

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
REGENTS COMMUNICATION

ACTION REQUEST

Approved by the Regents
January 18, 2007

Subject: Matthaei Botanical Gardens Exhibition Greenhouse
Infrastructure Renewal

Action

Requested: Approval to Proceed with Project

Background:

The need for a university botanical gardens was identified by the founders of the University of Michigan and encouragement of the establishment of such facilities was written into the University's 1817 Charter. Designed by Alden Dow and constructed in 1964, the Exhibition Greenhouse provides a controlled environment for the University's extensive exotic plant collection. A comprehensive evaluation of the facility identified necessary infrastructure improvements. This project will address the highest priority needs, replacing the existing glazing with safety glazing that meets contemporary codes and provides optimum light transmission characteristics. The passive and active ventilation, heating and cooling systems will be repaired, improved and updated with automated operation and controls. Automated shades will be installed to further improve daylight control and reduce heat loss and gain. The scope of this project includes the architectural, mechanical and electrical work necessary to accomplish these improvements. There will be no impact on parking from this project.

The estimated cost of the project is \$1,650,000. Funding will be provided from Matthaei Botanical Gardens resources, gifts, and investment proceeds. 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 firm of Montgomery Smith will design the project. A phased construction schedule is planned in order to minimize disruption to the conservatory's academic and social calendar with construction to be completed in Fall 2007.

We recommend that the Regents approve the Matthaei Botanical Gardens Exhibition Greenhouse Infrastructure Renewal 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. Slotlow
Executive Vice President and
Chief Financial Officer

January 2007