April 22, 2022

MEMORANDUM

To: Committee on Budget and Finance

From: Daniel Bollman
Vice President for Strategic Infrastructure Planning and Facilities

Subject: Authorization to Plan
Farm Lane Bridge Replacement and Infrastructure Improvements

RECOMMENDATION
The Trustee Committee on Budget and Finance recommends that the Board of Trustees authorize the Administration to plan for replacement of the Farm Lane Bridge and surrounding infrastructure.

RESOLUTION
BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of Michigan State University hereby authorizes the Administration to plan for the project entitled “Farm Lane Bridge Replacement and Infrastructure Improvements.”

BACKGROUND
The Farm Lane Bridge was constructed in 1914. The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) inspected the bridge in November 2021 and imposed load limits. MDOT also requires re-inspection every 6 months until the bridge can be replaced, which will likely result in further load restrictions. Additionally, the East Traffic Lane on the bridge has been permanently closed with northbound traffic shifted to the middle of the bridge. The bridge is part of a principle north/south traffic corridor through campus and is heavily used by pedestrians, bicycles, and vehicles. The bridge also serves as an important infrastructure connection for several utilities to cross the Red Cedar River. It is the only bridge between Harrison Road and Hagadorn Road with a road surface above the 100-year flood plain.
**Description of Project:**
This project is anticipated to include replacement of the Farm Lane Bridge and improvements to the surrounding utility infrastructure, roads, and walkways. This will require multiple phases to complete while balancing safety, cost, and continuing operation of critical campus infrastructure.

The Farm Lane Bridge connects the north and central academic districts.

**Communication Plan:**
Input will continue to be solicited from the campus community during the planning phase.

**Preliminary Project Cost Information:**
The planning for this project will incur costs for consultants, designers, and cost estimating. Initial funding will be from Capital Renewal.


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