



APPROVED  
FEBRUARY 10, 2023  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

February 10, 2023

**MEMORANDUM**

**To:** Committee on Budget and Finance  
**From:** Daniel Bollman  
Vice President for Strategic Infrastructure Planning and Facilities  
**Subject:** **Authorization to Proceed**  
Farm Lane Bridge

**RECOMMENDATION**

The Trustee Committee on Budget and Finance recommends that the Board of Trustees authorize the Administration to proceed with reconstruction of the Farm Lane Bridge, along with associated infrastructure and a companion pedestrian bridge.

**RESOLUTION**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of Michigan State University hereby authorizes the Administration to proceed with the project entitled "Farm Lane Bridge," with a project budget of \$44,000,000.

**BACKGROUND**

The Farm Lane Bridge was constructed in 1936. 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 northbound traffic lane on the bridge has been permanently closed with traffic shifted to the middle of the bridge.

The bridge is part of the principal 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 campus bridge with a road surface above the 100-year flood plain.

**Description of Project:**

The Farm Lane Bridge connects the north and central academic districts. The project will replace the structurally deteriorating Farm Lane bridge over the



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Red Cedar River with a dedicated pedestrian bridge and a single span bridge, and complete replacement and re-alignment of Farm Lane between North Shaw Lane and Auditorium Road to include bike lanes. The first phase will construct a new pedestrian bridge west of the existing bridge to maintain pedestrian travel times during the replacement of the vehicular bridge and sidewalks on Farm Lane. The project also will reconstruct signalized traffic intersections and signalized pedestrian crossing for safe, barrier-free pedestrian, bicyclist, and vehicular travel; reconfigure Parking Lot 38 interior and remove the drive entrance to the lot from Farm Lane; construct a permanent pedestrian bridge over the river; and construct the utility infrastructure along Farm Lane and across the bridges, including electrical, communication, water, and steam.

The Design Builder is Granger Construction.

**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.

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

**Project Cost and Timetable:**

The budget for this project is \$44,000,000. The design build project will be funded by the general fund and may include debt financing.

Construction of the pedestrian bridge will commence in March 2023, with Farm Lane closed to vehicles from May through August. The existing bridge will be open for pedestrians during this time. The new pedestrian bridge and existing vehicular bridge will reopen for the Fall 2023 semester, with the vehicular bridge closed again in December 2023 until substantial completion in June 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. O'Donnell, J. Prush, S. Troost





