



APPROVED  
FEBRUARY 10, 2023  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

February 10, 2023

**MEMORANDUM**

**To:** Committee on Budget and Finance  
**From:** Daniel Bollman *Daniel J. Bollman*  
Vice President for Strategic Infrastructure Planning and Facilities  
**Subject:** **Authorization to Proceed**  
Multicultural Center

**RECOMMENDATION**

The Trustee Committee on Budget and Finance recommends that the Board of Trustees authorize the Administration to proceed with construction of a new dedicated Multicultural Center and grant a variance to allow the Center to be built in protected green space.

**RESOLUTION**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of Michigan State University hereby authorizes the Administration to proceed with the project entitled "Multicultural Center," with a project budget of \$38,000,000.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of Michigan State University hereby grants a variance to the University Zoning Ordinance to permit construction within protected green space.

**BACKGROUND**

In collaboration with the MSU community, the Multicultural Center Feasibility Study was launched in November 2019. The study developed a comprehensive framework for a campus multicultural center that would support the overall mission and goals of Michigan State University to foster a diverse, inclusive and equitable environment. It assembled the necessary information as a precursor to moving the project forward into the planning and design process, including site.

**Description of Project:**

The proposed building site is on the northeast corner of North Shaw Lane and Farm Lane in the central academic district. The project will include spaces for meetings, activities, study, student organizations, a community kitchen,



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reflection, and personal health. There will also be support space for catering, along with common areas for exhibits, receptions, and informal gatherings. The project will support programming that will build on existing programs and facilities and strive to create an inclusive community that meets our diverse student population's social, emotional, and intellectual development in a 21<sup>st</sup>-Century context.

The Construction Manager is White Clark. The Architect/Engineer is SmithGroup.

**Communication Feedback:**

Members of the campus community had opportunities to provide feedback during the planning phase, including numerous community engagement sessions and direct input from students. Any concerns expressed were addressed in the project design.

The IPF Planning, Design and Construction office, IPF Campus Planner, and Campus Infrastructure Planning Work Group have reviewed the project and noted that it does not comply with the University Zoning Ordinance requirement that buildings not be constructed within protected green space. They do, however, support the project. The building is important to university strategic goals. It also preserves a good deal of open space surrounding the building. Finally, the ongoing University Facilities and Land Use Plan update process is incorporating this project into consideration as it recommends an updated zoning ordinance, including updated protected green space.

As construction proceeds, the schedule will be shared with the campus community. The project team is closely coordinating with the proposed Farm Lane Bridge project.

**Project Cost and Timetable:**

The budget for this project is \$38,000,000. The construction management project will be funded by the general fund and may include debt financing.

Construction will commence in April 2023, with substantial completion in October 2024.

cc: Board of Trustees, T. Woodruff, T. Jeitschko, N. Beauchamp, M. Woo, S. Fletcher, M. Zeig, B. Quinn, V. Gore, L. Frace, T. Glasmacher, K. Tobin, B. Kranz, M. McCabe, J. Mumma, L. Gremel, L. Adams, S. Troost





