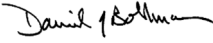


MICHIGAN STATE
UNIVERSITY

September 9, 2022

MEMORANDUM

To: Committee on Budget and Finance

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

Subject: **Authorization to Plan**
Dairy Facility – Research and Teaching and Learning

RECOMMENDATION

The Trustee Committee on Budget and Finance recommends that the Board of Trustees authorize the Administration to plan for both renovation and expansion of the MSU Dairy Facilities.



RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of Michigan State University hereby authorizes the Administration to plan for the project entitled "Dairy Facility – Research and Teaching and Learning."

BACKGROUND

It is critical to support and advance dairy teaching and research in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources and the College of Veterinary Medicine. The facility supports more than 50 faculty and academic staff, over 600 students annually, and over \$100 million in research across 10 departments and 2 colleges. It is a valuable demonstration site and educates the next generation of dairy farmers. Further, the Michigan dairy industry ranks first among state agricultural commodities, generating \$24 billion annually, supporting over 110,000 jobs, and accounting for nearly 5% of the state's gross domestic product. MSU supports the industry through research, teaching and learning, outreach and engagement, and training of the next generation of dairy farm employees, managers, consultants, nutritionists, and veterinary professionals/clinicians and veterinary technicians.

The MSU dairy facilities date back to the 1960s and have reached the end of their useful life. The recent electrical fire that resulted in the loss of the feed barn and silos has accelerated the need to address this outdated and at-risk facility. In 2019, the College of Veterinary Medicine accreditation process noted

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the existing dairy facility was not appropriate for instruction. An interim alternative location was established for this purpose.

A renovated and expanded dairy facility will be reflective of the changing industry. It will enable MSU to conduct research and teaching in a modern dairy facility that ensures the highest level of animal care and production with robust data-driven science, enhance much-needed studies on nutrition, genetics, animal well-being and environmental sustainability, as well as provide capacity to address the backlog of research (up to two years on funded projects), creating a pipeline of labor by introducing MSU students to modern, relevant dairy operations. Without updated facilities it will become increasingly difficult to attract and retain top scientists and educators in the animal and veterinary sciences and meet the needs of the Michigan dairy industry.

Description of Project:

This project is anticipated to primarily consist of construction of new dairy facilities along with renovations at the existing location on south campus, leveraging some of the existing infrastructure, in particular the methane digester, expanded feed production capacity and nutrient management operations, and may be undertaken in phases.

The project is anticipated to be in proximity and immediately south of the current facility located on College Road in the agricultural district.

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. The administration will bring forward a funding plan when seeking authorization to proceed, which will include State of Michigan appropriations and may include other university sources.

cc: Board of Trustees, S. Stanley, T. Woodruff, N. Beauchamp, M. Woo, M. Zeig, B. Quinn, V. Gore, L. Frace, T. Glasmacher, K. Tobin, B. Kranz, M. McCabe, J. Mumma, L. Gremel, J. Rayis, L. Adams, K. Oosterhoff, J. Andrews, K. Millenbah, G. Smith, D. Buhler, B. Puschner, K. Wilbur

