June 24, 2022

MEMORANDUM

To: Committee on Budget and Finance

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

Subject: Zoning Variance
FRIB Office Tower #3 – Entrance Canopy Addition

RECOMMENDATION
The Trustee Committee on Budget and Finance recommends that the Board of Trustees grants a variance to the University Zoning Ordinance for building setback for the Facility for Rare Isotope Beams (FRIB) Office Tower #3.

RESOLUTION
BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of Michigan State University hereby grants a variance to the University Zoning Ordinance to permit construction within a building setback for an entrance canopy addition to FRIB Office Tower #3.

BACKGROUND
In accordance with Section 6.3.3 of the Michigan State University Zoning Ordinance, approved by the Board of Trustees on April 18, 1968, and revised February 2017, all buildings within the Central Academic District shall be set back a minimum distance of 40 feet from the nearest curb line of the nearest roadway.

The proposed entrance canopy addition to the Facility for Rare Isotope Beams Office Tower #3 would extend to within 35 feet of Shaw Lane.

Communication Feedback:
Members of the campus community had opportunities to provide feedback during the planning phase. Any concerns they expressed were addressed in the project design.

The IPF Planning, Design and Construction office, IPF Campus Planner and Campus Infrastructure Planning Work Group support the requested variance.
because the 40-foot building setback is intended to provide room for proper aesthetic transition of the building massing down to the adjacent roadway corridor and, more importantly, the pedestrian scale at adjacent sidewalks through landscaping. The proposed canopy helps provide appropriate scale transition per ordinance intent and will provide a pleasant architectural design feature, sympathetically responding to scale, function and aesthetics.

As construction proceeds, the schedule will be shared with the campus community.

The addition will be completed in Fall 2022.

Authorization to Plan

MSU Main Library
—
Renovation to
East Wing

Zoning Variance
FRIB Office Tower #3 – Entrance Canopy Addition
MEMORANDUM

To: Mr. Eric Scorsone  
   Secretary to the Board of Trustees

From: Stephen Troost  
   Campus Planner and Zoning Administrator

Project: FRIB Office Tower #3 – Entrance Canopy Addition

The aforementioned project is seeking a variance to the University Zoning Ordinance for a building setback of 35 feet.

In accordance with Section 6.3.3 of the Michigan State University Zoning Ordinance, approved by the Board of Trustees on April 18, 1968, and revised February 2017, all buildings within the Central Academic District shall be set back a minimum distance of 40 feet from the nearest curb line of the nearest roadway.

For the following reasons, the request for a building setback variance is supported by the Zoning Administrator and the Campus Infrastructure Planning Work Group, which oversees project compliance with the Campus Land Use Master Plan: Update 2017.

- The 40-foot building setback is intended to provide room for proper aesthetic transition of the building massing down to the adjacent roadway corridor and more importantly the pedestrian scale at adjacent sidewalks through landscaping.
- The proposed canopy helps provide appropriate scale transition per ordinance intent.
- The proposed canopy will provide a pleasant architectural design feature, sympathetically responding to scale, function, and aesthetics.

The graphics below depict existing and future conditions. Please let me know if you have any questions or require any further information.
Site plan illustrating canopy intrusion into building setback

Existing condition along South Shaw Lane

Future proposed condition along South Shaw Lane