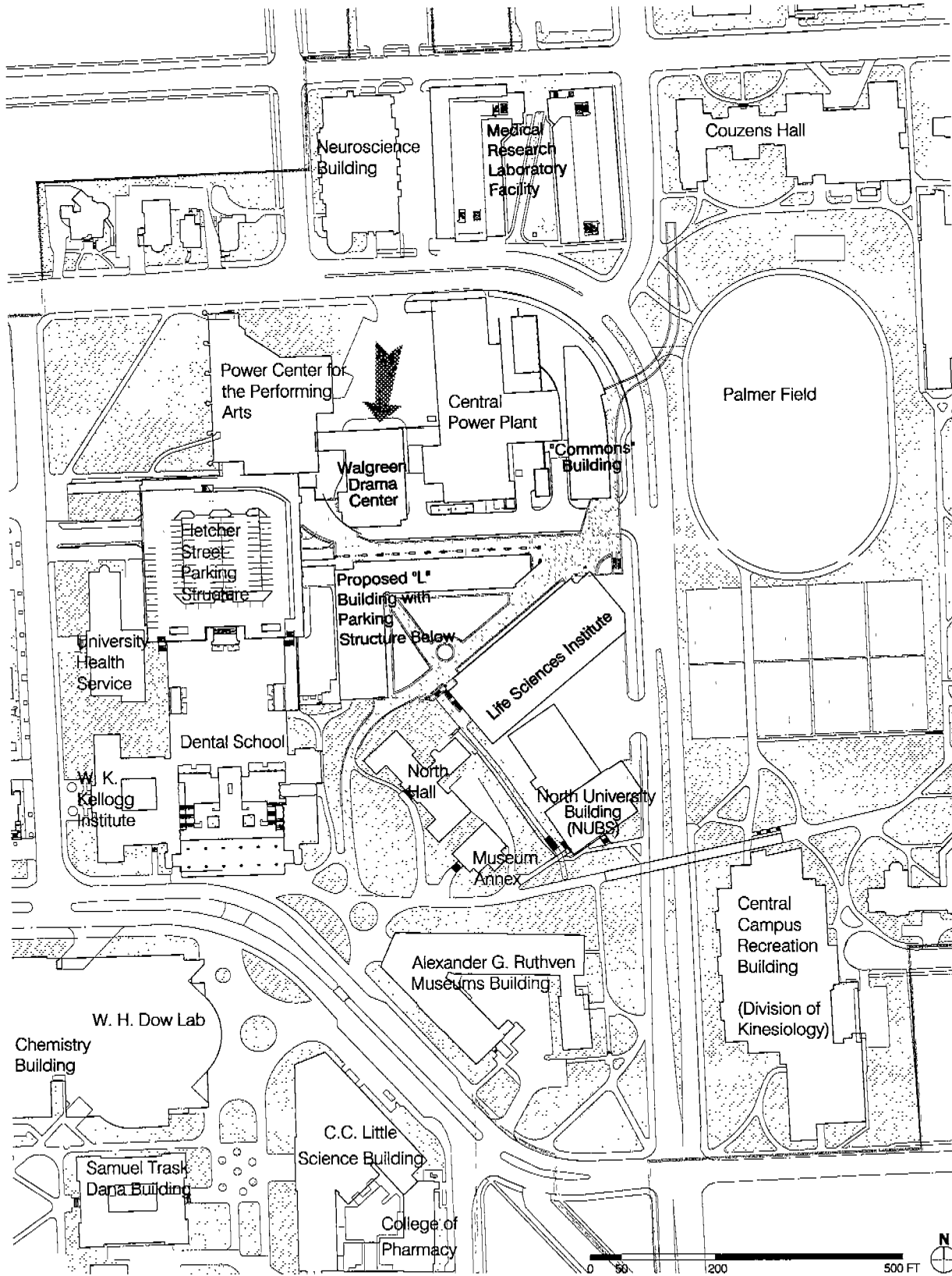
Respectfully submitted,



Robert Kasdin
Executive Vice President

May 2000
attachment

APPROVED BY THE REGENTS ON
MAY 18 2000








**PALMER DRIVE PROJECT
SITE PLAN**

Palmer Drive Project, U of M

Base Map Source: UM Facilities Planning & Design
Information Sources: UM Facilities Planning & Design
May 1, 2000 - Progress

SmithGroup/VSBA

KEY

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|---|-----------------------|---|----------------------|
|  | Proposed Buildings |  | Green Open Space |
|  | Existing UM Buildings |  | Symbolic Green Space |
|  | UM Property | | |