June 16, 2023

MEMORANDUM

To: Committee on Budget and Finance

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

Subject: Authorization to Proceed  
Student Recreation and Wellness 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 recreational facility focused on student health and wellness.

RESOLUTION
BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of Michigan State University hereby authorizes the Administration to proceed with the project titled “Student Recreation and Wellness Center” with a project budget of $200 million.

BACKGROUND
The principal recreation facilities at Michigan State University range in age from 40 to 100 years old, and have significant deferred maintenance, insufficient capacity and a lack of amenities that students desire. The university previously did not have a dedicated funding stream to maintain and renew these facilities, and it has been a struggle to meet student needs.

In 2021, the university instituted a student recreational facility fee to provide preeminent facilities and programs for the health and wellness of the Spartan community. The facility’s focus on overall student health and wellness is in alignment with the university’s 2030 strategic theme of sustainable health.

The project would allow for future demolition of the Intramural Recreational Sports West building, which has a 10-year, $46 million capital renewal need.

Description of Project:
This project will include a new 293,000-square-foot recreation center to replace the Intramural Recreational Sports West building with a modern
structure and facilities that address student recreation and fitness needs with an eye towards future development. The facility will include several gymnasiums and multi-activity courts; a turf arena; indoor running track; strength and fitness studios; racket sport courts; two university classrooms; and locker and toilet rooms to meet gender-inclusive needs. It also will include a 50-meter recreational pool that can support simultaneous uses, including courses, water fitness and open swim.

Sustainable practices include reduced energy loads, water conservation measures, carbon emission reductions, and passive design strategies.

The site for the new facility is in the northern portion of the former Cherry Lane site (formerly the “Faculty Bricks”) bounded by Shaw Lane, and Birch, Harrison and Wilson roads in the north mixed-use district.

The Construction Manager is Granger Construction Co. The design team consists of Rossetti as the architect of record and Moody Nolan as the design architect.

Communication Feedback:
Members of the campus community had opportunities to provide feedback during the planning phase, including during multiple community engagement sessions, and direct input from students, faculty, and staff. Any concerns they expressed were considered in the project design.

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

Project Cost and Timetable
The budget for this project is $200 million. Debt financing is planned with debt repayment from the student recreational facility fee.

Construction will commence in July 2023 with substantial completion expected in February 2026.

A new, modern student recreation center would promote student health and wellness.

**REASON FOR PROJECT**
The project includes a new $200 million, 293,000-square-foot recreation center to replace the Intramural Recreational Sports West building in 2026 consistent with the university’s 2030 strategic plan theme of sustainable health.

The center would feature several gymnasiums and multi-activity courts; a turf arena; indoor running track; strength and fitness studios; racket sport courts; two classrooms; and locker and toilet rooms to meet gender-inclusive needs. It also would include a 50-meter recreational pool.

**PROJECT BACKGROUND**
- The facility would be built in the northern portion of the former Cherry Lane site bounded by Shaw Lane, and Birch, Harrison and Wilson roads with completion expected in 2026
- The three main facilities for student recreation at Michigan State University were built in 1916, 1958 and 1988. The university previously did not have a dedicated funding stream to maintain and renew these facilities.
- In 2021, the university instituted a student recreational facility fee to provide preeminent facilities and programs for the health and wellness of the Spartan community. The first new project supported by the fee was the Spartan Greens outdoor artificial turf fields on Service Road that opened in 2022. The new recreation center would be the second.

**POINTS FOR CONSIDERATION**
- The project would allow for the future demolition of the Intramural Recreational Sports West building, which has a 10-year, $46 million capital renewal need.

**FUNDING PLAN**
Debt financing is planned with debt repayment from the student recreational facility fee.
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